

Meeting	Parks and Open Spaces Committee
Date	26th September 2022
Report Title	Head of POST and Tidy Up Report
Agenda Reference	10
Author	David Hunt, Head of Parks & Open Spaces

Officer's Recommendations

1. To note the removal of one litter bin from Torun Way and to relocate this bin to Greenmeadow Shops.
2. To note the removal of one litter bin from Haydonleigh Drive, before the Westfield Way junction and to put this into storage.
3. To note the request from a Ward Councillor about an extra bin being placed on the footpath between Haydon Wick Brook, Torun Way South to Queen Elizabeth Drive.
4. To note a bin will be installed to replace the current bin at Basil Close Play Area – this bin is from stock so will be cost neutral.
4. To note the Skate Park & KGV will close at 19:00 during October and 18:00 from November through to March.

Bins removed from Torun Way, Haydonleigh Drive

To note the removal of two public litter bins on:

- Torun Way and Westfield Way roundabout (black, covered plastic bin). This bin is rarely used. To relocate this bin at Greenmeadow shops. We currently have three bins at this location and on numerous occasions these bins are overflowing.
- Haydonleigh Drive before the junction with Westfield Way (small steel slated open top bin). This bin is located near the bus stop and placed tight to the laurel hedgerow. The bin is rarely used. To remove this bin and put it in store.

Increased litter bins

A request from a Ward Councillor to increase litter bins on the path alongside Haydon Wick Brook from Torun Way South to Queen Elizabeth Drive, with particular emphasis towards the Torun Way end of the path. The Head of Parks & Open Spaces recommends monitoring the litter in the area and reporting back if there appears to be a need for extra bins.

Installation of Bin at Basil Close

The team will be installing a new (from stock) black plastic covered bin at Basil Close play area. There is currently an open bin in place and foxes are getting the rubbish out and depositing it around the play area. The installation will be cost neutral with an impact on existing resources to empty and maintain the bin.

King George Field and Skate Park

To note that King George Field and The Skate Park will be locked from 19:00 during October 2022 and 18:00 from November 2022 to March 2023.

Shrub bed maintenance

The shrub bed maintenance has continued. Abbey Meads & Taw Hill areas have been completed. There have been other one-off areas completed. These have been dealt with when due to excessive growth issues have been raised by Staff, Councillors, and members of the public. The team has encountered extreme re-growth on some of the beds containing Brambles



and Roses which have been dealt with as a priority. The team will continue to pick up on daily reports of overgrown areas along side of dealing with Oakhurst regular maintenance.

Mini Compact Sweeper

The mini sweeper had its first regular service on Tuesday 23rd August. Mechanical problems have been zero except for one split hose that we repaired ourselves.

Daily Work Sheets for August 2022

61 cases in total on the worksheet broken down as follows:

49 cases were outstanding from previous months and 21 were new enquiries for August 2022.

15 completed that were reported in August – there are 6 remaining reported in August.

12 completed that were reported in July, 6 are remaining.

10 completed that were reported in June, 8 are remaining.

4 completed that were reported in May, 3 remaining.

1 other remaining.

Total carried forward to September is 24 cases.

Carried forward cases are mainly winter work jobs a mixture of trees or hedges. Some are land ownership issues. Outstanding tasks remain on the daily work sheet as this is the best way to keep them on the radar.

Tidy Up Team

The team has continued to help bolster the shrub / tree team assisting with overgrown shrubs and hedges in the afternoon after their main tasks of litter and bins have been completed. Standard ongoing tasks of litter picking, bin emptying, graffiti removal, fly tipping removal and watering the floral planters take precedent

Electric Vehicles

The two hire vehicles were off hired Friday August 26th. New livery was added to the five (5) grounds maintenance vehicles on Thursday 25th August 2022. The electric vehicles are now fully engaged by the team on their daily duties.

Fuel

Fuel for the three (3) grounds vehicles and the minibus is now obtained from SBC at Waterside Park. Fuel for the mowers is still obtained in fuel cans. All white diesel is purchased from Waterside and invoiced monthly by SBC. Minor petrol usage for push mowers and handheld tools will continue to be obtained from Asda using the credit card. Usage of petrol is in the region of 2 gallons a month.

Grass Team

August remained mainly breakdown free for the mowing machines. Follow up mowing has continued to prove successful. The follow up team has capacity to pick up other grounds maintenance tasks locally within the daily work area. Mowing and follow up mowing continued throughout August despite the dry weather. The compact mini sweeper also complemented the follow up mowing service. Operating within the daily vicinity of the mowing operations the sweeper has contributed to keeping roads, footpaths, and cycleways tidy.