

**BRIDGNORTH TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday 3rd September 2019**

OUTDOORS AND PROPERTIES MANAGER'S REPORT

- **SEVERN PARK SLIPWAY UPGRADE**

A further meeting took place with Pete Lambert from the Shropshire Wildlife Trust who informed The Town Clerk and me that there would be £6k set aside for the slipway enhancement. I have since invited two separate construction contractors to view the site and discuss the project specification and design. Both contractors are keen to win this work but pointed out that £6k would not go very far in view of the proposed design and the concrete spec required.

- **PLAY AREA REFURBISHMENT**

The refurbishment is complete with the exception of the climbing frame which is still awaiting a modification to the pole base plate and is expected to be ready in the next two weeks.

- **CEMETERY LANDSCAPING**

The SAMCO bulldozer driver made an excellent job of the extension landscaping and has opened up a vast area for future use which should provide burial space for 2-3 years. The area has since been grass seeded and we will look to do some hard landscaping in the autumn/ winter months.

- **ACCESS TO ROOFSPACES**

Some Town Council buildings need to be inspected for water leaks before the winter and there will be a requirement to hire a cherry picker in order to carry a close survey to identify what repairs are required.

- **TREE WORKS**

Two very large trees, one on the Grove Open Space and one on Severn Park require some major work to be carried out by contractors. The one on the Grove a large mature Oak over power lines requires dismantling from the top down at a cost of £950 plus VAT and the other is a large Crack Willow bough that will need to be removed from the Severn and is likely to cost a similar amount.

- **CEMETERY ROAD REPAIRS**

There are now several very large pot holes in the cemetery road that require repairs. Some of these could be repaired by the DLF in the autumn but the road is getting so bad now that the Council might like to consider making funds available to carry out a full resurface over the next couple of years.

- **PUBLIC TOILETS**

As a result of recent complaints by members of the public I carried a survey of all toilet facilities and was appalled at how the standards had deteriorated and demanded a site meeting with Healthmatic. This was a timely and productive meeting and many of the mechanical and visual problems were dealt with immediately and a deep clean of all facilities has since been carried out. They are in the process of replacing their current cleaner who clearly was not up to the job. I have reinstated the weekly checks by our maintenance team that had dropped off the radar while John has been off long-term sick. We will also carry out a schedule of internal decoration that will require us to close each facility for a day at a time. I have suggested to Healthmatic that they should conduct more frequent monitoring checks on their operatives. The response from Healthmatic has been very positive, they acknowledged that there were some very real issues and have given assurance that the situation will be monitored more closely in the future.