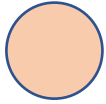


Update on Estates Issues

This report sets out progress on a number of estates issues raised by the committee or reported to the clerk. Progress against the work plan agreed at the February meeting (Min. 23.02.8.1, Report WPC.EC.23.02.01 refers) is summarised below:

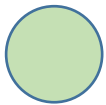
Previous Financial Year



- Cemetery Notice Board – further work to be done on cemetery records before mapping can be completed

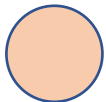


- Increasing accessibility to grave space records for Councillors – work to the plan is ongoing – researching impacts of GDPR on how reserved plots are recorded and made accessible to Cllrs.



- Drive leading to Chapel of Rest
- Work to Culvert at Coltsfoot Green
- Re-negotiation of lease for Children’s Play Area at Cemetery Road
- Reserved Grave Space Marking
- Health & Safety Consultancy – this service is now provided as a benefit from current parish insurers
- Outdoor Fitness Equipment – has been the subject of a number of consultations and the scale of the project has been revised – the parish council approved a proposal for a Wooden Senior Goal End (Min 23.02.14) at its February meeting and this has now been ordered.

Current Financial Year



- Fencing to hedge adjacent to cemetery July



- Taking on Memorial Clock as an asset – solicitor instructed April
- Memorial Testing and actions arising from this Min Ref 23.02.13
- Replacement of six white posts at Tennis Courts April
- Drainage of Pond at Coltsfoot Green July



- Re-painting of BT Call box July
May

1. SCC Highways Functions

Following advice from Suffolk County Council’s Community Liaison Officer the clerk has been following up on a number of issues:

- Roadside Grips – an item for the website setting out SCC’s position – that there is no current maintenance policy for roadside grips, but where there are individual ones which are blocked and resulting in flooding, these may be reported and Highways could dig out – A request has been logged regarding a drain on the road from Meeting Green to Boyden Green and this has been escalated through our County Councillor.
- SCC Highways will approve grit bins to the old existing grit dump sites (previously the clerk had been advised that the bins would be provided, but now advised that it is the responsibility of the parish council to purchase)– the clerk has

Hilary Workman
Clerk & RFO
June 2023

identified the old dump sites from records, and will be requesting grit bins to these sites through the Community Liaison Officer.

- There is a revenue budget line of £150 for a grit bin in the current financial year.
- There are funds in the following earmarked reserves:
 - Safety & Security - £575
 - Highways - £1500
- There was a grit bin at Nunnery Green (exact location to be identified) and the clerk has contacted the Liaison officer to establish exact location and whether or not formal approval is required to replace the bin.

Recommendation:

The estates committee authorise the purchase of a replacement grit bin for Nunnery Green at a cost of not more than £150 plus VAT (for installation following any necessary authorisation from SCC).

2. Maintenance in Cemetery

Although the hedge re-instated by Suffolk County Council is showing some signs of establishing, there has been some damage due to pedestrians tracking across from the footpath into the cemetery. At the March cemetery work-day old leaf litter was cleared and many of the whips were showing signs of re-growth. In April, existing small saplings which had naturally seeded were transplanted into the hedge line.

The clerk has also escalated the issue of the replacement hedge through our County Councillor, Bobby Bennett, and SCC Highways have now confirmed that they will fund replacement plants for the hedge line.

The installation of a fence is to be considered in this financial year (or a grant to cover the cost sought) to prevent this and further protect the saplings. SCC have been chased to establish any outstanding funding from the S.106 which could contribute towards this, but this seems unlikely as we are now making progress on replacement saplings, and a small bus shelter.

A quote for the cost of chestnut paling fence and posts to fence between Cemetery Road and the Cemetery to protect any new saplings planted in the autumn is attached as **Appendix A**.

The parish council has power under the Local Government Act 1972 s.214(2) to provide and maintain cemeteries in or outside the council's area.

Fencing to the rear of the cemetery (bounding FP24) has been damaged and one of the upper horizontals requires refixing. A cut-through into the memorial garden has also been established to the west of this run of fencing, which may be contributing to ongoing damage to the structure of the fence.

A quote for the cost of chestnut paling fence, gateposts and small gate to effect repairs and prevent further damage to the fence line is attached as Appendix B. **Appendix B**.

The council has the following in revenue budget:

• Cemetery Refurbishment	£250.00
• Cemetery & Churchyard (£600 committed against £750 budget)	£150.00
• Underspend on Cemetery Software	<u>£168.22</u>
Total:	£568.22

The maximum cost quoted for both options A & B is £509.72 at current prices.

