

Report Open Spaces and RG
Parish Council Meeting 14 June 2023

Open Spaces

1. Footpath repairs at Pilgrim Close – On-going review of additional areas to be repaired.
2. Review of condition of trees under responsibility of PC – Open Spaces and RG. Xref item 2 RG.
3. Street Lighting repairs – contractor instructed to proceed with repairs to a number of lights out in the village. Replaced lights are with low wattage LED bulbs. Street lights on High Street repaired by ECC. Annual maintenance and repairs completed in May 2023.
4. Bike racks – discussion with residents regarding positioning of bike racks in village. Position identified next to Village Noticeboard.
5. Play areas at Pilgrim Close – two unused play areas to be revived as play/social areas – named Hammond and Ratcliffe Gardens.
6. Potholes – discussions with ECC Cllr Paul Gadd, residents of Ickleton and CCC highways officer re potholes and overgrown vegetation at and around rail bridge to Ickleton. Vegetation at and around rail bridge to Ickleton cut back. Potholes still an issue as require road closure. One big pothole in particular to be added to priority target list.

Recreation Ground

1. Play areas at Recreation Ground and Pilgrim Close – Dogs being in the play area at Recreation Ground and poo an issue despite clear signage that prohibits dogs.

Rospa inspection scheduled for June 2023 and contractor to look at mechanism of self closing gates at Rec play area.

Long term consideration of funding for new/replacement play equipment at Rec and Pilgrim Close play areas. Questionnaire calling for comments from residents circulated. Views welcomed.
2. Trees at Recreation Ground –

Consideration of replacement trees and discussions with UDC regarding supply of trees. Whips and three larger trees supplied. Three trees planted, whips ‘maturing’ in containers.

Resident has raised issue of some trees requiring cutting back at HRG. Work done.

Health check carried out of all trees under responsibility of PC at RG and elsewhere in village. Recommendations received. One rotten tree at the Recreation ground felled.
3. Footpath repairs on path from Meadow Road to play area at Recreation Ground. Path at recreation ground – kept under review.
4. Ditches at Recreation Ground / Flood Defences – annual work completed in November. Land owners with ditches up/downstream contacted also ECC re culverts. Flow of draining water monitored in recent rainfall.

5. Electrical supply – work scheduled for 14/15 June - Lights at multisports to be changed for LEDs, replacement electrical terminal box at multisports. To be done in conjunction with work on CCTV (Xref item 9).
6. Gym equipment –Annual servicing completed week beginning 5 December. A number of bushes replaced. No further recommendations made by contractor.
7. Drains at Rec car park – clearance of drains completed week beginning 5 December. Two drains not draining and unblocked.
8. Scout hut - Licence given to scout group to use the existing building and interim improvements. Long term lease agreed. Updated plans and planning permission application approved for extension in conjunction with adjacent storage unit.
9. CCTV – plans revived for replacement cameras and recording system. Work on mast at Multisports to be done in conjunction as both require cherry picker. Discussions on-going with contractors regarding additional camera to view entrance to the Rec/comm centre car park.
10. Grass on Recreation Ground – football pitch and cricket outfield – Inspection by contractor with PC and cricket club representatives. Agreed schedule of work including verti-draining, sand top dressing, seeding, fertilizer and weed killer all completed.

The football team that uses the football pitch – PSG FC – funded the application of sand top dressing on football pitch to assist with drainage and general condition of the pitch. Work completed.

Seeding of worn areas at goalmouth and other bare areas on football pitch.
11. Rospa report – inspection scheduled for June 2023.
12. Skatepark – contractor attended in April for emergency repairs. Contractor to attend for further work in June 2023.
13. Fixed bowling nets – new carpet laid by cricket club. Funded largely by grant. Signage in place.
14. Tennis nets and damaged winders replaced.