

Health and Safety Report – P&R Committee July 2022

Accidents and Near Misses

There are no accidents or near misses to report.

Visits and Inspections

2 yearly Retractable Seats – Watermark

5 year electrical installation inspection – Woodlands Cemetery

Parks

The Victoria Park play area gate is not self-closing plus entrapment issues have been highlighted. A new replacement self-closing metal gate has been ordered. The play area fence has been removed, possibly vandalised, and a replacement fence is being organised as quickly as possible due to the site currently being open.

The rotting MacAndrews Field play equipment has now been removed and disposed of by the Parks team.

On 8 June a large limb from a beech tree came down from the Chantry into Victoria Park and has damaged the wall. The Chantry organised emergency removal of the tree. Repair of the wall is scheduled for later in the year when the ground is wet.

An inspection by the Parks officers revealed a tree in Longtimber Wood had a cracked limb over the pathway. It was cordoned off to make safe and the tree surgeon was called in to undertake the works to remove it.

The Parks officer has advised that one of the bins at Filham Park is rusty and could scratch when being used or emptied, and only one latch is holding the door in place. The Town Clerk is arranging a replacement bin.

Butterpark

In May the police applied to use the site for patrolling their police dogs. At the same time there was a spate of break ins at the site with glass being broken. The Parks officers have been notifying Devon and Cornwall police each time to register these as crimes and increasing their checks on the site. The break ins appear to have now subsided.

Cemetery

The 5 year electrical installation building report for the cemetery has been undertaken. The summary of the inspection was satisfactory, however the report highlighted a number of observations requiring improvement.

Verge Cutting

There have been numerous complaints regarding the height of the verges in Woolcombe Lane, and one received regarding Cornwood Road.

The Town Council has been contracted by Devon County Council to cut the visibility splays, however there have been complaints from residents particularly of Woolcombe Lane where the road bends about visibility. The verges have been cut to Devon County Council specifications as per the contract any further public contact with concerns with highways are to be advised to report it to Devon County Council Highways who are responsible for highway safety.

Staffing

One of the Parks officers has attended a two-day chainsaw maintenance and cross cutting at ground level course and achieved a Lantra award.

Both Parks officers have successfully attended a strimmer training course, organised and funded by Devon County Council P3 Footpaths.

Julie Gilbert
Assistant Town Clerk

Jonathan Parsons
Town Clerk