Proposal:

The committee authorise purchase of chestnut paling fence and posts for protection of the natural hedge to be re-established between the cemetery and cemetery road at a cost of not more than £365 plus VAT.

Proposal:

The committee authorise purchase of gate, fixings and paling fence and posts for the fence line between the cemetery and Footpath 24 at a cost of not more than £150 plus VAT.

The lifting of crowns and reduction in height of some cyprus in the old cemetery last year has resulted in more light towards the Chapel of Rest and a profusion of wild flowers. Acacia Tree Surgery will be undertaking an interim check on 27th June and the clerk will investigate further how some of the evergreen trees might be shaped to increase light.

A full evaluation of memorials over 2'high has been instructed from Abbey Memorials and the work is scheduled for 5th July 2023 (Min. 23.04.09 refers).

3. Chapel of Rest

Following work to the Drive at Chapel of Rest, some worn areas of macadam, particularly outside the Chapel of Rest, have been identified which will require remedial work in the longer term.



Additionally, there is a crack to the outer door lintel which may require work, and it should be investigated as to whether this is being caused by roots from nearby trees.

The clerk needs assistance to undertake a spring clean of the Chapel of Rest – volunteers invited!!

The path to the Chapel of Rest is deteriorating again and approaches to rectifying this will be investigated in preparation for the next draft budget.

4. Queen's Green Canopy – Cherry Trees

Seven flowering cherry trees were planted in February as part of the Queen's Green Canopy. Cllrs have asked that a memorial plaque be erected.



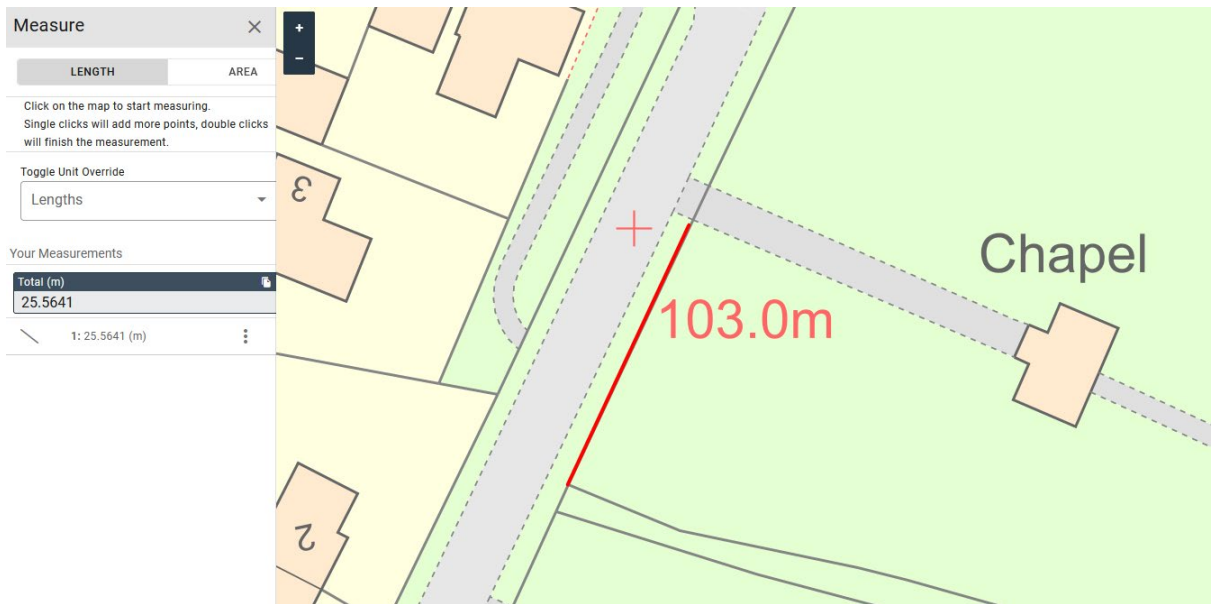
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Recommendation:

The Estates Committee authorise the cost of purchasing a memorial plaque and stake dedicating the Cherry Trees planted at the cemetery to the memory of the late HM Queen Elizabeth II at a cost of not more than £50.00 plus VAT.

