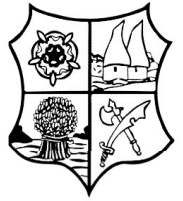


ALTON Town Council



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Town Clerk: Mrs Leah Coney

Town Hall
Market Square

Alton
Hampshire
GU34 1HD

3rd June 2021

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to a **meeting of the OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE** in the Town Hall, Market Square, Alton on **Wednesday 9th June at 7.00 pm** when the under mentioned business will be transacted.

Please be advised that this meeting will be held in the Town Hall, but only members of the Committee and up to 3 members of the public will be admitted with all other attendees requested to dial in (details and code required will be provided)

Members of the public are strongly advised to only attend in person if they have no access to remote dial in or cannot make a written representation. Please advise the Clerk accordingly on your preferred method of attendance to townclerk@alton.gov.uk This meeting will be held in accordance with current government restrictions. Face shields/masks must be worn, social distancing adhered to and sanitizer provided. No paper copies of the agenda or reports will be available in the chamber.

All attendees are requested to take a covid test at home before attending and will be required to sign in to the building with the NHS Track and Trace App.

Yours sincerely

LConey

Mrs Leah Coney
Town Clerk

To: Members of the Open Spaces Committee

Councillor Suzie Burns (Chair)
Councillor Graham Hill (Vice Chair)
Councillor Ginny Boxall
Councillor Pam Bradford
Councillor Gideon Cristofoli
Councillor Paul Crossley
Councillor Sharon Cullen

Copied to: All other Councillors for information

**ALTON TOWN COUNCIL
OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE – 9th JUNE 2021**

AGENDA

- 1 Chairman's announcements
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Minutes of previous meeting held on 10th February 2021
- 4 Declarations of Interests
- 5 Declarations of Interests & Requests for Dispensations:

Councillors are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest which they may have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached. Unless dispensation has been granted, you may not participate in any discussion of, or vote on any matter in which you have a pecuniary interest. You must withdraw from the room when the meeting discusses and votes on the matter.
- 6 Questions from members of the public for any item not on the agenda.
- 7 Current Projects
 - a. Will Hall Farm – Lower Field
 - b. King's Pond (inc Paths)
 - c. Flood Meadows
 - d. Holybourne Pond
- 8 Grounds Team Report
- 9 Allotments Report
- 10 Holybourne Play Area
- 11 Public Gardens Bucket Swings.
- 12 Lions Bench.
- 13 Greenfield Pump Track
- 14 Fencing at the Public Gardens
- 15 To Receive Meeting Notes
 - a. Walk Alton – meeting notes 8th April 2021
 - b. Flood Meadows & Kings Pond Steering Group Meeting 20th May 2021

ALTON TOWN COUNCIL
OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE – 9th JUNE 2021

ITEM 6 PUBLIC SPEAKING – WRITTEN REPRESENTATIONS

- 1) *The temporary blockage in Anstey Park during the roadworks has been working very well at preventing traffic cutting through the park. I'm writing to ask what the plans are for when the permanent traffic lights are up and running?*

I certainly hope that the traffic block will remain and be made permanent, since the temptation for motorists to cut through Anstey Park to avoid queues will now forever be a feature of traffic flow in this area. Since all areas of the park are accessible by car from one or other of the entrances, there will never again be a need to allow through traffic here.

The current blockade could be replaced with some more attractive planters or bollards, perhaps.

Kind regards, Janice Montgomerie Cycle Alton

- 2) *I would like to draw your attention to the attached photos of anti-social behaviour taken at Windmill Hill last night. As you can see the bikes have committed a multitude of offences. L plates with a pillion passenger, no helmet, driving along a public highway then across private land on Cowdray Park and up onto Windmill Hill across a footpath and then away along the pavement in the dark. This has been reported to the police and warnings have gone out on social media. I am however very concerned that every local crime reported will adversely affect resident's insurance premiums.*

This type of behaviour is occurring at Windmill Hill now on a regular basis. This is greatly affecting the quality of local residents' lives, I barely got 4 hours sleep last night. It would appear last night's shenanigans were the result of a pre-planned party. Residents had parents in cars camped out in front of our homes waiting for their under aged children to return in the early hours. Older youths treated the street as an overflow club shouting obscenity gone midnight. I am now frequently finding rubbish strewn across my garden from alcoholic beverages. At 02:20 this morning a car with a fake registration pulled up, a single male walked up to Windmill Hill and returned 15 mins later with a bag, I strongly suspect gangs are using Windmill Hill for drugs/weapons drop offs.

