

Maintenance Report

April 2019

Winter Preparation

Approximately 2 tonne of grit has been used this winter season, with 6 tonne of grit remaining in stock.

The tractor mounted salt spreader has now been cleaned and stored and the operational unit has been removed from the tractor due to its sale. This will be refitted next winter season onto the new tractor.

Grass Cutting

All grass cutting machinery has been serviced and the first grass cut of the season commenced late March. The Maintenance Team cut approximately 102,924m² of grass. Approx. 49,898m² grass is cut under contract for Oxfordshire County Council.

Litter Picking

Litter picking of all of the main recreation grounds, memorial gardens and play areas will now be undertaken seven days per week with the work being undertaken on a rota basis by the Maintenance Team.

Hedge Cutting, Shrub Bed Maintenance and Tree Work

The programme of winter hedge cutting and shrub bed maintenance on Council owned land has now been completed. Low tree branches and basal growth has been removed from trees where required.

Cuttle Brook

The ditches and stream continue to be checked and cleared of debris following any flood alerts that are issued by the Environment Agency.

Depot

The Maintenance Team have completed PAT testing on all of the electrical equipment at the depot.

Two door sensors have been replaced by the alarm engineer following issues with the intruder alarm system.

A new fire door has been fitted to the downstairs office.

Elms Park

With the good weather in early March, Elms Park was overseeded. Approx. 11 x 20kg bags of grass seed was applied.

Seasonal Bedding

The seasonal bedding requirements for summer and winter has been finalised with a colour theme of pastels. The supplier R C Smith Plants, will once again be providing the self-watering hanging baskets that proved to be very successful last summer. This contract is within budget lines.



Play Areas

All play area safety surfaces have been power washed to remove algae and debris build up.

Memorial Gardens

The footpaths and Youth Memorial area have been power washed and benches re-varnished.

Southern Road Recreation Ground

The cess pit and three road gullies have been emptied.

The roof of the youth shelter was badly damaged on 7 February and has been removed. Spares have been ordered.

All path edges have been edged.

A number of ground depressions around the changing rooms have been filled in and re-turfed.

Town Hall

Routine servicing has been undertaken by a specialist contractor on the emergency lighting and fire alarm system. A number of remedial works were identified and these were completed on 21 March 2019 by the engineer.

Routine servicing of the automatic door to the Information Centre has also been undertaken and remedial works relating to the door closure are scheduled to take place on 4 April. Due to the nature of the work the Town Hall will be closed to public access whilst the engineer completes the work.

The Maintenance Team have completed PAT testing on electrical equipment at the Town Hall according to the testing schedule.

The broadband in Town Hall has been upgraded and has quadrupled the speed for use in the chamber and on public access computers. A new contract was negotiated which also means a cost saving of £100 a year for the new improved service.

Town Maintenance

The flag pole outside the Town Hall has been programmed for servicing. A replacement internal halyard system, general stability and inspection checks will also be undertaken by the specialist supplier.

The Maintenance Team have cleared weeds and debris from the edges of the Oxford Road Bridge.

St Mary's Churchyard

The Maintenance Team have now commenced cutting the grass on a regular basis and in line with the specification for maintenance of the churchyard. Clearance of ivy from walls and trees has been undertaken and the boundary hedges have been cut.

The Maintenance Team assisted with removing waste from the Church's Spring Tidy day on 1st March.

The Chairman of the Estates and Community Committee from the church is very pleased with the work that the Maintenance Team have been undertaking and compliments have been passed onto the team.

Graffiti Removal

Specialist contractors have removed graffiti and cleaned a bus shelter on Howland Road and the concrete skating structures and shelter at the skate park.

Equipment

A new tractor, loader and rear transport box have been delivered and now being used for grass cutting and other works. The old tractor was traded-in as part of the transaction.