

## **Endeavours got a stony Response from council**

My thanks to the many friends, neighbours, passers-by and well-wishers, who over the last five months, have supported and encouraged my endeavours to brighten up the grass verge; and who are now asking why the rockery and stones have been removed.

Sadly, some disaffected, angry or sad person contacted '*Fix My Street*' on-line and complained.

A threatening communication from Oxfordshire County Council Highways Enquiry Team was received, addressed to the Owner/Occupier and two next-door neighbours; it was unattributable and unsigned, but gave an enquiry number. I rang twice and was told the message would be passed on; there was no response.

I wrote a two-page letter; no response. Finally after a further letter, I received an email with partial answers.

It seems I had caused '*unauthorised obstructions on the highway.*' *How* was I causing an obstruction - and *to whom?* Does the Highway include the grass verge? I am well aware that it is perfectly legal to drive, and indeed to park, on grass verges and pavements - except in London. However I have recently paid OCC £100 for a white *restricted parking* line outside our house, so that my wife can get from her wheelchair into our car unobstructed by parked vehicles. As to the rest of the estate, she has to ride in the road.

So, '*Sorry*' to all my well-wishers; the *one* overcame the *many*!

Howard Brayton  
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(Photograph sent separately)

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