



Ashburton Youth Council

## **1. Do we support the Open Spaces Bylaw so presented?**

Ashburton Youth Council (AYC) supports the proposed bylaw to ensure that open spaces are well maintained for the best interest of the community. The changes ensure that the spaces will be respected and as a result, be enjoyed by the community. The AYC believes that everyone should feel comfortable in these areas and the first clause of the bylaw ensures that there will be no inappropriate structures that cause discomfort to anyone. We also agree with the second clause which states vehicles have to follow the 20km/h rules even without a speed limit signposted. However, we still strongly believed that signage of speed limit should be erected nearby for others who don't know the rules. The third clause, where bicycles and scooters are allowed on specific open spaces locations, also increases inclusiveness as people with conditions can enjoy open spaces which is a positive thing for our community.

Key change two also ensures that each person within the open spaces can have their privacy as drones and other unmanned aircraft can only be flown during the day, therefore, visible to the public. This also prevents any hazardous impact that might occur due to drones and unmanned aircraft.

## **2. Further suggestions on the Open Spaces bylaw**

### **Damage and Interference**

Proposed a regulated community notice board to keep in our open spaces where the council and community could post things on. Secondly, maybe a community art wall where people are given an opportunity to express their individuality. This can be painted over and over again so it has endless use therefore can minimise vandalism.

### **Assemblies/ Public meetings**

AYC thinks that it would be great if there was a place in our open spaces where there was a nice outdoor stage for meetings and performances. Places such as a pavilion where people can use it throughout the year. We acknowledge that we do currently have a stage in the domain, but we think a renovation would help the space be more widely used.

### **Public Access**

Curfew to unattended young children. There are many times late at night where some members of the youth council see children under the age of 10 still roaming around. Proposing a curfew will keep the kids in our community safer.

**Additional considerations**

Considering how we have a lot of unused open spaces in our community, we maybe could repurpose them. A community orchard or a garden containing our native flora would be an example. We acknowledge that there may be some complications with this idea, but if executed well we think it would be great use of space and can even help our community be more connected in an eco-friendly way.