

Deputy Clerks Report

OCTOBER 2020

1. GROUNDMAN'S REPORT

06.10.2020 - We called today at the Bowling club and cut the sward also called at the Westclyst Football pitch.

13.10.2020 - We called at the Westclyst site today and carried out aeration applied fertiliser to the sward and distributed grass seed on thin areas.

2. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

The play park has received a welcome touch up with the paint and it's looking very fresh and tidy. The Pavilions is still receiving its makeover which will continue during the winter months.

3. TREE COUNCIL BRANCHING OUT FUND

The Tree Council Branching Out Fund is providing grants for UK tree planting projects across the community. This is a grant being applied for to undertake a well-planned tree planting project. The application will detail how the trees will be sourced, planted and cared for, whilst also showing value for money and engaging the local community. The Lead Ranger from the National Trust, Philip Stuckey has very kindly offered to help with the project.

Three locations have been identified for tree planting;

- Holly Tringle green area (around the memorial bench)
- Grass verge along the road top of the playing field (Woodland Rd)
- Maple Road green grass area

The trees that will be planted will be sourced from Perrie Hale Nursery in Honiton and of a native woodland variety. To protect the trees, we will be looking at environmentally friendly tree guards. The National Trust are going to help with the placement of the trees and will be helping on the day of planting. The maintenance will be carried out in house.

Permission from landowners took longer than expected, permission has been approved for all three areas. With COVID restrictions in place for outside gatherings, I will be using social media to organise the tree planting day working alongside the National Trust. Each tree will be allocated a place, time slot and a family/person to plant the tree and to take care of the tree in the early days. The tree planting day will take place during National Tree Week – 28th November to 6th December 2020.

4. UTILITIES -AID

Utility- aid are an energy broker who approached the council to carry out a free audit of the council's energy use/suppliers. The audit came back with no significant savings on our usage now. Green gas tariffs are newish to the market and they aren't as competitive compared to standard energy tariffs. Utilities -aid looks after 500 local councils and have created an energy basket specific to councils. When the council's current contracts end, Broadclyst Parish Council could enter the energy basket and with a collective buying power, be able to buy lower price energy. This would not be an option till 2023/2024

5. FOOD BANK – HALLOWEEN

Halloween arrived at the Broadclyst Food Bank. Kind donations to the Exeter Food Action Group meant that the children from Broadclyst Food Bank received a Halloween loot bucket each, filled with sweets, colouring, masks and fancy-dress items. I delivered Halloween goodie bags to 27 children, who were all very excited to receive them. It certainly makes you feel good, knowing your bringing a smile to the kids faces.



This concludes my report to Council.

Natasha Curwood,
Broadclyst Parish Deputy Clerk 23.10.2020

