

Health and Safety Report – P&R Committee November 2022

Accidents and Near Misses

There have been no accidents or near misses.

Visits and Inspections

None

Parks

The results of the recent play area survey were discussed at a special Parks Committee meeting in October. It was resolved for any non-'A' defect (urgent) action with respect to the deteriorating Victoria Park play equipment to be put on hold pending Full Council considering funding options for replacement of the equipment. The Full Council meeting resolved to invest up to £100,000 towards refurbishment of the Victoria Park play area and replacement of the MacAndrews Field play area which had to be removed due to the rotting timbers. The Town Council will explore new play equipment options for both play areas in the New Year.

The height barrier on the access track to Filham Park has now been replaced, however a design issue has been highlighted with the operational height of the barrier. The Town Clerk is liaising with the supplier in order for this to be resolved.

The Council's tree inspection revealed approximately fifteen trees requiring felling due to ash die back and a similar quantity requiring deadwood removal. The Parks Committee approved the works to take place, and a schedule of works sent to various tree contractors for quotations. One ash tree has since failed in Victoria Park and emergency tree works were taken to remove the remaining rotten stem. The Town Clerk is awaiting one final quotation before proceeding with an instruction for the schedule of tree works to take place.

Training

On 4 November eight members of staff across The Watermark, Town Hall and Parks teams attended a full day first aid course delivered by an external instructor in the Town Hall and achieved FAA Level 3 in First Aid at Work qualification.

On 17/18 November, as part of the Devon County Council Road Warden Scheme, both Parks Officers attended an SWQR Unit 2 Signing, Lighting and Guarding course delivered by Cormac at Notter Bridge. This is required for live carriageway work which may be required as part of their role. It is a complex certificated two-day course with theory and practical elements, and both officers are to be commended for successfully achieving a City and Guilds qualification at supervisor level.

Julie Gilbert
Assistant Town Clerk

Jonathan Parsons
Town Clerk