

## Update on Estates Issues

This report sets out progress on a number of estates issues raised by the committee or reported to the clerk.

### **1. Overgrown hedgerow between Meeting Green and Nunnery Green**

This matter was referred to SCC Highways records office, who have now established the owner of the hedgerow, a hedging notice is likely to be issued, requiring the landowner to cut back the hedgerow. The clerk has been advised that this is an SCC Highways function. This matter has been chased again with SCC Highways (the information only being provided to the engineer on 4<sup>th</sup> February). The matter has also been raised with both the former County Cllr Mary Evans and our new Cllr Bobby Bennett as no progress is being made. The new hedge trimming season is upon us and the clerk is already receiving complaints about this stretch of hedgerow.

### **2. Poor Drainage of Footpath 25 at the Coltsfoot Green End**

Surfacing of the first 50m from the road width (the extent of the worse bit up to the end of the adjacent fence) has now been completed.

### **3. Land Slipping into Drainage Culvert at Coltsfoot Green**

The clerk asked for advice as to how to resolve this problem from the Environment Agency, who advised that it is the landowners responsibility. At the clerk's request this was referred to the Environment Agency's Local Partnership and Strategic Overview Team for guidance. Awaiting a response. The Parish Council has power to carry out works for their maintenance or improvement or to pay others to do this under the Public Health Act 1936, s.260. A proposal for work to address this has been suggested by DR King, and a quote received (£1200 plus VAT). Quotes were requested from two further drainage companies, one not responding and one advising that they did not undertake this type of work. At its June meeting the committee asked the clerk to obtain further quotes. These have been requested and are awaited. Quotes received will be brought back to the next meeting.

### **4. Six Acres:**

#### **a. Handrail and backfilling to steps down from Six Acres to Footpath 25**

This work has been completed.

### **5. Works to Parish Trees**

Quotes have been requested from a number of arboriculturalists for the Tri-annual survey of parish trees, to be reported back to the August meeting. See report at Agenda item 12 (**WPC.21.08.04**)

### **6. Commemorative WWII Bench**

This bench has now been installed. A formal opening took place at the Community Engagement Day when Dorothy Anderson of the Wickhambrook History Society cut the ribbon.



**7. Upgrading waste bins on parish land**

The revised schedule of work to install new lockdown and combined bins has now been completed, with a new combined bin sited at Coltsfoot Close to replace the old dog waste bin. There were some teething problems with respect to waste collection from the remaining litter bin in the play area, but this now seems to be resolved. The post which supported the dog waste bin at the corner of Six Acres and FP25 is still in position and the clerk will request its removal.

**8. Maintenance in Cemetery**

During a recent inspection of the old cemetery, the clerk has identified a number of items to address:

- a. There is some substantial growth of moss and accumulation of vegetative matter on the slate roof of the chapel of rest which should be cleared prior to the winter months. Quotes attached as Appendix A;
- b. To increase light in the old cemetery, and open up the sight lines, the tree surgeon has suggested the following course of action:
  - i. Lift the crowns of the two cedars/yews nearest the Chapel of Rest, and reduce the height by one third (this work has been completed); and
  - ii. Take out the two yews closest to the entrance gates leading to the Chapel of Rest.

At its meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> June the committee asked the clerk to check, and she has subsequently established that there are no Tree Preservation Orders on these two trees.

- c. The old water butts to the front of the chapel of rest are a little perished and it would be advisable to plan for these to be replaced. Quotes are attached as Appendix B;
- d. Some pointing to the War Memorial has come loose, and a chip broken off, which should be replaced prior to winter frosts setting in. Quotes are attached as Appendix C;
- e. Remove infestations of ivy in the hedge bounding cemetery road and replant with privet or natural hedging (it may be possible to obtain hedging free of charge from the Woodland Trust or Sunica later this year).

**Recommendation:**

- a) **To authorise the cost of removing vegetation and cleaning the guttering of the Chapel of Rest, at a cost of not more than £170.00 plus VAT.**
- b) **To authorise the cost taking out on entrance to cemetery (Chapel of Rest entrance), remove Yew trees first on left and first on right to open up for Landscape scenery at a cost of £200.00.**
- c) **To authorise the cost of purchasing two waterbutts to replace those at the front of the Chapel of Rest, at a cost of not more than £120.00 plus VAT.**
- d) **To authorise the cost of repointing and work to the War Memorial at a cost of not more than £670 plus VAT.**

**Total cost of work identified above is £960 plus VAT against the Cemetery budget line (£1200), and £200 against the Tree budget line (£1000).**

**Work to Slate Roof - Gutter Cleaning**



**Quotes from:**

<b>Westbourne Gutter Service</b>	<b>£35</b>
<b>Azurevac</b>	<b>£160 plus VAT £170 plus VAT (with removal of arisings)</b>

**From:** [Richard Harris](#)  
**To:** [Hilary Workman](#)  
**Subject:** Gutter Clearing Quote SR1125  
**Date:** 29 July 2021 17:18:30

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Hello Hillary,

Thank you for providing me details about your property, I can now provide an estimate for my services.

**Assuming there are no other issues other than general debris clearance, I can provide the following information.**

Customer Options	Description	Estimate
Option 1	Check & clear <b>all gutters &amp; downpipe openings and clear roof valley</b> on the property and leave waste in bin at property.	<b>£160.00</b>
Option 2	Check & clear <b>all gutters &amp; downpipe openings and clear roof valley</b> on the property and take waste** away from the property.	<b>£170.00</b>

#### Our Gutter Clearing Service includes as Standard:

- Full liability insurance (copy available on request).
- Pictures taken detailing gutter debris levels. (link sent to customer via email)
- Clear all debris from gutter runs to the main property.
- Clear downpipe openings and swan neck.
- Waste disposal of debris removed from the property\*\*. (optional / additional fee applies)
- Pictures taken after clearing gutters. (link sent to customer via email)
- I use my portable generator to power our powerful gutter vacuum. (subject to access)
- Issue Proof of Work Statement.
- Join our annual reminder service & we will send you an email reminder every 12 months.

#### How to Book:

You can check availability and book your gutter cleaning service direct by following this link [Check My Availability & Book Direct](#), email at [info@azurevac.co.uk](mailto:info@azurevac.co.uk) or call 01638 311401

#### Questions:

If I can be of further help, please do not hesitate to contact me, further information on pricing can also be found at

<https://www.azurevac.co.uk/faqs/gutter-cleaning-cost.html>

**Payment Information:**

I accept payment by debit or credit card either on the day in person or via our website, I also accept cash or cheque. You can also pay by bank transfer, full details are provided on the issued invoice.

**Estimate Validity:**

This estimate is valid for 30 days from the date issued. [Please see my full terms of business here.](#)

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Kind regards

Richard

Richard Harris  
Azurevac Founding Owner  
**Email:** richard.harris@azurevac.co.uk  
**Web:** www.azurevac.co.uk  
**Tel:** 01638 311401



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## War Memorial


Images of the damage are set out below:

Quotes received from:

Abbeygate Memorials



abbeygatemasonry@btconnect.com  
To Hilary Workman

 We removed extra line breaks from this message.



Dear Hilary,

We visited the memorial at Wickhambrook this pm,

Please find our costs as follow,

- > To re-point all cracked and open joints on the memorial using Portland dust and Lime.
- > Glue back fractured piece of stone
- > Two number possible small piece repairs ( cut square pocket , glue new Portland Stone piece )

£ 670.00 plus vat

Any queries please do not hesitate to contact me,

Kind Regards

Sean

--

H J Paintin Ltd

Hilary Workman  
Clerk & RFO  
July 2021