# QGIS Application - Bug report #21770

## "Python support will be disabled" if using non-ascii characters

2019-04-04 08:46 AM - Morten Sickel

Status: Feedback
Priority: Normal

Assignee:

Category: Python bindings / sipify

Affected QGIS version: 3.6.1 Regression: No Operating System: Windows 10 - but probably OS independent Easy fix?: No

Pull Request or Patch shapplied: Resolution:

Crashes QGIS or corrupts data: Copied to github as #: 29585

### Description

When starting agis 3.6.1 on windows 10 after booting, I am met with

Couldn't load qgis.user.

Python support will be disabled.

traceback.print\_exception() failed

Python version:

QGIS version:

3.6.1-Noosa 'Noosa', 2468226bc9

Python path:

Afterwards I got a new dialog with a traceback concluding with

"UnicodeDecodeError: 'utf-8' codec can't decode byte 0xf8 in position 1437: invalid start byte"

The day before I had been writing an expression in python, I had put some comments in it in my native language, Norwegian, containing the letter 'ø'. Using the information in pythonpath in the 2nd dialog, I could find where the code was stored, open it in an editor and remove the comments. Then everything worked fine.

In windows, the offending file was

"C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Roaming\QGIS\QGIS3\profiles\default\python\expressions\default.py" (left here mainly in case somebody googles for the same problem)

It should be expected that there could be non-ascii characters in expression code.

To reproduce the error:

Write an expression (mine was to fill inn some text in a box in a print layout) containing the letter 'ø'. Quit QGIS. When QGIS is opened, the above mentioned messages comes up.

Workaround: Catch the UnicodeDecodeError, tell in a friendly understandable way what is the problem and point to the file that has to be fixed.

Fix: Set up a python environment that allows utf-8 in .py files

### History

#### #1 - 2019-04-06 11:56 AM - Giovanni Manghi

- Crashes QGIS or corrupts data changed from Yes to No
- Status changed from Open to Feedback

2024-03-20 1/2

I cannot replicate on 3.6.1 on Linux (using ã, ç, etc.).

2024-03-20 2/2