

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

26th July 2022

UPDATES AND INFORMATION

Filham Park Masterplan

Orders have been placed for the picnic benches, from the same company that collects the Town Council recycling, so the benches in theory will at least partially be made using recycled plastic that we have produced in our operation. Procurement of the contractor to do the ground works for the entrance way and improve the path through the centre of the park so that it is fully accessible is underway. Other elements are progressing with the aim to have Phase 1 completed by the end of the summer.

Bridleway Diversion

The final order to officially divert the bridleway as per the current temporary diversion should now be ready to go to the authorities for official approval. There is a small window until the 22 July 2022 during which a substantial objection could delay this, but it is very unlikely.

In Bloom

The judging date for SW In Bloom took place on the 14th July 2022. The feedback was excellent and the group have been encouraged to enter the full competition next year. Council officers supported the effort with watering and some mowing, as well as being on hand for various projects. A new garden has been created at Wayside which almost completes this project led by the Town Council, working with DCC and Parklife SW. The bench still needs some attention and this is being investigated. The In Bloom group have also completed the red phone box project, which looks fantastic.

Fore Street Bins

SHDC Cllrs Abbott, Jones and Pringle have contributed from their Locality money to enable the Parks Officers to paint the bins on Fore Street to bring them up to the same standard as the planters. This work should be completed in the next couple of months.

Damage and Anti-Social Behaviour

In terms of the Council's parks, Victoria still seems to be the focus of vandalism and unwanted behaviour. A section of fence was flattened, an attempt to start a fire on the MUGA, huge amounts of litter, reports of late night music and noise, and broken glass all in the last few weeks alone. The police are doing what they can and have been provided with the byelaws which cover all Town Council parks and could be used to suppress some of these issues.

Jonathan Parsons
Town Clerk