

Shevington Parish Council

Clerk's Report to the Council Meeting of 27 November 2019

Memorial Park Drainage Tendering Process

The closing date for expressions of interest to be received from contractors was 1 November 2019. We received in total expressions of interest from 12 contractors. Six of them were unsuitable and were informed of this by the consultant. The other six were sent put on the select list, sent tender packs and were invited to prepare a bid. The closing date for submission of tenders is 6 December 2019. So far only two of the selected contractors have contacted me to let me know that they would be visiting the park to carry out pre-bid a survey.

Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday was very well attended and went quite smoothly. All 'thank you' letters to those involved in the arrangements have been sent and all display poppies should have been taken down and stored away by the time of this meeting. However, it has been reported that a number of people have said that they could not hear the service very well. This will need to be looked into and will be an agenda item at the next Policy & General Purposes Committee meeting.

Painting of Black Planters

All of the Parish Council's black planters have been painted and all of the planters have been planted up for the Winter and Spring months.

New Bench for Back Lane

The new bench has been fitted. A plaque announcing ownership has been ordered.

Christmas Decorations

The new decorations for street lights in Appley Bridge and Shevington Moor are due to be fitted during the week beginning 25 November. The fencing for the Christmas trees and the transformer housings are in place and the trees are due to be fitted on Sunday. The lamp post motifs were fitted earlier this month.

Letter to Shop Owners in Gathurst Lane

Dist Cllr J Brown and I met earlier this week to discuss and agree the contents of letters to be sent to the landlords of the owners of the shops (in some cases this is one and the same person) along the parade in Gathurst Lane. The letters are currently being prepared.

Planning Permission for Notice Boards

The need for planning permission for the proposed notice boards for Vicarage Lane Fields Allotments and Memorial Park is being looked into.

Drainage Around Vicarage Lane Fields Allotments

Cllr C Horridge and I inspected the field this morning. The issues that need to be addressed are quite complex. Simply clearing the hedgerow along the boundary with the footpath to Crooke and opening up what seems to be a small ditch may not resolve very much. The sports pitches seem to be well drained, but expert advice needs to be sought in relation to the rest of the field. The hedgerows on the outer boundaries need maintenance – this is likely to be an expensive business, but an annual visit is necessary.

Proposed Tenants' Committee for Forest Fold Allotments

Several tenants have volunteered to form a committee to deal with tenants' matters at the allotments at Forest Fold. An informal meeting between the committee and representatives of the Parish Council is to be arranged in the New Year.

Shed on Raised Bed Allotments Site at Forest Fold

Following a phone call last week from a tenant of the Forest Fold raised bed allotments in which he reported that the felt roofing was damaged and that it had rained in badly, I met with a contractor that

we use regularly to inspect the damage. We found that not only had the roof been damaged, but two of the supports had rotted and needed replacing and several of the lower boards were coming away and letting even more rain. This meant that all of these needed to be replaced and that the whole shed would need to be painted. The contractor quoted £400 for all work and materials. Following consultation over the weekend with the Vice Chairman and Cllr C Horridge, the work was approved as a matter of urgency and the contractor was instructed to go ahead. The repairs were carried out on Wednesday and the shed was painted on Thursday.

November Newsletter

The November edition of the newsletter is currently being delivered.

K.M.P. 22.11.19