

Meeting	Parks & Open Spaces Committee
Date	8 th July 2025
Report Title	Parks & Open Spaces Report
Agenda Reference	9
Author	Jason Watts, POS & Facility Manager

Officers Recommendation

1. To note the report.
2. To note the costs and resources associated following SBC household recycling visits along Akers Way and consider the next steps.

Attendance

- **Total:** 63 days. As expected there has been an increase in annual leave and a decrease in sickness absence.

	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sept
Annual Leave	23.5	11	21	63	34	23	26
Sick Leave	14	4	5	0			
Total	37.5	18	26	63			

Tidy Up Team

- Our new tidy up team member is now fully trained upon both east and west waste collection and is a positive impact upon our existing team. Litter picking and waste bin graffiti removal continues to be a focus within the tidy team schedule.
- A new dog waste bin is now installed and in use at Abbey Meads, supporting a resident request, this should reduce the amount of waste thrown into hedges around this area.
- Various fly tipping incidents have been resolved by the tidy up team including sofas, builder bags & car parts.
- Our new lead operative has made a great start and is working alongside the POS manager supporting all team functions within tidy up.

Akers Way

Akers Way litter picking remains to be challenging and our team aims to remove all litter promptly. As witnessed, the household waste bags that are supplied by SBC are split and ripped by vermin before the collection team arrives and once spilt the SBC team has no intention of recovery. Within May, over 12 bags of litter were collected by HWPC at an estimated cost of £105.00.

Mini Compact Street Sweeper

- Our new team member is now fully trained and has a positive impact on the team; we have now progressed into grass back-up training to enable the team to be even more flexible. The sweeper continues to complete the Monday hot spots, reactive works whilst progressing through the parish schedule. Unfortunately, due to a front wheel puncture the sweeper had to be recovered from Oakhurst via a recovery truck on one occasion.



Grounds Team

- Within the half term timing the tractor and flail team concentrated around the school areas to ensure sightlines are clear and maintained, this was predominantly carried out at Abbey Meads and Taw Hill.
- The team is currently working through Abbey Mead and will progress into Oakhurst once complete.

Grass Team

- The team is now progressing through the 7th round as the external contractor support finished between rounds 5&6. Monitoring will continue throughout the season to establish factual data that will enhance are future planning.
- Tadpole field has now been added to the northeast schedule and will be regularly maintained going forward. Blue = HWPC Yellow = Contract

Area	Requirement	Cost
Tadpole Paddock	Grass cut	£300
Thames Ave	Stump removal	£95

North West						South East					
	Start	Finish	Bank Hols	Working days	Comments		Start	Finish	Bank Hols	Working days	Comments
Round 1	31/03/2025	10/04/2025	0	9		Round 1	31/03/2025	09/04/2025	0	8	
Round 2	11/04/2025	25/04/2025	2	9		Round 2	10/04/2025	22/04/2025	2	7	
Round 3	28/04/2025	12/05/2025	1	10	Machine cast repair (1) Training	Round 3	23/04/2025	08/05/2025	1	11	Machine service (1)
Round 4	13/05/2025	23/05/2025	0	9	Blade washer fail (1)	Round 4	09/05/2025	23/05/2025	0	10.5	DPF Machine fault (1) Service follow up (1) Training RM
Round 5	23/05/2025	12/06/2025	1	10	Other (2) Machine service (1) Puncture (1)	Round 5	23/05/2025	17/06/2025	1	9.5	Water expansion tank (4) Tractor support (1) Puncture(0.5) Other (2)
Round 6	16/06/2025	01/07/2025	0	10	Hol (1) Puncture (0.5)	Round 6	17/06/2025			10	Puncture (0.5) Hol(1)
Round 7	01/07/2025			10		Round 7				10	
Round 8				10		Round 8				10	
Round 9				10		Round 9				10	
Round 10				10		Round 10				10	



**Vehicle Maintenance**

- The first MOT on our Goupil machines is due within August, preparation has been carried out and we have arranged the MOT to be carried out locally.
- Both Mower machines have received a full service within June.

Deben Crescent

A resident has requested to temporarily locate a skip on the land adjacent to the rear of his property, in Calder Close, whilst construction work is being carried out. A site visit has been undertaken to confirm there is no operational impact, and the POS Manager will be in close contact with the resident if the site isn't kept tidy or there are delays to the skip's temporary placement.