

Much of the information in this report was gathered during the DPC autumn walk around the village.

### 1. Maintenance Contracts

- If we upgrade the maintenance contracts to cover the hedges and trees on the verges, rather than requesting County to do this work, which can take a lot of reminders and many months, costs will increase. Without writing the exact spec. of the new contracts, it is impossible to tell by exactly how much, but our main contractor has will provide an estimate of increased costs in time for the meeting. If agreed in principle, we will request County for a payment in lieu of this work. **DPC to discuss and agree whether to cover this cost.**

### 2. Cemetery

- **Burial fees** are currently waived for children 16 years and under. This is now being extended to cover children of 18 years and under. **DPC approval needed.**
- **Eastern Front Entrance:** sadly there has been no progress since last autumn due to the difficulty and high cost of rebuilding the boundary whilst the adjacent lime trees are encroaching over the boundary. We will try to find a cost effective solution, pulling railings together and planting a slow growing hedge along the border. Need to find a contractor willing to do the job.
- Though the rear entrance was tidy, there remain 8 large bags stacked up. **Handyman to be reminded to keep bags to a maximum of 2.** The allotment area is the place for additional green waste, not the cemetery.
- The cemetery is generally well kept, but there is evidence of significant regrowth of ivy, brambles etc on some of the graves that were cleared by volunteers. **Contractor to be reminded of the importance of keeping growth at bay within the graves in accordance with the contract.**

### 3. St John's Street

- The streetlight opposite Greenacres has now been removed, leaving the area completely dark at night. The shrubbery has not been cut back and needs to be completely cleared from around both the telegraph pole and the streetlight. County Council has confirmed that this work has been scheduled but has not yet been done.

### 4. Allotment Gardens

- Millennium Wood is tidy, as is the front allotment used by the handyman.
- Boundary with adjacent field is very overgrown, but provides good wildlife habitat. No action recommended at this time.

### 5. Moorfield Road

- The bus shelter noticeboard has been slightly damaged by fire, but remains useable.

### 6. War Memorial

- Looking beautiful with red geraniums, thanks to our volunteer gardeners.
- The London Plane tree needs some of the lower branches cutting off – they are being bent back by people using the seat and one has broken.

### 7. Long Lane

- There is a lot of overgrown ivy including some thorns at eye level from the adjacent properties (Greystones and private residence on other side of walkway). **Reminder letter to go out to the property owners.**

## 8. St Peter's Street

- Bus Shelter litter bin is too small. A new larger bin has been requested from SCDC.
- **The Clerk will report the following to highways for action:**
  - White lines need renewing at the junctions of Petersfield and Kintbury;
  - Tarmac at entrance to Petersfield needs completely resurfacing, not just patching;
  - Pavements need attention, tarmac is crumbling in a number of places;
  - Street signs that need replacing;
  - Other relevant items reported to the Clerk.

## 9. Millennium Garden

- In a good state as far as the hedge, but beyond that is very unkempt. The shrubs that died 3 years ago have never been removed and the flowerbed (currently maintained by volunteers) needs attention. The flower bed will be included in the next maintenance contract.
- One proposal is to request that S. Cambs take back responsibility for the rear part (sufficient space for 1 or 2 affordable homes?) and DPC retain responsibility for the front (lawn, bench) area. **DPC to discuss and agree future options.**

## 10. The Recreation Ground

- The main gate has been repaired and reinforced to maintain its security.

## 11. Liberty Lane

- Recently cleared, no problems. Need to monitor all the lanes for leaf clearance according to the contracts over the autumn winter.

## 12. Duxplay

- The fence has been slightly damaged where the contractor entered, but is now back in place.
- The wood circle is gradually disintegrating and we will have to think about removing/replacing if it is identified as a risk by the inspectors.
- The edges of the tunnels need attention – there are sharp edges on both tunnels.
- **DPC to discuss and agree repair works.**

## 13. The Green

- Nothing to report.

## 14. The Biggen

- Nothing to report concerning entrance and art fund gates. The position of utility manhole covers might make costs for levelling the incline prohibitive, particularly bearing in mind difficulties with Brewery Field entrance works.
- Some clearance work is required on the boundary with a parishioner. Quotes have been obtained from Envirocare and Mercer. Recommendation is to accept the quote from Mercer, which also deals with a dead tree. **DPC to agree boundary works.**