

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

31st January 2023

UPDATES AND INFORMATION

On-going S106 Projects

Parklife SW contracted projects:

- **Project 4: Entrance gates:** Parklife team still working towards implementation by the end of winter.
- **Projects 5 and 9: Information hub inc. angling signage:** - design and implementation by Parklife team still ongoing.
- **Project 15: Community orchard:** Fruit tree planting now planted and final elements due for completion by Parklife team.

ITC directly managed projects:

- **Access Track**
John Grime Partnership will be commencing the tender process this month and when a programme of works emerges along with a better idea of dates, consultation with Filham Park tenants and users will be carried out.

Kings Gutter Stump Clearance

More options are continuing to be explored, including working with the Royal Marines to take out the stump as an exercise.

Filham Park Fishing Lake

Options are being explored into various methods of cutting the hedge around the fishing lake. Parklife have proposed laying part of the hedge and cutting the remainder manually at the beginning of March, but it is felt that the majority of the hedge needs flailing due to its height and density, and the feasibility of bringing in machinery to tackle this is currently being assessed. Ideally the works need to be completed before bird nesting season commences.

Skate Park

A meeting was held in January with the Town Clerk, Mayor and Skate Group to discuss the initial masterplan designs for the skate park facility at Filham Park. The masterplan is in the very early stages and features track designs and location of buildings to incorporate facilities such as the Parks Officer station, café and WC. There will be some S106 funding towards the project however it will be mostly funded by external sports bodies and Skate Group fundraising. The Town Council will need to fund the Parks Station and WC.

Silvermine Suite

The Silvermine Suite lease was raised at the last meeting and the Town Clerk and Chair of the Parks Committee met with the Cricket Club to discuss the terms. It has been agreed that the club pay a 6% increase on the rent commencing from December 2022 and each year increased in line with the lease.

P3 Footpaths

The P3 Footpaths Coordinator has submitted an application to DCC Public Rights of Way for a grant for P3 funding for the new financial year, together with a summary of the works to P3 footpaths for 2022-23. A sum of £2500 has been requested for 2023-24, and is to include a portable pressure washer and leaf blower estimated to be collectively in the region of £800.

Victoria Park

Following the felling of a brittle and dangerous ash tree in Victoria Park, a grant of exemption was issued in November 2022 with a requirement that a replacement lime tree is replanted as near as practicable to the felled tree. The Parks Officers have now completed the replacement planting and the South Hams Tree Officer has discharged the condition.

Jonathan Parsons – Town Clerk

Julie Gilbert – Assistant Town Clerk