I note most entrances to Windmill Hill have kissing gates, could I suggest you consider installing one to the entrance which is adjacent to the footpath running down to The Ridgeway? The gate into Salisbury Close is also easily bypassed and needs some additional fencing to the side. This would hopefully deter such inconsiderate vehicular behaviour although it will not prevent the parties, music, fires and intimidation. I would also urge the council to work in partnership with the invaluable local police force to find ways to manage these increasingly volatile situations.

(The Clerk has already responded in respect of the first paragraph to note the concern over adversely affecting insurance premiums but the Police are very clear that all incidences of antisocial behaviour should be reported either through 101 or on-line. With priority decisions having to be made on resourcing the deployment of officers, in order to get patrols to target these people at the appropriate times of day (or night) there has to be evidence for the Police to act upon so the resident has been urged to please continue to report this.)

- 3) *The Anstey Park grass cutting is now taking place. I have a suggestion, on the top field there are many wild flowers round the perimeter of the field. If the grass was cut one width, of the mower, less than many more flowers would be available to the insects and wildlife*

- 4) *As we return from lockdown and restart our dementia-friendly support sessions - we are more mindful than ever that it would be really good if we could also have some gatherings outside to make the most of nature in safe surroundings. With that in mind we were hoping that an area of the Public Gardens could be developed with and for us - so that we can have small groups of people with dementia and their carers enjoying the outside space.*

This is very much a preliminary request - which I'd like to explore with you - but it would include:

Flat surfaces to walk on to get to it

Visibility / access to raised beds to plant out and enjoy

Use of sensory planting and wild flowers to promote insect activity

? Ability for people to plant shrubs in memory of loved ones

Near to loos

Ability to build a covered seating area with easy access

? Build some interactive woodland / forest type activities into the environment

Insect, hedgehog and bat boxes

Variety of smells and textures

If this was possible we could obviously fund raise for elements of this - but I was hopeful that some of the money available for open spaces could be accessed as well??

Clearly whilst we would / could use it for some day time sessions in the week - it would be available for public use at any time

I look forward to hearing from you so that we can explore the full potential of this proposal - which I think would make a valuable additional resource for the Town Park

Kindest regards

Karen Murrell Chair, Dementia-friendly Alton

ITEM 7 CURRENT PROJECTS

FOR INFORMATION/DECISION

a. Will Hall Farm – Lower Field

The draft contract (TP1) and title plan have now been issued by Redrow and reviewed by the Town Clerk and HCC legal who are acting for the Town Council in this matter. A copy of the draft contract has been circulated to councillors separately as this remains commercially sensitive until the transfer is complete.

Members are requested to approve the transfer, giving the Town Clerk delegated authority to finalise the documentation with HCC legal to resolve the outstanding items prior to completion. These items specifically relate to the approved landscaping scheme for the site, riparian responsibilities for the river and the western boundary mapping.

RECOMMENDATION: Members are requested to approve the transfer of the land known as the “Lower Field” at Will Hall Farm delegating authority to the Town Clerk to complete the negotiations as detailed above.

b. King's Pond (Inc Paths)

Mink.

A request by a local resident was made to the Town Hall to deploy Mink traps following the death of a number of cygnets last week. Included in Members bundles is a datasheet on Mink. The Town Hall subsequently referred to a local Environmental Consultant and Environmental Scientist who responded as follows:

Rats and heron could be partly to blame along with the lack of aquatic and marginal vegetation for the cygnets to feed on and the general poor state of the pond's water quality would all lead to poor survival of many young water dependant birds apart from those that are adapted to such conditions such as the Canada geese, mallard, coot and moorhen that themselves contribute to poor water quality through being encouraged by overfeeding poor quality food.

Otters may take young cygnets instead of fish. I doubt that many fish occur in the Pond other those adapted to muddy pond bottom conditions and so not much left for passing otters.

I suggest you contact the Hampshire Wildlife Trust for advice and also the Environment Agency who may be able to help.

At the end of the day, drastic measures are needed to improve the quality of the Pond and some of these were suggested in the management plan. The management plan provides a great deal of information about the Pond and is worth a read.

