



Clerk's Update

18 September 2023

Operational Management

Grass cutting - weird weather at the start of the season has put the team back a couple of weeks but they are nearly caught up. The team will focus on cafe landscaping works before they start hedge cutting, although hedges that obstruct highways have already been cut.

Twynams - The first phase of planting has now taken place around the ponds at Twynham's field. Parish staff lent a hand getting the plants and trees in to create a naturalistic scheme. The second phase of planting will commence shortly and we'll be getting residents to come and help, with the aim of recruiting for the 'friends of group' which will eventually lightly manage the land.

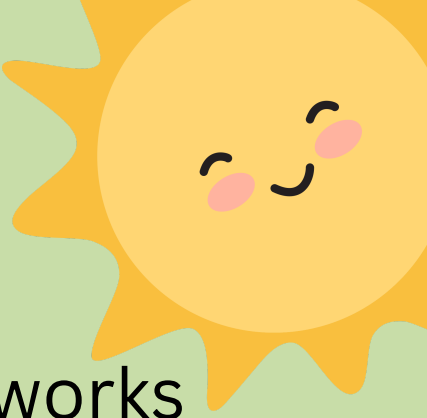
Cafe - the Ops team will shortly be undertaking fencing work to the front of the site.

WCC - Martin will be working from the office at WCC every Thursday to give more site presence and keep closer eye on the maintenance on-site.

Splashpad - has been really well used and received, so a successful first season. The splashpad closed on 11 September and will be re-opened in May. Some operational tweaks have been identified i.e., caretakers opening/closing, more signage on-site, and digital advertising especially regarding car parking. Residents have requested shading, options will be explored.



Corporate Matters



Crowdhill Green - The Clerk and CDO met with Dave Bowen to discuss Phase Two infrastructure works to include a nature trail with remaining EMR funds. A project initiation document has been produced and will be shared with members in October.

Lapstone Playing Fields - Phase One infrastructure works (wicket creation) are nearly complete. The main body of the work will be undertaken in the spring (culvert infill). The Clerk and CDO are meeting with EBC to discuss ecology mitigation works and how we can involve the local community. More at Oct Council.

Library Launch - We had a very successful library launch event with the trustees informing us that they are seeing more visitors and new members.

Climate - The Deputy Clerk is currently in the process of applying to HCC for a grant to support fabric first retrofit including solar at WCC.

Council's I.T Review - The Council now has a dedicated leased line! Hardware review is taking place this week. And the new VOIP system will go live begin Nov. £££ identified.



Community Development

- Preparations are being made for the warm welcome spaces this autumn/winter. Details of our confirmed sites will follow shortly. Likely to be held at the Library.
- Community Payback will help us retain the precious grassland we have at Wyvern Meadow by removing lots of the saplings. This area has some amazing Orchids in the early summer and now it's full of field Scabious which look beautiful.
- YZone Youth Centre will be switching to their winter programme from around w/c 23rd October and will be open for 2 sessions a week (every Monday and Thursday from 6 pm to 8.30 pm).
- Sunnybank Care Home needs help with knitting poppies for Remembrance, as they will be recreating a mini version of the Tower of London display, so please help them to knit 2000 poppies by the end of October by circulating details (will send outside meeting)
- It's The Wildlife Trust's Big Wild Walk challenge from 16th October to 30th October, Parish staff will be taking up the challenge and we'd love you to join the team, so please get in touch with Siobhan if you would like to raise awareness for nature, raise some money for a great cause and of course to get a bit fitter!

In Pictures

