

Meeting	Parks and Open Spaces Committee
Date	11 October 2022
Report Title	End of season Grass Cutting Report
Agenda Reference	10
Author	David Hunt, Head of Parks & Open Spaces

Officer's Recommendations

To note the report.

Background

The season has proved very successful with the hot dry weather contributing to a vastly different season than 2021 when the grass growth never slowed.

The weather this season has allowed us to keep on top of the growth. The introduction of a dedicated follow up team improved the service offered. The mini compact sweeper has worked closely with the mowing operations proving a success across the parish.

There have been little to no enquiries with regards to this year's service and the team has remained on track with the 3.2 week cycle.

The team has been bolstered this year by the introduction of two additional operatives on back up strimming and hedge cutting. The Parks & Projects Team has also assisted with these areas in the height of the season.

We have experienced considerable mechanical failures with both machines this being their fourth season. New machines have been ordered for the financial year 23/24. These will complement the mowing season next year tremendously.

Financial Implications

The mowers have required £5,725.98 (Budget of £8,000.00) of maintenance and have used £3,795.98 (Budget of £3,040.00) of fuel to the end of September 2022.

Training

Two operatives have undertaken mower training. The Council now has five mower trained operatives which will ensure smooth provision for the service in case of staff sickness or annual leave.