

Clerk's Report for Full Council 21st January 2025

Bruton Town Council

Bin outside the Spar

The bin located outside the Spar on the High Street has long been an issue for discussion with Somerset Council. The bin currently in place is too small, and the installation of a larger bin would require permission from Highways. A larger bin could create an obstruction for pavement users, and is unlikely to be approved. Officers from Somerset Council Street Scene met with the town clerk recently to discuss possible options.

A short report overviewing the options is being collated for Town Committee, on 28th January 2025.

Engine Shed

An application for pre-planning application advice has been submitted to Somerset Council. The clerk liaised with the Conservation Officer regarding the requirement for Listed Building Consent to replace the roof, and requesting advice regarding roof tiles and repointing.

Youth Provision

A confidential report was received overviewing the second quarter of the youth group, which has been circulated to councillors. There has been a regular attendance of 10 young people. Youth workers attended the Christmas late night shopping event in Bruton, as an opportunity to engage with the young people attending and promote the youth group.

The final two sessions of the year found part of the session being held in the Community Office. This provided an opportunity to do some closer group work, but also young people, together with parents/carers/people at home are able to drop in and chat to youth workers.

The youth provision will be based in the Jubilee Park, in the Pavilion from 6th January 2025.

Jubilee Park

Zip Wire

The zip wire is scheduled for installation week commencing 20th January 2025.

Removal of ash trees (diseased)

The removal of the three ash trees, agreed by full council in the summer, should be commencing in the next few weeks.

Bench on the Dovecote hill

Pre-planning advice has been received, and the intention of installing a bench (sited on railway sleepers, rather than a concrete pad) is considered to be permitted development. A quote has been obtained, and this is an item to be discussed at Town Committee, with provision to be made within the maintenance budget for 2025/26.

Abbey Ponds

The outfall at Abbey Ponds was cleared, in accordance with the S17 maintenance agreement, by Hauser and Wirth, in early December 2024. Photos have been supplied, along with an overview of the works undertaken, which has been forwarded onto Historic England.

Speed Indicator Device (SID) Location

The new location for the SID, on Plox, has been agreed with Somerset Council Highways. The Memorandum of Understanding has been updated accordingly. The installation of the new SID post is on the works list for Highways, and should be completed at some stage in with new year.

School Streets pilot scheme

The Project Lead for the School Streets pilot scheme, which commenced on 13th January 2025, is holding a short question and answer session just before the Town Committee meeting on 28th January 2025. The provisional start time of the session is 7pm, to be confirmed.

END OF REPORT