

March 2020 - Land Management/Health and Safety Inspection Report

Land Management Report

The Assistant Clerk had prepared the following report for members' consideration. A copy of the report had been emailed to all members in advance of the meeting.

Completion of works:

The Ground staff have:

- Taken delivery of a dumpy bin having previously installed a paving base, padlocked it into place and been utilising it for waste disposal.
- Removed graffiti from Jacobs Well play area.
- Roped off bulbs in Harry's Meadows and erected appropriate signage.
- Removed spoil from grass verges opposite Sudpre/Brooklands on Worplesdon Road.
- Reported planks along public right of way behind Pitch Place House. Put in place by Taylor Wimpey as a result of complaints from local residents.
- Displayed a banner advertising the Community Engagement Event taking place on 24.03.2020.
- Taken vehicle to have sign writing error remedied and dashcam fitted.
- Attended a LANTRA Basic Tree Inspection and Survey course.
- Cleared debris at White House Pond, Jacobs Well.

The Clerk has identified an alternative secure location for land management equipment to be stored. Items to be relocated as soon as feasible. Cost £15 per week.

The Assistant Clerk reported a significant pot hole outside the former Hare and Hounds.

Work agreed with contractors/volunteers:

- Balance of posts to be installed at Perry Hill Green outside Hillcot to prevent damage to the Green and at the war memorial in Jacobs Well (Posts to be supplied by Gunner Agriculture).
- Repairs to splits in the wet pour surfacing at Worplesdon play areas.
- Play Inspection Training has been booked for the Ground staff (18.03.2020 and 19.03.2020).

Quotations required for:

- Grass cutting tender which has been issued to contractors and advertised on the parish council website.

Outstanding works:

- The Ground staff will help Jacobs Well residents to paint the height barrier into the recreation ground. This is a low priority.
- The white safety gates in Wood Street Village need to be re-painted. The Ground staff to carry out in Summer 2020 (weather dependent).
- Noticeboard stays to be sourced and fitted to opening door panels.
- Assistant Clerk to update checklists to reflect change in assets.
- Assistant Clerk to issue grass cutting and stones/posts licences (early March).
- The Ground staff to treat the HAGS wooden multiplay slats at Jacobs Well.
- Assistant Clerk to obtain quotes for an amber safety light to be supplied and fitted to the works vehicle.
- Assistant Clerk to undertake DBS checks for Ground staff.
- Update signage at locations across the parish (Assistant Clerk).
- Ground staff to weed kill beneath play area equipment (Spring 2020).
- Sapling overhanging footpath between the Rifle Range and Salt Box roundabout. Ground staff to remove.
- Large shrub across road in Sandpit Heath. Ground staff to remove.

Groundsman's/Clerk's Observations:

- Flooding at Woking Road, Clay Lane, Holly Lane, Frog Grove Lane and Tangle Lane has all been reported to appropriate organisations.
- The issue relating to the bramble hedge beside Pound Lane, neighbouring Nightingale Old Farm, has been addressed.
- Issues have arisen on Littlefield Common whereby a makeshift dam has been installed which has refilled the depression adjacent to Aldershot Road. A response from Surrey Wildlife Trust is awaited. A local forest school have kindly offered to report any non-permitted activity in the area.
- The BT phone box has been removed from Louis Fields by BT.
- Ground staff challenged a contractor at Perry Hill Green who had driven onto the grass and needed to be towed out. Assistant Clerk contacted the homeowner who has advised that the contractor will repair the damage to an acceptable standard.
- Damage to Jacobs Well Recreation Ground was caused by a tree surgeon who moved posts and drove onto the grass. Assistant Clerk wrote to the tree surgeon company in question. Whilst attempts have been made to fix the significant damage by the company, Groundstaff are monitoring to establish if the repair meets the required standard.
- Two broken branches removed from a horse chestnut tree at Perry Hill Green and Christmas lights to be removed (New contract required 2020).
- Removed small broken branch from tree at junction of Keens Lane and Worplesdon Road (tree trunk in neighbouring property's garden). Clerk to notify homeowner.
- Damaged trees identified in a neighbouring property in Jacobs Well. Area roped off by Ground staff. Land owner contacted by Clerk.
- Bat boxes recovered from felled trees to be relocated to Nevins Copse, Wood Street Village.

The Ground staff are continuing to:

- Clean road signs and clear any obscuring vegetation.
- Clear grilles before and after periods of heavy rain in addition to usual checks.

Health and Safety Inspection Report

The Ground staff have undertaken weekly inspections as a result of which the Assistant Clerk had prepared the following report, a copy of which had been issued via email to all members in advance of the meeting.

Weekly Reports

Worplesdon, Jacobs Well and Fairlands play areas, the Husson Breeze and community car park at Wood Street were checked on 27.1.2020, 04.02.2020, 10.02.2020, 17.02.2020, 24.02.2020 and 02.03.2020. The Ground staff have carried out the following work:

- Cleared litter at all 4 sites
- Cleared grilles across the Parish

Completed works:

- Additional posts have been installed by Gunner Agriculture at Wood Street Village Post Office and Pound Lane.
- New and replacement Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the Ground staff has been purchased.

Outstanding works:

- None.

Groundsman's/Clerk's Observations:

- Additional posts are due to be installed by Gunner Agriculture on Perry Hill Green and at the Jacobs Well war memorial.
- A tree beside the path at Pitch Place Green was felled by Dryad as it had been left in a dangerous state following the recent spate of storms, and was at imminent risk of falling.
- Damage has occurred to numerous grass verges around the parish. Not only is this causing trip hazards but it will leave the verges difficult for grass cutting contractors to mow.
- Persons unknown have been using a metal detector in Harry's Meadow, Jacobs Well and crudely filling in the holes. Ground staff to level earth to minimise trip hazards
- Mole hill trip hazards were removed at Fairlands play area. Mole caught. Suggest treat annually to prevent play area being undermined.

Monthly Health and Safety Report:

The monthly inspections were undertaken on 17.02.2020 and 18.02.2020.

Quotations have been sought for:

- Tree felling of medium/high risk trees identified in the Annual Tree Survey across the portfolio of land owned/maintained by Worplesdon Parish Council (works which cannot be undertaken by our Ground staff).