Given the public concern over the previous deployment of rat traps, officers felt unable to approve the deploying any further traps without approval by the committee

Paths

Following the last meeting a number of survey costs for drainage works at King's Pond were obtained by the Clerk, with prices in excess of £10,000 received. In consultation with Members of the committee the Clerk was asked to try and secure an alternative approach to focus primarily on the paths rather than the whole site. Contact was made with a local civil engineering consultancy whose drainage engineer, having been appraised of the current concerns, generously volunteered to undertake a site visit, pro bono, to consider the concerns raised.

As members may recall March was a month with very little rainfall. The site visit undertaken on Easter Weekend was therefore conducted in dry conditions. The resulting report is included in Members bundles.

Further to the report Councillor Burns and Bayliss together with the Town Clerk, undertook a further site visit with the engineer in the pouring rain on the 28th April to review the site in wet conditions. No further report was produced; however, advice was given in order to provide a number of non-engineering solutions to areas of excessive water run-off and pooling on paths around the site. In addition, further consideration was given to the area of path alongside the railway line which has been the subject of continued concern. The engineer's view was that building up the path in this area would not resolve the issue; given the height of the bank on the water's edge, the path would either need building up by around 24 inches so the water ran into the pond, or slope the camber the other way towards the railway line, which would cause pooling of water which would then undermine the path over time.

Given the clear evidence on site of visitors going around the affected area (the other side of the tree) the solution presented itself that if the existing path cannot have its pooling issue in wet weather resolved, then it may be best to create an additional path around the area, where the land showed no evidence of flooding.

Following the site meeting, Councillor Burns and Councillor Bayliss requested this solution to be put out to tender in the interests of time so that the resulting submissions could be reviewed by this committee to enable the work to be undertaken this summer or next spring. Both councillors reviewed the draft tender, based upon the path specification approved by Hampshire County Council at Anstey Park, prior to publication. The tender document was subsequently published and sent to seven contractors with a closing date of the 7th June and the tender is include in Members bundles. The Clerk will be meeting with the committee chair to review the tenders on 8th June in advance of this meeting – further details will be circulated to members following that review.

RECOMMENDATION: Members will be asked to approve a contractor for the path works, following the circulation of a supplementary paper on Tuesday 8th June

Banks

Enclosed in Members bundles are the indicative quotes for the bank repairs to feeding station two, the feeding station on the railway line side of the pond and a number of small infills around the edge of the pond.

Infills: £2,500

Railway line feeding station: £26,850

Feeding station two: £8,000

The allocated budget for the pond for 2021/22 of £8,000 was intended for bank repairs. Members are requested to advise, whether given the sums involved, they wish to identify a preferred area for works this year, defer works to 2022/23 or consider the use of reserves or CIL to progress to a tender for the full works in the current financial year (which will need to be approved by Full Council)

RECOMMENDATION: Members are requested to confirm how to progress the bank repairs for the current financial year.

Trees

One of the council's current tree surgeons has indicated a willingness to undertake the works to remove the trees in the water at the pond.

Enclosed in Members bundles is the surgeon's plan drawn up after a site visit. The surgeon has undertaken works at the pond for the Council over a number of years and is fully versed in the sensitivities of the site. He has made the following recommendation:

Area A, I would recommend that the fallen trees be cut back to water/mud level (coppiced) to let light in and tidy the site for the public's eye. Cost £550

Area B, I would leave well alone as this is where the Herons nest and is sacred ground, so to speak. Cost for removal £2,450

Area C I recommend be cleared of trees, to tidy the area and to let the light in. Cost £3,000

He has indicated that the works would need to be carried out in September/October when the pond it likely to be at a lower level given the added constraints of working in water.

RECOMMENDATION: Members are requested to approve the tree works as detailed above. Cost of works to be taken from the approved tree works budget for 2021/22 (not King's Pond specific)

c. Flood Meadows.

A site meeting was held on the 17th March with Aquamaintain to consider the gravel recharge project for the River Wey and the path improvement works along the riverside walk. Both projects require Environment Agency approval prior to commencement due to the work taking place in the river itself. The licence application has been made for:

- 1) Removal of existing concrete block work bank edge (95m) and replacement with softer timber revetment.
- 2) Repair of existing footpath.
- 3) Gravel recharge at upstream limit of flood meadow. Gravel will be introduced upstream of Lenten Street Bridge. Areas will be identified and recharged with 20-40mm gravels, every 5-7 channel widths to a depth of 150mm.

