



Report on: GPC Agenda Item Discussion Points
Provided by: Clerk – Alessandra Marabese
Date of Meeting: 19th September 2024

INFORMATION FOR PARISH COUNCIL AGENDA DISCUSSION / DECISION ITEMS

8058. Review of Charity Commission guidance for councils acting as trustees.

See:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authorities-as-charity-trustees/d41c2473-904d-4bbf-b8d3-652591facf21>

and

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authorities-as-charity-trustees/local-authorities-or-councils-as-trustees-of-charities>

8062.a Recreation Ground Improvement project

Decision required on when and how to remove existing play equipment. Install expected to start mid-October.

8062.d Recreation ground other items

1. Approval required for cutting back of hedges and trees. Redman's to do.
2. Removal of tennis net – when?

8064.b Allotments – pruning of overgrown trees

Residents of 1 Fishers Close have requested that GPC cut back some of the overhanging trees especially plum trees which are dropping their fruit and leaves all over their garden, drive, and car. May have to spend money from general reserves to do this.





8067. and 8068.b. St Mary's Churchyard – rabbit holes issue.

We have a problem with rabbits in the closed Churchyard of St Mary's Church. The area most affected seems to be on the right-hand side extending past the church as you enter via the church gate. Although a closed cemetery the Churchyard is still visited by those tending graves of loved ones and this is a health and safety issue.

Recommendation from Bugs and Things:

- Several rabbit holes to the right of the church and a couple to left hand side found.
- Not all these rabbit holes are active.
- Recommended that all the holes are backfilled and then rechecked in about a weeks' time to see how many have opened as this will show which holes are active.
- Due to how close the holes are to the church we would be unable to gas the rabbit holes (the rabbit holes must be at least 10m away from buildings)
- The only options to get control are trapping and shooting. Bugs and things can carry out both, but will need to know how many of the rabbit holes are active before giving a costing on this.
- Clerk authorised backfilling the holes and return in approximately 1 week to carry out a survey on the open holes. Cost to do this will be £75+vat (£90inc vat).

8069. External auditor report.

Minor scope for improvement in 2024-25 = In undertaking the review of the 2022/23 Annual Governance and Accountability Return it came to our attention that in 2024 the council published the date of announcement for the period of public rights too early. In future, the council should ensure this is published one working day before the start of the period.