

**Shevington Parish Council**  
**Clerk's Report to the Meeting of the Council – 26 June 2024**

**Storm Pia Tree Damage**

The caretaker took advantage of the short semi-dry spell we had in May and tidied up the mounds of soil and stump residue left behind after the stump grinding on the edge of the Memorial Garden.



**Miles Lane Extra Care Development**

Peter Collins will be reporting to the Council at its meeting on 28 August. If anyone has any questions for him that he can answer, please let me know beforehand so that I can forward them.

**Platinum Jubilee Trees**

Following a report during the Annual Meeting of the Council that the Platinum Jubilee tree planted in Shevington Vale last year had died, I inspected all of the Jubilee trees on 24 May. The tree planted in the Memorial Garden had leafed and the one at Crooke Green seemed to have begun leafing, but appeared to be struggling. The tree at Whiteacre Park seemed to have buds, but it was difficult to tell whether any of them would produce leaves.

Unlike the trunk and branches of the tree at Shevington Vale, the trees at Shevington Moor and Crooke still seemed to have some life in them, whereas the former seemed much less supple. It is entirely possible that we may need to replace not one, but three trees. However, as November is the best time to plant trees, I would recommend that they are left in place until we can order new trees in the Autumn. It is not unusual for trees that appear dead to start leafing later in the year and develop into healthy specimens.

I inspected the trees again on 19 June. The status of the above trees had not altered.

**New Shed for Raised Bed Allotments**

The new shed was fitted in late March, was painted by John Parker and is now in use by the tenants of the raised bed allotments.

**April & June Newsletters**

The April newsletter was delivered as agreed and the June edition is currently being delivered.

**New Litter Bins**

The new replacement litter bins were fitted in late April. One of the bins in Memorial Park was removed permanently.

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**Grounds Maintenance at Memorial Park and Garden**

Due to the impact of the continuing wet weather on the ground conditions it was impossible to carry out any mowing in March and April other than what could be done using a hand mower. They did attempt to use the ride-on mower at the northern end of the park in late April, but were thwarted when the mower sank and they had to call out another team to help them move it. They did, however, manage to mow the main body of the park during a visit in May. The team are currently taking advantage of the better weather and playing catch up .

**Gathurst Lane Car Park Repairs**

The sinking drain in the car park at Gathurst Lane has been lifted and is awaiting a layer of tarmac to be laid on top of the concrete.

**Repairs to Flagging**

Three sets of uneven flagging have recently been repaired: two sets at the bowling green and one set at Memorial Park. Another set has now been identified at the park.

**Financial Audit**

Heelis & Lodge have accepted the commission to carry out the Council's internal audit for 2024-25. We are currently in the middle of the period for the exercise of public rights with regard to the 2023-24 financial year and the requisite documents have been sent to the external auditor.

**Bank Signatories**

The two new approved signatories have both been accepted by the bank, but, when I last checked, the two outgoing signatories have still not been removed.

**K.M.P. 21.06.24**