The licence is expected to be returned to the Town Council in July with a validity period of 2 years. Drawing AM-2021-177 in Council bundles shows the specification for the works. Indicative costs have been determined by Aquamaintain as follows (detailed in councillor bundles labelled 879/880) :

Gravel Recharge: £5,850.00

Path repairs: £38,500.00

In discussion with Glen Skelton, the gravel recharge is quite straightforward and if overseen by volunteers from AVLAN, the Alton Society or Town Council Grounds staff, could be undertaken over the summer months, with assistance from NCS students reducing the cost of this work to the materials costed at £2,400.

If Members wish to proceed to tender with the path works, minus the gravel recharge leaves a remaining budget of £24,000 for 2021/22. On this basis the works may need to be carried out over two financial years unless additional funding can be found.

RECOMMENDATION: Members are requested to approve:

- 1) £2,400 for the gravel re-charge at Flood Meadows to be carried out this summer, once the licence has been approved.
- 2) To tender for the path works, noting that budgetary constraints may require the work to be carried out over two years unless additional funding can be obtained. Following the conclusion of the tender process this item will require full council approval due to the level of expenditure.

d. Holybourne Pond

A site meeting was held on the 19th May with residents of Holybourne, attended by Councillor Burns and Councillor Hill, accompanied by the Town Clerk and Glen Skelton (Surrey Wildlife Trust). The group considered the pond and discussed potential works to improve the quality of the water at the pond through a combination of improved drainage, dredging and a number of environmental alterations to enhance the offering and experience for local wildlife, residents and school/college children visiting. A “Vision for the Pond” is included in Members papers.

The matter of funding was discussed with the backdrop of the Town Council pre-approving expenditure at the pond for this financial year through inclusion in the budget for 2021/22. The Clerk explained that further funding would currently be difficult to obtain whilst there was no ability to confirm permission of the landowner for works (despite extensive searches no owner can be identified) so at this time improvements would be limited to that able to be achieved through the current ATC funding. The group felt that that on this basis, addressing the light issue through a combination of branch cutting and crown lifting would be a positive first step.

RECOMMENDATION: Members are requested to approve:

- 1) The use of up to £5,000 as included within the 2021/22 budget for Holybourne Pond to enable a tree survey, planning permission and subsequent tree works to be carried out to create more light at the pond.
- 2) The allocation of officer hours to research with Land Registry the options for taking “ownership” of the pond to enable grant applications to be made for more extensive works to the pond to be carried out as detailed in the enclosed report.

ITEM 8: GROUNDS TEAM REPORT

FOR INFORMATION

8.1 Grounds Team Personnel:

Following the resignation of a member of the team in early April and the return of the member of staff who had been on long-term absence, the team continuing operating with one person down on the agreed staffing level for the grounds team. Currently we are looking to engage a qualified horticultural person on a self-employed basis who will be responsible for the floral displays throughout the town centre as well as keeping the Public Gardens looking at its best for the summer season with a full events programme planned for the site.

8.2 Vehicles & Machinery:

- 7.2.1 The arrival of the new tractor is eagerly awaited by the team, but there has been a delay in securing the required high back seat for the cab which is to be installed at no additional cost to the council. The tractor is due imminently and may well be delivered prior to this meeting taking place. All machinery continues to be serviced in line with service history and apart from normal wear and tear replacement parts, the grounds team are able to continue to operate at full capacity. The grounds three vehicles continue to be serviced in line with their service history and are fully up-to-date.

8.3 Projects:

8.3.1 Flood Meadows

The Alton Society Friends of Flood Meadows continue to carry out maintenance as well as remedial works at the site as well as the usual works by the Grounds Team. The final bridge replacement has now been completed.

The two rustic benches along the riverbank to the left of Flood Meadows as you enter from Lenten Street were removed by grounds following their falling into disrepair which occurred either by wear or tear or anti-social behaviour. They will be reinstalled once the grounds team have had time to effect required repairs.

8.3.2 Public Gardens

Quotes are currently being obtained for the installation of new fencing in the Public Gardens (see item below) which although will make an aesthetic improvement will also work alongside the new CCTV to help park security. The perimeter fencing from the Public Toilets to the exit of the Lady Place car park at the Lenten Street entrance has had many repairs undertaken which are no longer effective.

