

CLERKS REPORT JUNE 2021

This report updates Finance and Governance Committee Members on operational matters during June 2021 whilst the Council is unable to meet physically due to Covid restrictions and can no longer meet virtually.

It will form part of the document pack for the Council's next formal meeting.

Updates on May report are recorded in blue

1. DOGS...

- a. The EDDC PSPO to require dogs to be on leads at all times whilst on the Broadclyst recreation ground has been publicised by on-site signage and a front-page article in the Summer broadsheet (for distribution wk/com 7th June), along with a map showing the location of the dog exercise area. Walkers are now using the dog exercise area, with only a few reports of dogs not on leads. An 'engage, educate, encourage, enforce' approach is being used; frequent re-offenders will be reported to EDDC Env. Health with CCTV evidence.

The Council has received correspondence from two members of public regarding the PSPO and querying the decision; these have been answered by Cllr L Straw but have highlighted the issue of other ASB on the recreation ground, including foul language and urinating in hedgerows. There is a National Trust 1965 byelaw as follows:

Obscene Language

22. No person shall on Trust Property use any indecent or obscene language to the annoyance of any person.

As for the urination in hedges, perhaps a poison ivy planting scheme?

- b. There has been a noticeable increase in dog walkers using the dog walking field area, leading to an overflowing dog waste bin at the Elbury lane entrance. EDDC Streetscene has been asked to work with us to relocate two of the recreation ground dog bins to the Elbury-Sandy Lane area to ensure adequate bin provision. This is still ongoing, along with complaints about missed collections. Missed collections have been escalated to the EDDC Service Delivery Team.
- c. There has been an issue with the grass in the dog walking field not being cut in accordance with the contract. This has been raised with the contractor for rectification. This has been resolved and all grass cutting is back on track.

2. BOWLS GREEN

A broken solenoid on sprinkler number 9 is being replaced, with 2 spare solenoids at a price of £8.03 each and one spare sprinkler head at £42.42 also being purchased.

3. PAVILIONS

- a. Usage remains low whilst restrictions on the number of people that can meet indoors remain, however we have had bookings come in for family parties during the summer which we hope will be able to go ahead. [This pattern of use continues; one family party has been held with other bookings re-booked for later in the summer.](#)
- b. Storage: we need to have somewhere to store the ride-on mower. We have identified an area next to the tennis court hut that is currently 'dead land' and would like to look at putting a small (10' x 10') shed there. Whilst a small storage shed is unlikely to require planning consent, we ought do a pre-app with EDDC to ascertain the planning position. The last time we did this was to covert the Clyst room into a works compound; the cost was around £75 (we pay a reduced fee as a public body). [This work is ongoing.](#)

4. PLAY AREA / PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

- a. Tree house ramp/slide vandalism: An estimate has been received of £4,150 plus VAT for the replacement of the ramp/slide. A claim has been submitted to council's insurers, which in turn has resulted in an increase to premiums. [The insurers have carried out a desk-based survey using before and after images; a full settlement has been agreed \(less excess\).](#)
- b. Westclyst open space: The bin provision in the big play area near the Co-Op is insufficient to hold one weeks' worth of rubbish; we have been "topping up" the EDDC weekly bin emptying with two further visits during the week. We discussed this with the Management Company during a site visit, and it has been agreed to install another bin. For ease and speed, they have asked if we can purchase and install, recharging the cost to the M/ment Co. [These](#) are the bins and installation will cost c.£100 (materials and labour), so looking at a total project cost of c£600, all of which will be reimbursed. [The bin has been ordered \(£307.88 plus VAT\) and appears on the June payment schedule.](#)

5. DOING WHAT MATTERS UPDATE (FROM DCC NEIGHBOURHOOD HIGHWAYS OFFICER)

The budgets that Devon County Council have been given by central government have not been as pleasing as we would have hoped but given the current pandemic situation and the strain the government is under is hardly surprising.

We remain committed to delivering works identified and prioritised by each Parish and have worked hard to deliver as many of the top 3 priorities for surface treatment and drainage within each Parish.

- i. **I am pleased to tell you that the following works are being progressed within your Parish for this coming Financial Year (2021/22).**
 - *Station Road Resurfacing – Your surface treatment Priority 2 – Works now Complete*
 - *Westwood Junction – Drainage Investigation Prior to Patching/Resurfacing – Your surface treatment priority 5*
 - *B3181 Withy Bridge – Jetting & Drainage Investigation – Your drainage priority 3*

ii. Additional Work being carried out in 2021/22 not raised by the Parish at DWM Meeting:

- *B3174 - LONDON ROAD (Nr Rockbeare Bridge) – Drainage Works*

iii. Work Already completed in 2020/21:

- *Town Hill Resurfacing – Your Surface Treatment Priority 3*
- *B3181 Gypsy Corner – Jetting & CCTV – Your drainage priority 1 - Full report has been undertaken and is currently being assessment for any improvements required*
- *Station Road – Drainage – Your drainage priority 2 – works have been undertaken.*

iv. Works added to the 2022/23 Programme:

- *B3181 - Cullompton Road – (Section between Budlake & Beare) - Drainage Improvements following CCTV Report*
- *Wards Cross to Rull Cross (Past Hlts Farm) – Patching - Your surface treatment Priority 4*

6. FOOD BANK / SUPPORT

- a. User numbers have settled again, with c.40 adults and 35 children being regularly supported and other households who drop in and out as needed. The Foodiverse app stats record 204 collections to date providing the equivalent of 12598 meals and making an estimated CO² saving of 16,751kg.
- b. Grant funding: the food bank applied to be a project under the Tesco Community Grants Scheme. This has been successful and our project will be put forward to a customer vote in Tesco stores when possible. Tesco say “Unfortunately we cannot confirm a start date for voting until the next stage of the government roadmap has been confirmed, but we will notify you as soon as we can.”
The project with the highest number of votes across your region will receive £1,500 (or the amount that was requested up to this value), the second placed project £1,000 (or the amount that was requested up to this value), and the third placed project £500.
- c. A new initiative called FareShare Delivered scheme was explained in the May report. There has been no further communication about this to date.

This concludes my report.

Angie Hurren
Clerk to the Council
23.06.2021