

STRONGER COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Date: Monday 16th March 2020

Title: Progress on Improvements and Repairs Since Last Meeting

Contact Officer: Operations and estates Officer – John Hickman

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this is to update Councillors on the progress of improvements and repairs since the last meeting.

VANDALISM & ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

There has been two incidents regarding vandalism and anti-social behaviour during the past month.

- Children have forced access to the Buttercross roof space causing some minor issues with the clock but also breaking the spare Fluorescent tubes for the clock face kept therein. The associated cost of repairs was £47.98 for hasp staple and padlock, + 2 hrs one member of staff cleaning up and fitting new lock etc. £50.
- Damaged bollards at West Witney one bollard was broken right out of the ground the second has been badly bent and although still in position is non-operational. The post that has been pulled out of ground has been replaced by one that is held in stock the bent post has been left in situ for now. Replacement posts cost £149 + VAT + Delivery. 2 X posts £298.

LITTER BINS AND BENCHES

The 2019/20 budget has now been used to purchase 4 x sets slats to refurbish existing benches, 2 new benches and 6 x recycling litter bins. Benches and Bins are scheduled to be delivered at the end on March.

The slats will be used to start refurbishing existing benches around the town, two new benches are for stock as required, the 6 x recycling litter bins will be used to replace existing litter bins around the lake and country park as per councils policy of replacing and changing all litter bins to the recycling type.

Second-hand benches from old play areas etc. are being installed as additional and replacement seating around the lake and country park.

TREES

Several WTC trees were damaged during the recent storms the works team have been able to deal with all the damaged so far without the need to use tree surgeons.

The tree surgeons have started carrying out the year 1 works from the recent tree survey along with other works highlighted by the Operations and Estates officer.

WELCHWAY RAISED BED

Contractors have completed these works and the bed is ready for planting with summer bedding.

IN BLOOM

The Cemeteries and projects Officer are currently entering the Leys Recreation Ground and Tower Hill cemetery into in Bloom 2020 as agreed by council at a cost of £100.

CHURCH GREEN FLOWER BEDS

These have now been changed to 50% perennial and 50% Shrubs as agreed by council.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Having declared a Climate Change Emergency at its Council meeting on 26 June 2019 – with this in mind Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

RISK

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The associated cost of £97.98 for the repairs to the Buttercross roof space locking system taken from budget line 402/4036.

The Associated costs of for the £298 repairs to West Witney Sports Ground Bollards to be taken from budget line 203/4036.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are invited to note the report.