8.3.3 Greenfields Amenity Land – Northanger

Provisional information gathering on a potential pump track being commissioned for Greenfields is currently underway with officers preparing a report (see item below)
The cows have now grazing the upper fields.

8.4 Pitch Provision:

The next phase of the pitch maintenance programme for Anstey Park rugby pitches is scheduled to take place at the end of June into July when again verti-draining will be undertaken before tonnes of sand applied for the third time. Tentative timescales have been agreed with the Rugby Club and confirmation is awaited.

The council in collaboration with Manor Colts and Alton FC commenced a similar programme of drainage works at Jubilee Playing Fields in 2020 with Verti-draining taking place in October with over 250 tonnes of sand spread across 5 football pitches (which includes the outfield for cricket). Again, a review will take place with the clubs as to when the next phase of the maintenance programme will take place as playing protocols are not the same as Anstey as there is cricket played during the summer at this site. However, it is envisaged that a repeat of the maintenance programme for Jubilee will take place in October of this year.

8.4.1 Football & Rugby

8.4.1.1 The welcome return of football following Covid restrictions being lifted did not go fully according to plan in April due to shipping issues (Suez Canal) for the delivery of new football goals. Football provision has, however, been in place at Anstey Park for both Manor Colts and Alton FC since 1st May which has seen 5/7/9 and 11-a-side being played across both Anstey Park and Diggers. Alton Town Council were grateful to the Football Foundation for 50% grant funding towards the costs involved in supplying the 4 new sets of goals and nets without whose support it may not have been possible to facilitate the introduction of an additional 1 full size and 2 mini pitches in Anstey Park itself and 1 full size and 2 minis (5 & 7 a-side games) and 2 by 9x9 pitches. In addition, we were able to provide 2 additional mini pitches at Jubilee.

The extended football season will finish at the end of June.

Rugby training at Anstey Park is currently Colts on Sundays at Diggers and the Ladies on a Tuesday evening on the training area of the main Anstey Park. No senior games will be played until the start of the new season in August.

8.4.2 Cricket

8.4.2.1 The cricket season was able to start on time in April with all maintenance work to the wickets being undertaken in line with the agreed maintenance programme between Alton Town Council and Alton Cricket Club. Weather issues have been a factor in pitch preparation works being undertaken with the heavy rain presenting its own issues but due to much improved drainage at Jubilee has only resulted in the weekend of 22/23rd May being affected.

8.4.3 MUGA Facility at Anstey Park and Skate Park at Jubilee

8.4.3.1 The MUGA was fully opened at Anstey Park in line with the lifting of Covid restrictions and a welcomed return to mini netball taking place from April and the

Ants netball team resuming at the very end of March. Tennis nets were re-instated in April as well.

- 8.4.3.3 The Skate Park at Jubilee was also re-opened at the lifting of restrictions and anti-social behaviour appears to have reduced and the amount of littering much improved. The facility continues to attract visitors from far and wide.

8.5. Maintenance of Open Spaces

8.5.1 Tree & Hedge Cutting Works

All hedge works due have now been undertaken by the Council's contractor were concluded by the end of March.

A planning application has been submitted to EHDC for the tree works on the avenue of Lime trees at Treloar Heights and permission to undertake is awaited. Once received, officers will invite tenders from approved contractors for the work to be carried out early autumn.

The tree works required at Kings Pond have been identified and a local contractor has provided day rates for clearance of trees which have fallen into the pond at the Ashdell Road end of the pond – however the works required are not straightforward. Again, these proposed works will not take place until early autumn.

8.5.2 Grass Cutting

Grass cutting of the council's open spaces commenced in March and all sites are regularly cut in line with the maintenance plans for each of the sites with the exception of Kings Pond which is not being cut at the direction of councillors. The allotment sites of Wooteys, Borovere and the main pathways at Spitalfields are being cut by volunteers (allotment holders) with Grounds mowing the remainder of the paths at Spitalfields and Hawthorns.

8.5.3 Hard Standings and Paths & Fencing

The proposed path works at Flood Meadows remains under review. Members are referred to the Agenda reports in respect of the path at Kings Pond and fencing at the Public Gardens.

We are awaiting confirmation from James Laver at HCC that the contractors for the Anstey Road/Anstey Lane junction improvement will be able to undertake tarmac repairs to both entrances to Anstey Park when the installation of the traffic lights enters its final phase.

