



Shaw Residents' Association

For the Residents of Peatmoor, Sparcells, Nine Elms, Middleleaze, Shaw, Ramleaze, the Prinnels, Eastleaze and Westlea (West)

Ms S Bentley - Chief Executive Officer
Thames Water
Clearwater Court
Vastern Road
Reading
Berkshire, RG1 8D
14 January 2022

cc. Sir Robert Buckland MP for South Swindon

Dear Ms Bentley



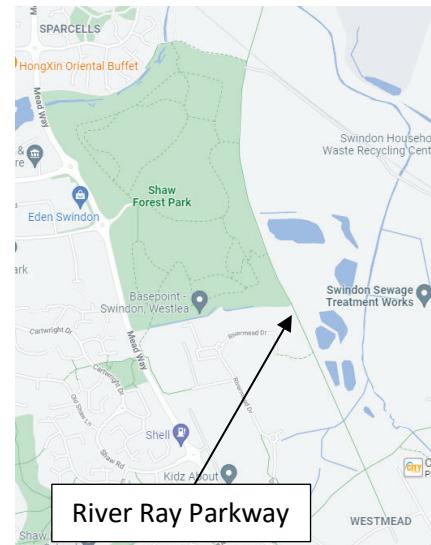
May 2021

Re: Thames Water damage to the off-road River Ray Parkway greenway by Shaw Forest Park, Swindon

In early 2021, Thames Water suffered a problem with its sewage pipe in the vicinity of Shaw Forest Park between your company's Barnfield Road treatment works and North Swindon. While Thames Water undertook repairs, your company used tankers to transport the sewage via the off-road River Ray Parkway greenway.

The resultant damage to the Parkway caused by these tankers and ancillary vehicles is significant. The Parkway is used extensively by walkers, cyclists, and families with young children. The damage to the track caused by Thames Water has created dangers for all users – particularly cyclists during the hours of darkness. Furthermore, it has made the trail all but impassable for users of pushchairs and mobility scooters.

Swindon Borough Council has informed us that your company has refused to repair your damage, which means, given the financial difficulties facing most local authorities, the restoration of this essential rural greenway is unlikely to happen any time soon.



River Ray Parkway

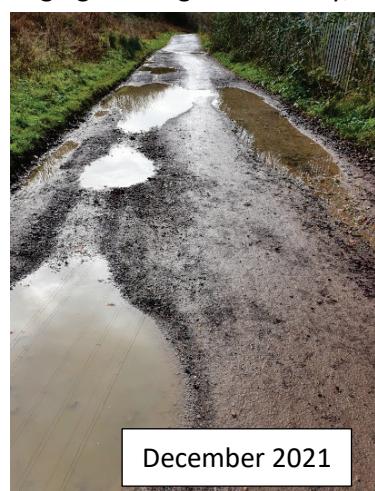
We would like to know how you believe that, as a direct result of the damage your company has caused, it is justifiable that such a well-used off-road track is now challenging to navigate for many, dangerous to others, and impassable to the most vulnerable; and invite you to reconsider past decisions and, as a matter of urgency, make good the damage Thames Water has caused.

Yours Sincerely

Kevin Fisher – Chair Shaw Residents' Association
shawresidents@outlook.com

Sent via email to: sarah.bentley@thameswater.co.uk

Note: this letter has been posted on the Shaw Residents' Association website (www.shawresidents.org.uk) and local community Facebook pages.



December 2021