

ALDBURY PARISH COUNCIL WARDENS UPDATE: FEBRUARY 2024

AREA	ALLOTMENTS & MILLENNIUM ORCHARD
TO CHECK	Fencing & gates, benches, trees, hedges & shrubs, grass height, signs, footpaths, housekeeping, ground conditions
INSPECTION DATES	02/02,09/02,16/02, 23/02
ISSUES TO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No defects were found on fences, gates, and benches. 2. Hedges and shrubs were maintained, tidy and not overgrown. 3. Grass height fulfils the mowing specification. Turf is saturated in places. 4. Footpath surfaces were seen in fair condition but continue to be slippery in places. Waymarkers in place. 5. Generally, the allotments are being well kept by plot holders. Recent increase in activity as Spring approaches.

AREA	PLAYGROUNDS
TO CHECK	Equipment, Safety Information, Fencing & Gates, Benches, Trees, Grass height, General ground conditions, Empty litter bin.
INSPECTION DATES	02/02,09/02,16/02, 23/02 Tring Station 27/02,
ISSUES TO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Essential user information signage was found in place at both playgrounds. However, a new sign is needed at Tring Station playground to inform users that the play area is managed/maintained by APC. 7. Grass height was in accordance with the mowing specification. However, APC may wish to replace missing turf immediately inside the Aldbury playground entrance where the ground has become exceptionally sodden and slippery (Photo 1). 8. Litter bin at Aldbury Playground was emptied on the 10th of February. 9. Fences were seen in fair condition and the entrance gate was operating properly. 10. Overgrown hedge at Tring Station playground has been cut (Photo 2)

AREA	RECREATION GROUND
TO CHECK	Tennis court, Basketball area, Pavilion, Fencing, Benches/seats, Bollards, Trees & vegetation, Grass height, car park, Litter & dog waste bins, Footpaths.
INSPECTION DATES	02/02,09/02,16/02, 23/02
ISSUES TO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Grass height complies with the mowing specification. Football pitch surface is displaying signs of wear and tear, clearly not helped by the recent prolonged wet weather.. 12. Weekly litter picks were carried out. Low levels of Litter. Unfortunately, a notable increase in the number of dog poo bags being discarded under or hanging from trees, bushes, and hedgerows. 13. Further vegetation clearance has taken place near to the sports pavilion (Photo 3). 14. The Tennis Court surface was found in good order. Some algae/moss is visible beyond the court markings. Continue to monitor. <p>Outstanding items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Essential tree works are needed as advised in the recent tree survey report. The clerk had found that the work was undertaken since the last inspection date. - Lack of well-defined car parking bay markings.

	- A small tree has toppled at the Recreation Ground (boundary with Greening Farm) and needs removal, ideally before the mowing season commences.
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AREA	VILLAGE GREEN(S) & POND
TO CHECK	Benches, Trees, Pond, Grass height, Stocks, Litter Bins, Notice board.
DATES	02/02,09/02,16/02, 23/02
ISSUES TO REPORT	<p>15. Grass height complies with the APC mowing specification. Overall appearance was neat and tidy.</p> <p>16. Weekly litter picking was carried out. Low levels of litter.</p> <p>17. Benches remain in fair condition. As previous highlighted, some weathering is visible on the older benches.</p> <p>18. No faults were evident on the trees; however, both mature trees are dropping dead wood as branches become weighty with rainwater.</p> <p>Outstanding items</p> <p>- Maintenance of trees required as per tree survey recommendations. The clerk had found that the work was undertaken since the last inspection date.</p>

AREA	HIGHWAY'S, PUBLIC FOOTPATHS & DITCHES
TO CHECK	Surfaces, Pedestrian routes, Signage, Drainage, Grit bins, Litter, Street lamps, Bollards, kissing gates, Notice board (Tring Station)
DATES	02/02,09/02,16/02, 23/02
ISSUES TO REPORT	<p>19. All streetlamps were found in working order during the evenings of the 10th and 25th of February.</p> <p>20. Litter picking was carried out Stocks Road (to the walled garden), New Ground Road (to the former isolation hospital), Station Road (Church Farm entrance) Malting Lane and Toms Hill.</p> <p>21. The open drain/ditch (South of Stonycroft) continues to cope despite prolonged rainfall. A tree was found to have fallen across the drain/ditch. Clerk alerted responsible landowner (Photo 4).</p> <p>22. Blocked drains/gullies were reported to HCC Highways as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stocks Road adjacent to 'Applegarth'. Ref No: 401003990137. • Malting Lane adjacent to the 'Laundry House'. Ref No: 401003990131 • Malting Lane opposite to 'Loughrigg'. Ref No: 401003990129. • Opposite Aldbury Church. Ref No: 401003990125 (Photo 5). <p>23. A defective drain in Station Road was reported to HCC Highways. Drain is at an angle and tarmac around the drain is crumbling. Ref No: 401003990133. (Photo 6)</p> <p>24. Lower half of Toms Hill is due for closure between 9.30 – 15.30 for the period 26th of February and the 8th of March. No information currently available on HCC web site (Photo 7).</p> <p>25. New signage has been installed on the village green indicating to visitors that free parking is available at the Recreation Ground (Photo 8).</p> <p>26. Public footpath surfaces continue to present a challenge to walkers. Several surfaces are tricky to navigate not helped by the prolonged rainfall; this includes the popular Percy Crow footpath (Photo 9).</p> <p>Outstanding Items</p> <p>27. Reinstatement of missing road markings.</p>

PHOTOGRAPHS



