

HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL
Operations Manager Report
December 2022
Recreation and Amenities

1. Albert Road Cemetery

- We have had 3 interments since my last report; 2 full burial and 1 interment of ashes.
- Our team carry out the grave preparation to a very high standard, they are very respectful and at times have to work under challenging conditions.

2. Allotments

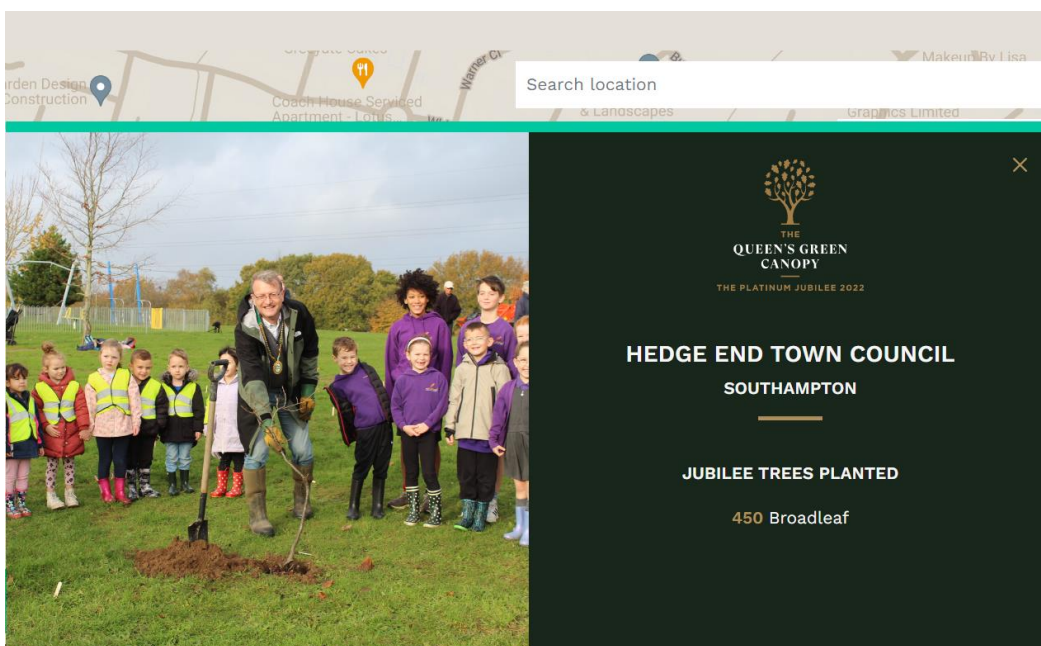
- Currently there are no empty plots and a waiting list of 38, of which 13 are requests for second plots.

3. Bowling Green

- Following a recent inspection by Southern Water, a number of minor contraventions were picked up on above ground supplies, all of which have now been repaired.

4. Conservation Volunteers

- Last month's session was integrated into the Community woodland event at Dowds Farm. Volunteers helped to plant around 450 new saplings as part of the Queens Green Canopy originally to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee, but now in memory of Queen Elizabeth II.
- The new woodland has been added to the Queens Green Canopy official map along with a photo taken at the event.
- Be advised that if you are trying to search the map, (to protect privacy) all submissions are randomised to within 1km radius of the submitted location, therefore the Dowds Woodland location is listed at a property in Charterhouse Way. [Map - The Queen's Green Canopy \(queensgreencanopy.org\)](https://queensgreencanopy.org)



- The next volunteer session is on 15th December 09:30am at Wildern Moor. Tasks will include bramble reduction and removal of sapling trees. Please register with the office should you wish to attend prior to the event.



5. Cricket

- Cricket nets – Contractor report provided in this month documents. Unfortunately root ingress has compromised the outer lane. Repair options included in the report.

6. Football

- No update.

7. Graffiti and Vandilism

- The cold winter weather has meant that the levels of graffiti have reduced considerably. No major issues this month.

8. Local Nature Reserve

- The Friends of Wildern Local Nature Reserve would like to hold a 'Bio-blitz' on 15th July 2023.
- What is a BioBlitz? A "BioBlitz" is a great outdoors, community event where expert naturalists and members of the public work together to do a fast survey of all forms of life in a natural space. It's a race to find as many different species of plants, birds, insects, fungi, mammals, and everything else as possible.
- This could be a wonderful event, although more detail is required before we seek approval from members.

9. Paddling Pool

- We are seeking quotes for the surface repairs.

10. Play Areas

- Rodaway Play Area installation – The Play area is now open and overall I think it is a big improvement. There are some minor snags that we are working to resolve but overall the project has gone smoothly, and feedback has been very positive.



11. Open Spaces

- Grass cutting is now finished for the year.
- Hedges - The team are working hard cutting hedges across HETC land and continue the progress on reclaiming historically unmanaged or neglected areas. Please let me know if there are specific areas that you feel need some extra work.
- Turnpike – A Silver birch has been planted as a Memorial tree within the car park wildflower area.



- St. Johns Rec. – A Wild Service tree was planted by the Methodist Church.



- Mescott pond – gate repaired.



- Drummond bund removal – The fencing has been installed and trees planted. The trees are a mixture of UK native species including Silver birch, Rowan, Whitebeam and Wild Service Tree. All the trees were procured from EBC's tree nursery.



- Repairs have been carried out to the knee rails protecting Dowds Farm open space.



- Southern Electric will be carrying out essential line clearance works over the next month at Dowds Farm, Hogsty Corner and adjacent the A27 grazing fields.
- Finally we have secured £745 grant funding from CPRE Hampshire's Community Hedge Fund to provide additional hedging at Dowds Farm open space. This will be planted along the boundary knee rail (pictured above) so that when these do eventually reach the end of their life, we will have an established hedge to maintain the site security.

If there are any specific items that you would like more information on or would like me to include any other areas, please let me know.

Many thanks
Brett Athow
Operations Manager