

**BRIDGNORTH TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
21 JUNE 2022**

BI/2122

13th June 2022

REPORT TO TOWN COUNCILLORS

AGENDA ITEM 8 – OUTDOOR AND PROPERTIES MANAGER REPORT

AIM

1. To provide a general overview of estate management matters and consider budgetary recommendations where appropriate.

BACKGROUND

2. This report is a general overview of the ongoing outdoors and property maintenance issues.

DISCUSSION/ COMMENT

3. **Hanging Baskets and Floral Displays.** The DLF have begun a three-week rota of watering the baskets, mangers, and bedding, which will include two early morning starts to avoid the peak-time traffic where baskets are positioned along the highway. The remainder of watering will be carried out during the normal working day.
4. **Severn Park Benches.** Several picnic benches have been repaired and treated in time for forthcoming events in the park.
5. **Unveiling of Themed Bench and Information Board at the Grove Park Wildflower Meadows.** The official opening of the wildflower meadows took place on the 7th June 2022 attended by the mayor and partners from Shropshire Wildlife Trust and Buglife.
6. **1a the Highstreet.** Damage to the windows, surrounding brickwork and guttering was far worse than originally thought and further exacerbated by inclement weather, sickness and other higher priority works taking precedence which prolonged the job by a few weeks but is finally finished now and the scaffolding removed.
7. **Hospital Street Bus Shelter.** New seats have now been fitted to the shelter and Shropshire Council have ordered a new rubbish bin to be installed to help prevent further fires in the future.
8. **Electrical Conditioning Surveys and Portable Appliance Testing (PAT).** Electrical surveys of all of our properties have now been carried out and the conditioning reports are being prepared. All electrical tools and appliances have also been tested and are once again PAT compliant.

9. **Castle Hall.** Once Council has decided on a design for the new sign the old sign will be removed along with any substandard and flaking render. The render across the whole of the frontage will be inspected repaired where necessary and the whole frontage will then be painted ready for the new sign to be supplied and fitted. Other exterior work will include repairs to the stone archway and the original stone link pins that have been exposed to the elements and rusted will need to be treated before the stonework can be repaired. The hall rear fire doors will also be removed, planed down and rehung during this phase of planned works. The work will be programmed during a period of minimum usage.

10. **Fox Corner Toilets.** Work is now complete and the toilets are fully operational.

11. **Training.** We are in the process of finding training providers to deliver the relevant training courses and skills for all the new personnel both the office staff and grounds staff.

SUMMARY.

12. There continues to be much ongoing work across the wide sphere of property and ground maintenance tasks. Most worrying for me is the apparent escalation of anti-social behaviour and criminal damage, especially in the vicinity of Low Town.

FINANCIALS

13. None of the above works requires any additional funding outside of what has already been allocated to those properties.

14. RECOMMENDATIONS

15. It is recommended that the Town Council notes the report and the activities being undertaken.

Barry Ince
Outdoors & Properties Manager