



# DORNEY

## PARISH COUNCIL

### Proposal: Dorney Parish Residents' Access to Dorney Lake during Summer Months

**Public Inquiry Reference: Dorney Lake 1993 Para.83** *"The College's normal policy is to permit public access to its grounds consistent with security considerations, and it would apply a similar policy to the park, arboretum, and bridleways."*

**Background:** Dorney Parish Council and the vast majority of Dorney Parish residents fully appreciate the security measures implemented at Dorney Lake, which, regrettably, required the complete fencing of the site and restricted access during the summer months. We are most grateful for the access and free car parking offered to residents during the winter months.

**Proposed Limited, Controlled, and Secure Access for Dorney Parish Residents during Summer Months:** Dorney Parish Council has received numerous inquiries from residents regarding the possibility of permitting limited, secure access to Dorney Lake during the summer months. Recent surveys indicate a shared sentiment, with residents expressing regret over the seasonal closure.

We assume Dorney Lake management also receives similar queries on this subject. Dorney Parish Council, in collaboration with the Friends of St Mary Magdalene, Boveney, has been exploring avenues, consistent with Eton College's statement during the 1993 Dorney Lake Public Inquiry, in order to propose a suitable solution.

#### Proposal for discussion:

- Pedestrian Access Only:** The Friends of St Mary Magdalene, Boveney, funded the installation of a pedestrian gate, providing access to the church via Dorney Lake. We propose that this gate, suitably secured, would be the sole pedestrian access during the summer months for Dorney residents wishing to access Dorney Lake for leisure..
- Car Parking:** Residents may use the Ramblers Car Park during its operating hours.
- Weekday Access:** Access will be available only from Monday to Thursday during the summer months, with flexibility to close it on other days for events as required.
- Access Hours:** Access to Dorney Lake will be limited to Ramblers car parking hours.
- Eligible Residents:** Access will be restricted to Dorney Parish residents only residing in specific postcodes AND who have successfully applied for the Annual Free Parking pass:

<b>Dorney Parish Postcodes (Revised October 2023)</b>				
SL4 6PX	SL4 6QE	SL4 6QN	SL4 6QU	SL6 0DS
SL4 6PY	SL4 6QF	SL4 6QP	SL4 6QW	SL6 0DT
SL4 6PZ	SL4 6QG	SL4 6QQ	SL4 6QX	SL6 0DU
SL4 6QA	SL4 6QH	SL4 6QR	SL6 0DL	SL6 0DW
SL4 6QB	SL4 6QJ	SL4 6QS	SL6 0DN	SL6 0DX
SL4 6QD	SL4 6QL	SL4 6QT	SL6 0DR	SL6 0DY

### Possible Access Control Options:

1. **Security Lock:** Replace the existing sliding bar and padlock on the gate with a solar-powered wireless access security lock, ensuring enhanced security.
2. **Access Pad and Exit Button:** Utilise access pads and exit buttons for secure entry and exit control.



### 3. Access Process Options:

1. Access will be granted only to residents with annual Dorney Lake Free Parking passes, available through application, thus maintaining only one list.
2. A proximity card, issued upon annual pass collection, is the recommended method of access for added security, compared to a code that could be passed around.
3. Access will be limited to summer months, typically Monday-Thursday, during Ramblers Car Park operating hours.
4. Dorney Lake Staff members and specific Friends of St Mary Magdalene will have continuous access, as now.
5. Consider the installation of motion-activated CCTV cameras for added access security, if necessary, especially if an existing camera is available.

### Conclusions:

- Dorney Parish Council believes that the proposed system offers a simple, cost-effective, secure, and controlled access solution for Dorney Parish residents throughout the year. This system accommodates limited pedestrian access during the winter months and provides full access with free parking during the summer months.
- It aligns with the security requirements outlined by Eton College in the 1993 Inquiry Statement.
- Both Dorney Parish Council and the Friends of St Mary Magdalene, Boveney, are more than willing to contribute towards a viable solution, with some limited funds available to support the necessary capital expenses.
- We hope that this proposal provides a comprehensive and viable plan to address the long-standing residents' access concerns while maintaining the required security measures at Dorney Lake.

**Jill Dax**  
**Chair, Dorney Parish Council**