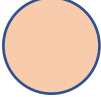




Update on Estates Issues

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:

Current Financial Year

-  Cemetery Notice Board – further work to be done on cemetery records before mapping can be completed – old parish notice board to be re-furbished and fitted in porch to Chapel of Rest in preparation. (brought forward from previous financial year)
-  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 (brought forward from previous financial year).
April
Min Ref 23.02.13
- Fencing to hedge adjacent to cemetery – Suffolk County Council have agreed funding for hedging plants and Estate’s Committee has authorised cost of Chestnut Paling fence, which has been ordered.
Late Winter
-  Re-painting of BT Call box
May
- Memorial Testing and actions arising from this
July
- Drainage of Pond at Coltsfoot Green
August
- Taking on Memorial Clock as an asset – Parish Council resolved to withdraw proposed agreement and revert to the PCC applying for a grant (**Min. 23.09.15** refers)
September
- Replacement of six white posts at Tennis Courts – costs authorised and work scheduled autumn.
November

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:

- 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 identified the old dump sites from records, and will be requesting grit bins to these sites through the Community Liaison Officer.
- There was a grit bin at Nunnery Green (exact location to be identified) and the clerk is still awaiting advice from the Liaison officer to establish exact location and whether or not formal approval is required to replace the bin (this may have been a Havebury Housing grit bin. A request for a grit bin near the junction of Clopton Green with the A143 has also been received from a local resident.
- A three-bay bus shelter has been installed by SCC on Cemetery Road. The clerk has requested that some perch seating be provided within it.



2. Maintenance in Cemetery

Volunteer days in Cemetery due to start on first Wednesday in March. The first job is likely to be clearing of leaf litter and restoration of hedgeline between cemetery and pavement along Cemetery Road (7.5m at end nearest WI Hall).



The installation of a fence to prevent this and further protect the saplings was authorised by Estates Committee at its July meeting (Min Ref EC.23.07.8.1). This will be scheduled once the replacement hedge has been planted (materials in Chapel of Rest).

The Cherry Trees planted last year appear to be establishing well and are in blossom.



There is a silver birch planted just inside the hedge line which is ailing and will need to be removed (scarring at base from strimmer) – this could probably be dug out by volunteers at this stage.



Chapel of Rest

Following work to the Drive at Chapel of Rest in 2021, some worn areas of macadam, particularly outside the Chapel of Rest, have been identified which will require remedial work in the longer term. Quotes received to date are in excess of £5000 and this has been moved back in the three year plan.



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!!

Six Acres and Recreation Ground

Replacement posts by the Tennis Courts have been fitted and solar lighting for them has been purchased and awaits fitting.

Quotes have been sought for security barriers to limit access onto Recreation Ground and Six Acres. Advice from the new contractor is that drop down posts with padlocks would be the most cost effective solution.

A further bench has been requested by local residents. Their preferred site is at the far end of Six Acres, just beyond the inner banks, overlooking FP25 and the fields to the north and east.



The Public Health Act 1875, s.164 gives the parish council has powers to:

- provide and maintain land for public recreation.
- Power to provide and manage recreation grounds, public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces

There is currently £232.52 remaining in the revenue budget line (Six Acres) for the current year, and £1250 in earmarked reserves.

Wooden seating options currently available range from £115.95 (eucalyptus, flat pack) upwards, but would in most cases require self assembly.

[Back to results](#)



Roll over image to zoom in



WPC.EC.24.02.01 – Estates Issues

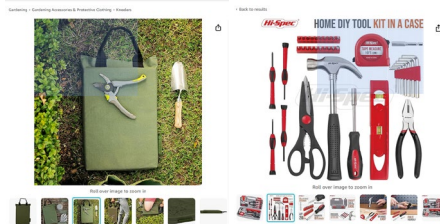
Two signs require replacement on six Acres:

- By Tennis courts
- Children's play area



Quick research has established that two A4 signs in 3mm PVC should not cost more than £50.00. There is £303.62 remaining in the Services and Supplies budget line.

The clerk has discussed with the Chair purchasing a small toolkit and kneeler,



to be stored in the Chapel of Rest, which would facilitate completion of some small maintenance tasks by either the clerk, councillors and/or volunteers as they are identified. Options above cost £19.99 (incl. VAT) each on Amazon

Recommendation:

The Estates Committee authorise

- the purchase of a sustainable bench (upto three seater) at a cost of not more than £232.52 plus VAT; and**
- the purchase of two replacement signs for Six Acres and the Children's play area at a cost of not more than £50.00 plus VAT.**
- The purchase of a small tool kit and garden kneeler at a cost of not more than £40.00 plus VAT.**