8.5.4 Fertilizer and Weed Control

The Council's Contractor undertook the scheduled application of fertilizer and weed control at Anstey Park and Jubilee during March 2021. In addition weed control spraying was undertaken at the Market Square and in the Town Centre.

8.5.5 Open Spaces and Pavilions

General:

- Metal detecting licence has been granted to 4 members of the public who have been licenced to operate at Flood Meadows, Windmill Hill, Greenfields Amenity Land and Kings Pond only. Terms and conditions state that all finds must be reported to Alton Town Council and the finds be plotted on a map of each site. All finds of any historical or financial value belong to Alton Town Council. All excavated holes must be reinstated and all gates on the sites are to be kept closed at all times. The term for the licence granted is one year.
- Maintenance repairs have once again been undertaken on the potholes along The Drive at Anstey Park although such repairs are proving ineffective and time limited.
- Members of the grounds team continue to lend support to both the Alton Society at their monthly meet of the conservation group at Flood Meadows on the third Sunday morning of the month and to the Friends of Kings Pond who meet on the fourth Sunday morning of the month.

Anstey Park – Finnimore Pavilion

The new tenant for the Finnimore has taken up residency. The tenant is an artist and the facility will be used to provide art lessons in addition to her undertaking her own private gallery work.

With the on-going delays with the junction works at Anstey Lane with Anstey Road, the contractors continue to enjoy the facilities afforded to them for their compound in the corner of Anstey Park which adjoins the works being undertaken. Officers continue to keep a watching brief on developments but current indications are that works will continue into the summer months. All land will be reinstated as will the hedgerow that has had to be removed.

Jubilee Playing Fields: Charles Read & Harry Baker Pavilions

The Charles Read pavilion has now been vacated by Men's Shed who enjoyed use of the facility during lockdown. The group have made a plea that they be considered for a return to using the facility at the end of the cricket season.

Public Gardens

Summer time locking of the Gardens is now in effect with locking taking place at 10.00 p.m. in the evening. No issues have been identified by the contractor in terms of clearing the gardens and allowing locking to take place. CCTV is being installed shortly

Windmill Hill

There have been two occasions when police and fire brigade have been called to Windmill Hill to break up large groups gathering at the top of the hill and also to put fires out. Officers had to carry out litter picking on several Sunday mornings following such gatherings when attendees seem to believe it is appropriate to smash bottles and leave other detritus in the grass.

The trees planted by the WI have established at both locations within the site and English bluebells have also successfully taken foot in amongst the trees.

The area remains a popular attraction for residents and dog walkers alike.

8.6 Play Areas:

Play area inspections continue to be undertaken on a monthly basis by our external contractor and reports produced. Defects identified at Anstey Park in the matting have been repaired as well as repairs to one piece of equipment following vandalism has also been carried out.

The required adjustments to the ropes on the recently installed toddler's multi-play at Anstey Park have now been carried out by the contractor.

In addition, routine maintenance servicing has been undertaken recently by the approved contractors/suppliers of equipment on the disabled swing and roundabout in the Public Gardens.

8.7 Town Centre:

The Town Centre planters are currently in the throes of being planted with bedding plants ready for the 2021 flowering season. The Town Hall and Assembly Rooms window boxes and hanging baskets are completed.

The Market Square circular tables have proved to be highly successful, as have the two tables put out on the Lawn at the Assembly Rooms.

Two additional circular benches (one for the Market Square and one for the Assembly Rooms lawn) have been ordered together with a number of new planters to replace the 2 broken planters in Normandy Street and the Jane Austen planter at The Butts.

8.8 Benches & Litter Bins

The grounds team will be undertaking a number of installations of new litter bins benches over the coming weeks as follows.

Benches:

- 2 x circular benches – without backs (to be taken from the Market Square to be returned to the Public Gardens – youth area)
- 1 x circular bench – with backs for Assembly Rooms Lawn
- 2 x circular benches - with backs for Market Square (ordered today – delivery date to be advised in due course)
- 2 x circular benches – without backs for Holybourne

Bins:

- 1 x recycling triple bin (The Butts) (receptacles for glass, cans & recycling)
- 4 x wooden (flat top) – The Butts
- 4 x hen house (pitched top) – Kings Pond
- 4 x wooden (flat top) – Anstey Park

ITEM 9 ALLOTMENTS REPORT**FOR INFORMATION**

9.1 The Green Waste collections went to the following sites: -

9 th April	Borovere
16 th , 23 rd and 30 th April	Spitalfields and Wooteys
7 th May	Hawthorns
14 th and 21 st May	Whitedown

The Grounds Team reported they were grateful to the plotholders for not overloading the trailer and therefore it would seem that plotholders are composting more of their green waste which is to be encouraged.

