

Shevington Parish Council
Clerk's Report to the Council Meeting of 24 May 2018

Over-grown Shrubs at Vicarage Lane Fields

I have met with a contractor to discuss the overgrown shrubs behind a property in St Anne's Drive and seek a quote for the work. This is awaited.

WW1 Display Cabinet

The WW1 display cabinet is now located in the library foyer and a small display case has been ordered for the Tower of London poppy and its accompanying description card.

Light in Memorial Garden

Street Lighting have told me that they have hired a piece of equipment to test underground electric lighting cables along the A580. Once that has been carried out the equipment will be used to test the cable providing electricity to the light in the Memorial Garden.

New Signage

All new signage, with the exception of the planter plaques, has been erected by the contractor.

Planters

The Caretaker has completed the painting of the upper edges of the concrete planters and will be attaching the signage plaques in the near future.

Newsletter

The May edition of the newsletter is currently being distributed. The text for the newsletter was mainly provided by individuals connected with other organisations. As it was not possible to consider the text at the May Policy & General Purposes Committee meeting (due to its having a one item only agenda) the textual contents were agreed by delegated decision.

Issues in Shevington Lane

A letter prepared by the Chairman was sent to two senior officers at the LA. One has acknowledged the letter and has said that, due to the volume of her workload, she will respond to the letter in due course. The residents have been informed of the course of action taken.

Donations from Shevington Conservative Club

Letters of thanks for their generous donations towards the cost of 'Our Tommy' have been sent, via one of the members, to the Committee of the Club and to the members.

Drainage Repair in Forest Fold

Drainage contractors were invited to assess how much it would cost to clear the blocked drain in Forest Fold. They informed me that they charge for this and quoted £60. This is a standard charge and includes jet washing the drain and, if necessary, the use of a camera. On arrival the contractor discovered that the grid was broken and, because the pot was an old one, it would be impossible to obtain a replacement grid, except perhaps on Ebay.

Having cleared the soil out of the pot, the contractor found that he could not carry out the jet washing because the entry into the drainage pipe attached to the pot was closed off by a letter box arrangement. He recommended that, in view of the situation with the grid, a new pot should be fitted. This would come complete with grid. He quoted £375. After consultation with the Chairman and another councillor, the work was agreed.

Another team came to replace the pot several days later. Having taken the old pot out, the team discovered that the diameter of the existing pipe was the wrong size to attach to the new pot. On digging up the ground they discovered a Heath Robinson arrangement of piping under the surface. A

quote of a further £100 for replacing this arrangement with a pipe of the correct diameter was provided. At this stage there was no other option but to accept.

The fitting of the new pot (made of plastic) together with grid was completed and the original team returned the next day to complete the jet washing of the pipe and tarmac the area immediately surrounding the new pot.

Memorial Park Project

Neither of the LA's officers who know about grant funding is able to attend the next Policy & General Purposes Committee meeting to discuss matters with the Committee. However, I have arranged to meet one of them to give her some information about the proposals so that she can do some research. The officer referred to originally at the Policy & General Purposes Committee meeting has told me that his area of expertise lies with sports funding, not parks. I have also arranged to meet with an officer from Greenspaces to discuss obtaining estimates for work on the drainage and the footpath restoration.

Beat It Team

The team are due to be in the ward between 28 May and 1 June. If there is anything you would like them to do, please inform Dist Cllr Paul Collins as soon as possible.

K.M.P. 24.05.18