

HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL
OPERATIONS MANAGER COMMITTEE BRIEF
June 2022
Recreation and Amenities

1. Albert Road Cemetery

- 3 interments have been undertaken since my last report, 2 full burials and one exhumation and reinterment of Ashes.
- The wildflower meadow is looking wonderful. Vetch, Oxeye Daisy, Clover, buttercups and many grass species can be seen.



2. Allotments

- We are still in transition and in the process of reallocating plots that were not renewed in April, however we currently have 5 empty plots with a waiting list of 30 requesting 1st plots and 13 requesting 2nd plots.
- Cllr Jane Welsh and I carried out inspections this month to assess whether plots were being actively cultivated/ used and unfortunately this has resulted in 22 first warning letters being sent out. This first letter advises that they have 4 weeks to cultivate their plots to a reasonable standard before further action is taken.

3. Bowling Green

- The green is looking good and will now be mowed twice a week through the season maintaining an average blade height of between 3 and 5mm.

- Cyril has been teaching some of the staff how to cut and tend for the green, this will help when we need cover for holidays etc, as well as teaching our staff new skills.

4. Conservation Volunteers

- This month's activity took place in Wildern Moor. Wildern Moor is a small species rich moor and hotbed for bio-diversity. Notable species within the meadow include Purple moor grass, Marsh Pennywort, Ragged-Robin and Southern Marsh Orchid.
- This month's activities included removal of sapling trees, litter picking and some very gentle pruning. Whilst it may seem counterproductive to remove tree saplings during a conservation session, it is important that we preserve the balance of trees, scrub and grassland to maintain the amazing wildlife diversity within the moor.



5. Football

- Football has finished for this season and will begin again in September.
- We have had a lot of interest from different clubs following Hedge End Rangers departure, all applications are in so we will be working out the new season's schedules and which teams we can accommodate.

6. Graffiti and Vandlism

- Unfortunately we have seen an overall increase in both vandalism and grafitti.
- The bridge in the woodland at the bottom of Greta park has been damaged by youths. The handrail on one side has been completely broken off. We are working out the best way to repair it.
- Graffiti on the new 'Carnival bench' at Greta Park. Cleaned by HETC staff
- Bin damaged at Greta Park.
- Graffiti on the wall of the changing rooms at Greta Park. Requires complete repaint.



- Graffiti on the 'dug outs' at Rodaway pitch 1. Will require repainting.



- Repeated graffiti at Drummond CC and play area. Repeatedly cleaned and scrubbed by HETC staff.
- Play equipment damaged at Drummond CC.



7. Local Nature Reserve

- 'Friends of Wildern Local Nature Reserve' continue their monitoring of species. I'd highly recommend joining their Facebook group for updates and some amazing photography. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2030431683870743/>

8. Paddling Pool

- The Paddling Pool is now open, and the new chemical dosing system is working well.....now we need some sunshine.

9. Open Spaces

- We have been really busy again this month, installing benches, prepping the paddling pool, repairing pitches and lots of mowing and strimming.
- The 2 Carnival benches have now been installed at Greta Park. It is with regret that I have to report that they have been graffitied already!



- The Queens Platinum Jubilee bench has now been installed at Greta Park in front of the Basketball court.



- Mowing and strimming is in full swing and will continue till November.
- One of the toddler seats at Westward Road Play Area has been replaced. The old one had perished and was no longer useable.

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