

Report Open Spaces and RG
Parish Council Meeting 25 July 2023

Open Spaces

1. Footpath repairs at Pilgrim Close – Ongoing 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 – ongoing repair and replacement of street lights with low wattage LED bulbs. Street lights on High Street repaired by ECC with LED.
4. Bike racks – discussion with residents regarding positioning of bike racks in village.
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 Paul Gadd, residents of Ickleton and highways officer from CCC ref 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

RG

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 by contractor in week of 10 July 2023 including repair of the 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.

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 and tree felled at Rec. Replacement trees required.
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. Contractor contacted for ditch clearance in autumn 2023.

5. Electrical supply and lights at Rec/multisports fitted week 10 July – Lights at multisports changed for LEDs, replacement electrical distribution box at multisports. Work done in conjunction with work on CCTV (Xref item 9). New distribution box vandalised within days of installation. Consider protective cage. Consider lighting on path from Meadow Road around Multisports. Work 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 – New cameras and recording system fitted week 10 July. Discussions on-going with contractors regarding additional camera to view entrance to the Rec/comm centre car park and lighting on path from Meadow Road around Multisports.
10. Grass on Recreation Ground – football pitch and cricket outfield – Inspection by contractor with PC and cricket club representatives. Agreed schedule of work including vertidrainage, 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.

Full size goals to be repaired before new football season.
11. Rospa report – inspection completed week 10 July 2023.
12. Skatepark – contractor attended in April for emergency repairs. Contractor attended week 10 and 17 July to complete repairs.
13. Fixed bowling nets – new carpet laid by cricket club. Funded largely by grant. Signage in place.