

PADSTOW TOWN COUNCIL

LEISURE, TOURISM AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE: TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2024

AGENDA ITEM 9ii): OUTSIDE WORKS/MAINTENANCE PROGRESS REPORT

Committee note update from the Council's Foreperson, as follows:

1. Overview

- 1.1 This year has seen a comprehensive monthly work schedule introduced which the Maintenance Team adhere to best they can however, at times, weather conditions, holiday entitlement and sickness have put the team behind scheduled but have endeavoured to get back on track as quickly as possible.
- 1.2 This year has seen particularly warm and wet weather which has led to grass growing incredibly quickly throughout the season and whilst the machinery that we currently have has sufficed, discussions and research are taking place regarding machinery that would hopefully give the Town Council more options, better overall performance and value for money for consideration by Committee.

2. Updates

2.1 Cemetery

The 9-week Cemetery review undertaken by the Council Foreperson have been successfully introduced leading to an improvement in the aesthetics and safety of the Cemetery. This review will continue on a 9-weekly basis as requested by Committee.

The Maintenance Team and Foreperson have been discussing better methods of grass cutting in the Cemetery and it is felt that it would be beneficial to be able to pick up grass clippings particularly early in the season, this is something that the Foreperson is researching (as outlined in 1.2 above) for consideration by Committee in the hope it could be implement in the spring of next year.

2.2 Toilets

The toilet cleaning schedule alongside other duties is cleaning and re-stocking twice a day in the quieter winter months and 2-3 times a day in the spring and summer months. In the winter months, a single team member is tasked with cleaning and re-stocking and in the summer months two members of the team undertake the work (weekdays) as this makes cleaning and re-stocking quicker. This also ensures that the toilets are maintained to a high standard. The Council Foreperson considers that standards have improved and with regular checks and deep cleans, will continue to be maintained to a high standard. Going forward into the autumn and winter months the closing time of the toilets will be brought back to reflect how busy the town is.

2.3 Footpaths

The footpaths have been cut in accordance with Cornwall Council's SLA. This has proven to be difficult to achieve within the time constraints of the monthly work schedule due to the size of the Maintenance Team and the number of footpaths that require attention. It is worth noting that a number of footpaths were reported by team members for having an extremely high amount of dog faeces present, along with a large number of harmful plants. As with all work undertaken by the team appropriate safety measures are undertaken and adhered to.

3. Going Forward

- 3.1 Moving into the autumn and winter months, the Maintenance Team will continue to keep high standards in all aspects of work and will look to improve where possible. This will include regularly deep cleaning public toilets, weeding areas when required and maintaining Padstow Town Council areas to the highest standard possible.
- 3.2 The team will continue with its weekly deep clean of public toilets alongside the 2-3 daily cleans and will also continue emptying bins and litter picking where and when required, all of which reactive to how busy the town is. The team will also continue to work in accordance with the monthly work schedule, although this may need to change occasionally and managed by the Council Foreperson due to weather conditions, holidays etc.
- 3.3 Over the autumn and winter months, the Maintenance Team will be improving the Wheal Jubilee Parc area by painting the goal frames, edging paths, filling the goal mouths with soil and seeding and digging a soakaway in the amphitheatre to prevent potential flooding. Also placing a bark mulch around memorial trees and pruning where required. Memorial benches will be cleaned, as will the basketball court area.
- 3.4 The Cemetery will have the gates painted and graves will be topped up where required. Wooden fencing will be treated with wood preserver and the bottom corner of the Cemetery will be tidied up. Epicormic growth will be removed, and low hanging branches will be removed in accordance with the tree survey.
- 3.5 The Churchyard will have all hedges cut and pathways around the War Memorial area will be power washed. Both cremation plots will be treated and scrubbed to eliminate any slip hazards and all benches on site will be assessed and cleaned.
- 3.6 Mount Pleasant and North Quay Parade will be tidied up, which will include removing sand and weeds and re-lining where required.
- 3.7 Chapel Stile Field area work will include hedge cutting and keeping the grass to a manageable length and potentially introducing wildflowers in between the benches along the top path (Committee to decide as per agenda item 6).
- 3.8 The Maintenance Team will also be power washing the Under 12 Play Area and MUGA during the winter months in preparation for next season.
- 3.9 Other works for end of summer/autumn are outlined in appendix 1 to this report.

APPENDIX 1

OTHER WORKS LIST FOR END OF SUMMER/AUTUMN (not mentioned in report)

- Continue with monthly work schedule / grass cutting.
- Paint gates at Cemetery and Chapel Stile Field
- Remove dead weeds from car parks and hedge cut Sea Cadet parking area
- 9-week Cemetery review and undertake any works required
- Bench review
- Refurbish any Town Council benches that require work
- Tidy up Cemetery storage area and chip any branches
- Sand and paint Town Council noticeboards
- Paint Blockhouse
- Fix guttering and clean Core Building
- Post-season review (what has gone well and what hasn't)
- Trimming epicormic growth from trees on Town Council land
- Car park line review
- Mulch around trees at Lawns Car Park
- Hedge cut Trevone Green and tidy up
- Tidy up Victoria Monument area and paint gate
- Strim and tidy up bank behind Core Building
- Tidy up entrance to Spritty Meadow