

## 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. 24.02.8.1, Report WPC.EC.24.02.01 refers) is summarised below:

### Current Financial Year (2024 – 25)



- Increasing accessibility to grave space records for Councillors – work to onboard all purchased grave space, grave space and interment register records to new software is in progress

April  
Min Ref 23.02.13



- Work to parish trees adjacent to Chapel of Rest

Approved Min. Ref  
24.09.10 – Work  
Instructed



- Cleaning of War Memorial
- Bench for Cemetery (Royal Navy Past & Present)
- Remedial work to tested Memorials (seven of thirteen undertaken, balance scheduled 1<sup>st</sup> week July)
- Transfer of Land from Havebury and SCC – not proceeding
- Cemetery Notice Board –old parish notice board deemed beyond repair and scrapped.

May  
May  
June  
July Minute Ref: 24.07.16  
July

### Six Acres and Recreation Ground

The bench installed at the bottom end of Six Acres was damaged beyond repair in July and will require replacement (on checking, although 1.5M wide, the bench was listed as a two seater). The cost of the item being below the insurance excess, no claim was made against the insurance. A more substantial bench (max width 1.5m) will be sought when replacement is arranged.



Suggested options are attached as **Appendix A**

**Action: Identify whether a bench or backless bench is preferable for clerk to seek costs and report back to next meeting.**

**Defibrillators**

Enquiries have been made with respect to sourcing paediatric defibrillator pads. Pads suitable for both adults and children are available at a cost of £72.50 plus VAT per set, and it is proposed that replacement sets of pads are always purchased as suitable for both.

A review of expiry dates for batteries and pads has now been completed and is summarised below:

**MSC Defibrillator:**

<b>Order</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Serial No</b>	<b>Expiry Date</b>
1000074449	Battery	(01)08809435481512(21) GT130150D	29/10/2026
		(01)088094354181031(17)250706(10) Y070622-	
1000095835	Pads	11	11/07/2025
		(01)08809435481031(17)250706(10) Y070622-	
1000095835		11	11/07/2025
		(01)08809435481031(17)251026(10) Y102622-	
	Spares	03	03/10/2025
		(01)08809435481031(17)251026(10) Y102622-	
		03	03/10/2025

**Fire Station Defibrillator:**

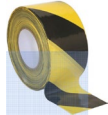
<b>Order</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Serial No</b>	<b>Expiry Date</b>
1000074449	Battery	(01)08809435481512(21) GT131305D	29/10/2026
1000104900	Pads	Y082522-05	01/08/2025
		Y082522-05	01/08/2025
	Spares		

**Maintenance in Cemetery**

Volunteer days in Cemetery started on the first Wednesday in March. In September, the team focussed clearing weeds and vegetation from the Childrens’ play area and Skate Park, and re-coating one of the benches in the cemetery with teak oil. Total cost for materials against the approved budget of £200 plus VAT was £169.56 plus VAT.

At its most recent volunteer morning, Cllr A Grimes and the clerk reviewed safety issues at the All Saints (closed) churchyard.

Items identified to address safety issues include:



Hazard Tape:

£4.58 plus VAT



Industrial Fence Post Spikes (4” x 4”) x 4

£44.16 plus VAT

**Powers:**

Local Government Act 1972, s.111: Power to do anything that will facilitate, be conducive to or incidental to the discharge of its powers and functions.

**Funding:**

Services and Supplies: £399.97 against a budget of £750.00

**Proposal:**

**Authorise the cost of purchasing hazard tape and fence post spikes at not more than £50 plus VAT.**

**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 will be looked at in the next three year plan.

A further quote has been requested from a new contractor.



Gutters, Slates and Roof

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.

There are two dislodged Slates on the east roof, and water appears to be ingressing through the ridge line. Work to repair the Chapel Roof was approved at the September meeting (Min. 24.09.12 refers) and has been instructed, but no start date has yet been advised.

Storage

The cost of additional shelving in Chapel of Rest was approved by the parish council (Min 24.05.8 refers) and now been purchased and installed.

**Six Acres & Recreation Ground**

At its September meeting the parish council considered and approved the purchase of security barriers to limit access onto Recreation Ground and Six Acres (Wickhambrook MSC trustees having agreed to purchase the height restrictor barrier to be sited adjacent to the MSC). The barriers have now been ordered, a delivery date to be advised.

**Play Areas**

Work to replace consumable items in the play areas at Cemetery and Bury Road was completed on 31<sup>st</sup> August. Despite this, reporting from West Suffolk monthly inspection has continued to report a number of low risk issues relating to the play areas.

A volunteer day to clean down play equipment at Cemetery Road took place on 4<sup>th</sup> September and covered:

- Trimming back of vegetation to rear of play areas
- Treatment of play equipment with Wet and Protect – a non-toxic coating which treats for mould and lichen
- Coating of bench behind Chapel of Rest with Teak Oil.

At its September meeting the Estates Cttee approved the purchase of lawn mix and fleece jackets (Min 24.09.08), which have now been delivered (a small refund was negotiated as the embroidery had not been completed in accordance with the specification)

Options for replacement bench at Six Acres



**WINCHESTER TEAK SINGLE OVAL GARDEN BENCH 3 SEATER 1.5M**

IN STOCK

SELECT YOUR DELIVERY DATE AT CHECKOUT  
SKU: KF0216

~~£389.00~~  
**£339.00**

**Klarna** Finance available on all order over £500

★★★★★ (17)

Understated and stylish, the three-seater Winchester Teak Single Oval Garden Bench is a stunning addition to any garden or outdoor space. With its soft curves and traditional design, we only use the finest sustainable teak hardwood to make the Winchester a real class act.

Product Options

- Bench Cover +£45.00
- Teak Oil 1 Litre +£25.00
- Anchor Kit Soft Surface +£100.00
- Anchor Kit Hard Surface +£40.00
- Plaque Engraving +£50.00
- Wooden Carving +£250.00



1.



**SALISBURY BACKLESS TEAK 3 SEATER BENCH 1.5M**

IN STOCK

SELECT YOUR DELIVERY DATE AT CHECKOUT  
SKU: KF0257

~~£289.00~~  
**£215.00**

**Klarna** Finance available on all order over £500

★★★★★ (14)

The simple, clean design coupled with sustainable hardwood and quality craftsmanship make this substantial backless teak three-seater bench from our Salisbury range a pleasure to own. With plenty of space for three adults to comfortably sit with room to spare, this backless bench is perfect for a host of outdoor uses.

Product Option

- Teak Oil 1 Litre +£25.00
- Anchor Kit Soft Surface +£100.00
- Anchor Kit Hard Surface +£40.00



2.