



35p



Plaques to Busby babes

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'Bag it and bin it' say park users

Campaign urges dog owners to clean-up after their pets

Exclusive by Jessica Bell

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MESSENGER is backing a campaign to stop dog faeces ruining a Stretford park.

The Friends of Victoria Park group is launching the campaign to appeal to dog walkers to pick up their pet's excrement and stop spoiling the park, off School Road and Victoria Road, for others.

Committee member Annoushka Deighton said 'dog poo' was always the number one complaint from park users and the group was determined to stamp it out for good.

The mum-of-three, a dog-owner herself, said that it was not just an annoyance but a dangerous health risk to people.

She has had first-hand experience of the dangers it can cause after her cousin was left blind in one eye when he came into contact with dog faeces in a park, when he was playing football aged seven.

Annoushka, 36, said she was concerned the same thing could happen to her children who are aged five, four and one, as she regularly picks up discarded mess from the play areas.

The committee decided to launch the campaign at a meeting on July 8 after hearing how children attending free Commander Joe fitness sessions in the park were unable to complete some activities

because of the amount of dog fouling in the area.

Annoushka said: "It's such a lovely park, but the dog poo is really ruining it for people. Most of the dog owners are good but it only takes a few to ruin the place and there are definitely repeat offenders."

Annoushka and the Friends of Victoria Park are appealing for dog owners to be responsible and pick up after their animals.

The group want to make posters and leaflets to inform people about the dangers of dog faeces and are planning to approach Trafford Council next week to get their support for the campaign.



Friends of Victoria Park are appealing for dog owners to clean up (29122)