Ilminster Town Council – Open Spaces Report 22nd August 2017 (Previous report 23rd May 2017)

Work Undertaken:

- All grass amenity areas have continued to be cut.
- The footpaths within Herne Hill have been cut back and maintained.
- The cemetery toilet roof has been further weatherproofed with expanding foam.
- The Summer flower beds continue to be watered.
- Herbicide has been sprayed on cemetery paths and the perimeter of tennis court fence.
- New full-time Open Spaces Warden Gary Taylor started
- Vibration training and testing carried out, weekly vibration logs are now recorded.
- A new temporary agency worker has started work with the team, full time until October.
- Lifesaving flotation aids have been refurbished at the canal.



- Wharf lane goal mouths have been dug over, seeded and rollered. Along with area adjacent to wardens shed entrance.
- 500 hour service carried out on Open Spaces ATV buggy
- Routine servicing carried out on the Tractor and Trimax snake.
- Removed and cleaned remaining electrical appliances from the toilet block/tuck shop.
- Woodchippings (donated by local arborist) have been laid on central footpath, within Herne Hill woodland.

Agenda 5



• Rubber matting and aggregate laid outside tool shed, to prevent erosion.



- Selective weedkiller sprayed on Wharf lane and Brittens Field football pitches, by SSDC.
- Routine Stiga and Pushmower maintenance carried out; blades sharpened and cutting decks treated for erosion.
- Pest control carried out at the Cemetery, resulting in 12 moles being removed.
- Gate post at West Cresent replaced due to previous post rotting away.



- Section of fence at West Crescent tree plantation replaced, due to damage.
- Large Pedunculate Oak felled on Herne Hill, due to Brown Cubical Rot.



- Fallen Cherry tree removed on Herne Hill after high winds brought it down over footpath.
- Bench on Brittens Field repaired following damage.
- Duck weed removed from Canal (N.B. ~Advised not to continue this work due to possible de-oxygenation of the water)
- Aerial runway and entrance gate to Wharf lane play park repaired
- Work has commenced on the toilet block repairs.
- The railings for Brittens Field football pitch have been installed.
- A section of Buddleia has been removed from the patch of land at the top of North Street, due to it obstructing the footpath.
- A section of scrub was cleared from Station Road, due to a road sign being obstructed. Permission was sought from Somerset County Council to carry out this work.

Work Plans:

- Carry out wet-pour repairs to playground safety surfaces.
- Pesticide to be used at Minster Church for weed removal.
- Work to continue to improve access on the Herne Hill footpaths.
- Work to replace 3 fence posts surrounding the Wharf Lane playground.
- Install the remaining bird nesting boxes on Herne Hill.
- Cut the canal bank reeds back once Moor hens have finished nesting.
- Design and order Herne Hill information/interpretation boards.
- Clear scrub from the lower section of the Cleeves Close area.
- Cut back Yew and various shrubs at the Cemetery.
- Install the new dog waste bins at Wharf lane and Brittens Field.
- Relocate waste soil from Cricket Club to Ridge path lookout point.