9.2 Plots Administration Overview as at 2nd June 2021

Inspections commenced for the season in March and are carried out on the second Wednesday of each month until October, these have been undertaken by the Councillor Support/Admin Officer, the Senior Groundsman and also Site Representatives. Where Site Representatives are unable to attend contact has been made prior to the inspection to ascertain any issues in respect of the sites. Early indications have shown plotholders have made good progress this season but this may change once the lockdown restrictions are lifted.

There are currently no vacant plots with 69 on the waiting list.

Site	Vacant plots	Plots offered	Waiting lists	Untended plots
Borovere	0	0	23	0
Hawthorns	0	0	26	0
Spitalfields	0	0	40	0
Whitedown	0	0	17	0
Wooteys	0	0	28	0
Total	0	0	69*	0

* Some applicants have their name down for more than one site

RECOMMENDATION: This report is for information only.

ITEM 10 HOLYBOURNE PLAY AREA**FOR DECISION**

Holybourne Play Area was identified within the approved project plan for 2021/22 as the next play area for upgrading following the renewal of the lease with Froyle Estate in 2020, with a CIL contribution of £20,000 towards the costs.

Whilst Members will recall the “lift and shift” clause in the lease in the event of development of the site, the new owners have confirmed that *“that at this moment in time it is not our intention to implement the lift and shift clause. We will be in contact if anything changes.”*

Enclosed in Members bundles is a "wish list" that Jerry Janes from the Holybourne Village Association has put together. In addition to this the HVA is wondering if there would be sufficient funds for an outdoor table tennis table and basketball hoop. If not, then this could possibly be provided by the HVA using crowd funding. A table tennis table is from about £2,000 to £4,000.

It is anticipated that the cost of the requested works will be in excess of the £20,000 CIL contribution but costings will be confirmed once an invitation to tender process has been completed.

RECOMMENDATION Members are requested to approve the creation of a tender for this project, including the list from HVA as a guide for contractors. Following the conclusion of the tender process the item will be referred to Full Council given the cost will be in excess of £10,000

ITEM 11 PUBLIC GARDENS BUCKET SWINGS

FOR DECISION

Enclosed in Members bundles is a summary of the quotations received for the proposed bucket swings for the Public Gardens. This project was included on the approved list for the 2021/22 budget with the funds taken from reserves. Members are requested to approve their preferred supplier, which officers would recommend as Company C option 1. Installation to be arranged some time after Last Night of the Prom (July)

RECOMMENDATION: Members are requested to consider approval of Company C (option 1)

ITEM 12 LIONS BENCH

FOR DECISION

Correspondence has been received from Sarah O'Donoghue from Alton Lions Club (CIO) noting that a couple of years ago Alton Lions Club asked Jona Cleaver to make a double bench with carved lions which ATC agreed to be placed on the Butts.

We would like to give the town another similar bench. This one would be in memory of former members of the Lions Club who have died.

We would like the bench to be in a public place such as the grassed area by the Kings Pond or Flood Meadows or Anstey Park.

RECOMMENDATION: Members are asking to approve the installation of a further bench for the Lions at one of the locations suggested above or an alternative venue of their choosing.

ITEM 13 GREENFIELD PUMP TRACK

FOR DECISION

Included in the approved project list for 2021/22 is the development of a “pump track” at Greenfields on the site of the existing “mud jumps”. A background paper with indicative costings is included within Members bundles.

RECOMMENDATION: Members are requested to approve:

- 1) The creation of a task and finish group including community representatives to develop a tender specification for the project
- 2) To put the resulting document out to public tender, with the project to be reviewed by Full Council once tenders received and prices obtained.

ITEM 14 FENCING AT THE PUBLIC GARDENS

FOR DECISION

Enclosed in Members bundles are three quotation for replacing a section of fencing at the Public Gardens. Funding for this will be met by a combination of current year 2021/22 budget and CIL.

RECOMMENDATION: Members are requested to approve their preferred supplier. This item will be required to be ratified by Full Council as it is in excess of £10,000