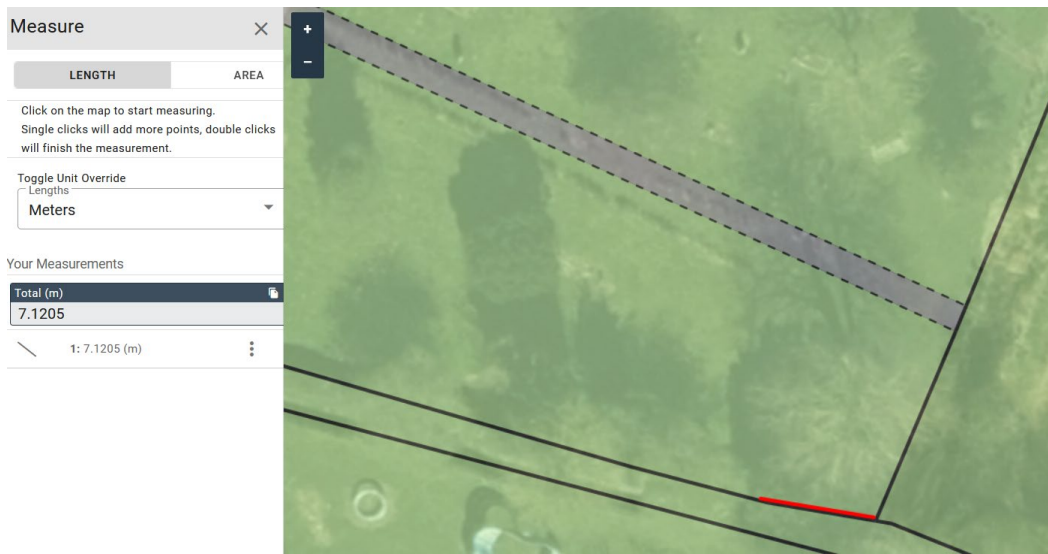
Appendix A



Item Code	Qty	Description	Unit Price	Disc. %	List Price	Line Total
FECCF020010		Cleft Chestnut Fencing Roll with 2 Line Wire 4 Stranded 2mm Galvanised wires. 3FT High x 30FT 3 Length Roll.	£ 74.82	20%	£ 59.86	£ 179.58
FECCF0200		10YD ROLLS X 4'0" HIGH CLEFT CHESTNUT 3 FENCING WITH 2 LINE WIRES	£ 106.26	20%	£ 85.01	£ 255.03
FECCF0200		10YD ROLLS X 4'0" HIGH CLEFT CHESTNUT 3 FENCING WITH 3 LINE WIRES	£ 115.50	20%	£ 92.40	£ 277.20
FECCF0201		CHESTNUT FENCING STAKES POINTED ENDS 10 6'0" X 3" TO 4" TOPS [ALL ROUNDS]	£ 9.80	15%	£ 8.33	£ 83.30
Cost Range			£ 262.88		to	£ 360.50

Action: Choose from the range of options for paling fence.

Appendix B



There would be no need for stakes for the paling, as it could be fixed directly to the existing post & rail. To save further on cost, the committee could look at just installing the gate, and gate posts.

FEWPAA095060	RTPG120 PICKET GATE GREEN 1200MM H X 1 900MM W	£ 22.06	15%	£ 18.75	£ 18.75
GTWWPT020140	.8M X 125MM X 125MM SAWN SOFTWOOD 2 POSTS	£ 14.16	20%	£ 11.32	£ 22.65
GTWWPT02024082	1.8M X 125M X 125MM SAWN SOFTWOOD POSTS STONEHEADED P/TREATED GREEN 2 FSC	£ 19.95	20%	£ 15.96	£ 31.92
IRMTINHIN2 70	4196842 14" GALVANISED HEAVY TEE 1 HINGES EASYFIX	£ 9.70	15%	£ 8.24	£ 8.24
IRMTINGAT0 90	3199962 SMALL GALVANISED AUTO GATE 1 CATCH EASY FIX	£ 3.53	15%	£ 3.00	£ 3.00
IRMTINHIN1 80	4195943 14" B/J MEDIUM TEE HINGES 1 EASYFIX	£ 5.65	15%	£ 4.80	£ 4.80
IRMTINGAT100	3199903 SMALL BLACK AUTO GATE CATCH 1 EASYFIX	£ 2.90	15%	£ 2.47	£ 2.46
FEOCCF020010	Cleft Chestnut Fencing Roll with 2 Line Wire 4 Stranded 2mm Galvanised wires. 3FT High x 30FT Length Roll.	£ 74.82	20%	£ 59.86	£ 59.86
	Cost Range			£ 55.10 to	£ 149.22

Action: Choose from the range of options for gate, fixings and paling.