

Clerk's Report for Full Council 24th September 2024

Station Road Car Park

Tree works

The essential tree works took place on 10 and 11 September.

Emergency Tree Works

Emergency tree works were required, when a tree in Station Road Car Park came down, during high winds. The fallen tree spanned the river, and into the Doctors Surgery car park fence. A tree surgeon removed the fallen tree, and also removed an additional trunk that caused concern.

The Town Council have also arranged for the damaged area of fence to be repaired.

Bruton Town Council

Training

The Assistant Clerk has recently attended the first of five training days which support the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) qualification. This is excellent news! The Assistant Clerk is working with the Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk to progress through the portfolio, which can take up to a year to complete and submit.

Condition survey

The condition survey reports for the Engine Shed, War Memorial, Patwell Pump and the churchyard and grave stones/memorials have been received. These were reviewed at the Town Committee meeting on 17th September, with the recommendation that some of the more immediate works are considered sooner rather than later. This is an agenda item on the full council meeting agenda.

A condition survey has been requested for the walls at Jubilee Park, and should be scheduled to take place in the next few weeks.

Somerset Council

County Fields

Further to additional emails sent regarding County Fields, the clerk has forwarded the proposed plan which shows clearly the desired access route over Somerset Council land, for the Active Travel pathway, to the Somerset Council officer. Access to the fields from the A359 is critical to the Active Travel plan, and to Bruton Town Council considering the undertaking of the lease for the area.

Speed limit on Dropping Lane

A formal request has been made to Somerset County Highways, regarding the lowering of the speed limit on Dropping Lane, as discussed at the last full council meeting. A response has been received, which is overviewed in a report by the Deputy Clerk, and is an agenda item for this evening.

Additional Speed Indicator Device (SID) location

The town clerk met with the Highways engineer to discuss an additional position for the SID on Plox. The SID location was discussed at Town Committee on 17th September, and is on the agenda for full council to discuss further.

Enhanced Highways Maintenance

Somerset Council are introducing an Enhanced Highways Maintenance pilot scheme (EHM) which could provide additional Highways Maintenance that is not statutory works for Somerset Council, at a day rate charge. A Highway Safety Awareness Training Course is also being introduced by Somerset Council. This course will be free of charge, and is aimed at volunteers within the parish to undertake some basic tasks for example, minor road sign maintenance, litter picking, clearing gullies of detritus. Ultimately the course will be an online course, but there is face to face training available on a temporary basis until the online version is available. A handbook has been circulated by Somerset Council which provides more information.

Jubilee Park

BruBowl - S106 Expression of Interest

The expression of interest form for the S106 funds (£9167) in connection with the Cubis development, was submitted to Planning Obligations at Somerset Council at the beginning of September. As a result, the town council have been invited to submit a formal application for the S106 funding. The town clerk is currently working on that application.

END OF REPORT