

ALDBURY PARISH COUNCIL WARDENS UPDATE: JANUARY 2024

AREA	ALLOTMENTS & MILLENNIUM ORCHARD
TO CHECK	Fencing & gates, benches, trees, hedges & shrubs, grass height, signs, footpaths, housekeeping, ground conditions
INSPECTION DATES	05/01,12/01,19/01, 26/01
ISSUES TO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No defects were found on fences, gates, and benches. 2. No overgrown hedges were noted. 3. Grass height meetings the mowing specification. 4. Footpath surfaces are in fair condition albeit slippery in places. Waymarkers were in place. 5. A leaning apple tree has been re-staked and is now sturdy.

AREA	PLAYGROUNDS
TO CHECK	Equipment, Safety Information, Fencing & Gates, Benches, Trees, Grass height, General ground conditions, Empty litter bin.
INSPECTION DATES	05/01,12/01,19/01, 26/01 Tring Station 13/01, 24/01
ISSUES TO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. All user information signage was in place and legible at both playgrounds. 7. Grass height complies with the mowing specification. Grass underneath the snake swing installation continues to grow well. 8. Litter bin at Aldbury Playground was emptied on the 5^h of January. No further sign of empty alcohol cans and bottles being deposited into the bin. 9. Fences were seen in fair condition and the entrance gate was operating correctly. 10. A tree at the Iron Room is thickly clad in Ivy and some trunk bark is missing. It is not clear if the missing bark has been caused by injury or disease. Clerk advised. <p>Outstanding items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overgrown hedge(s) at Tring Station playground need cutting. Clerk has asked for a date of when the work will be done.

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	05/01,12/01,19/01, 26/01
ISSUES TO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Grass height was meeting the mowing specification. As to be expected, the football pitch surface is showing signs of wear and tear, notably within the goal mouths. 12. Weekly litter picks were carried out. 13. The Tennis Court surface was found in good order, albeit with a little algae/moss visible. Continue to monitor. 14. A small tree has toppled at the Recreation Ground (boundary with Greening Farm) requiring removal, ideally before the mowing season commences (Photo 1). 15. Dead wood from a large oak tree (right hand corner) was found lying across/ around a bench (Photo 2). Similarly, other trees have also shed deadwood as part of their normal lifecycle. <p>Outstanding items</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Essential tree works are needed as advised in the recent tree survey report. This will be done in the next two weeks. - Lack of well-defined car parking bay markings.
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AREA	VILLAGE GREEN(S) & POND
TO CHECK	Benches, Trees, Pond, Grass height, Stocks, Litter Bins, Notice board.
DATES	05/01,12/01,19/01, 26/01
ISSUES TO REPORT	<p>16. Grass height continues to meet the APC mowing specification.</p> <p>17. Weekly litter picks were carried out.</p> <p>18. Benches were in fair condition, with some weathering visible on the older benches.</p> <p>19. No obvious faults were noted on the trees; however, both mature trees continue to shed dead wood as part of their normal life cycle.</p> <p>20. During the recent icy conditions, it is understood that small children were seen playing on the frozen pond. APC may wish to review current safety arrangements.</p> <p>Outstanding items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintenance of trees needed as per tree survey recommendations. This will be done in the next two weeks.

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	05/01,12/01,19/01, 26/01
ISSUES TO REPORT	<p>21. All streetlamps were found in working order during the evening of the 13th of January.</p> <p>22. Litter picking was conducted in Stocks Road (to the walled garden), New Ground Road (to the canal bridge), Station Road (to FP67) and Tring Station (GUC Bridge to station drop-off entrance).</p> <p>23. Large pothole near the Trooper PH has been repaired by HCC. Ref No: 401003875512 (Photo 3).</p> <p>24. The open drain/ditch (South of Stonycroft) is currently coping well, despite recent heavy rainfall (Photo 4).</p> <p>25. The salt/grit bin at the top of Malting Lane has been re-filled. Both bins, in Malting Lane are now full.</p> <p>26. Additional work to the final drain outlet in Tring Station has now been completed. Hopefully this has now addressed the recurrent flooding issue. HCC Ref No: 401003164554.</p> <p>27. HCC Highways have determined not to repair two potholes in New Ground Road but state this has been noted for future reference. Ref No:401003834919.</p> <p>Outstanding Items</p> <p>28. Reinstatement of missing road markings ((Photos 5 and 6) at the New Ground Road/Stonycroft Junction. Ref No: 401003875518 (and previously Ref No: 401002519044). As discussed at the recent APC meeting, this issue remains a long-standing local concern and is recorded in the Aldbury and Tring Station Community Survey 2021. The latest HCC Highways update states this matter is 'under review by local engineers'.</p>

APC may wish to alert and seek assistance from the local County Councillor to progress this matter.

PHOTOGRAPHS

