

# ALDBURY PARISH COUNCIL      WARDENS UPDATE: JUNE 2024

<b>AREA</b>	<b>ALLOTMENTS &amp; MILLENNIUM ORCHARD</b>
<b>TO CHECK</b>	Fencing & gates, benches, trees, hedges & shrubs, grass height, signs, footpaths, housekeeping, ground conditions
<b>INSPECTION DATES</b>	31/05, 7/06, 14/06, 21/06
<b>ISSUES TO REPORT</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No notable defects were found on fences, gates, and benches.</li> <li>2. Grass has been regularly mown in accordance with the mowing specification.</li> <li>3. Public footpaths were well defined. Waymarkers were in place.</li> <li>4. Good housekeeping was evident, and most plots continue to be well tended..</li> <li>5. An upgraded access track has been laid (Photo 1).</li> </ol>

<b>AREA</b>	<b>PLAYGROUNDS</b>
<b>TO CHECK</b>	Equipment, Safety Information, Fencing & Gates, Benches, Trees, Grass height, General ground conditions, Empty litter bin.
<b>INSPECTION DATES</b>	31/05, 7/06, 14/06, 21/06 Tring Station 00/00
<b>ISSUES TO REPORT</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Playground equipment was visually checked. The following was noted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ As a result of timber decay, a post on the natural play equipment at TS playground has snapped and become unstable (Photo 2). Clerk notified. In the interim, hazard tape has been placed around the post.</li> <li>▪ A section of timber edging around the swing area at Aldbury Playground has warped creating a trip hazard (Photo 3). Replacement edging is needed to eliminate the hazard.</li> <li>▪ Imitation steering wheel requires tightening on the TS play train.</li> <li>▪ A swing seat is degraded at Aldbury Playground (Photo 4). Consider replacing soon.</li> <li>▪ Some evidence of timber rot on a Log World post. Continue to monitor for further deterioration (Photo 5)</li> <li>▪ A extra piece of play equipment (Spinner) has been installed. Newly laid protective surface needs further staking to prevent tripping (Photo 6).</li> </ul> </li> <li>7. In addition to 6 above, ROSPA have made numerous safety recommendations following recent site visits.</li> <li>8. User signage is in situ at both playgrounds. Nonetheless, APC may wish to consider improved signage to assist users (please see notes below).</li> <li>9. Grass remains at a suitable height. However, nettles and brambles are growing through the Aldbury playground fence. Removal of this hazard is required to prevent hurt to small hands.</li> <li>10. The litter bin was emptied on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of June.</li> <li>11. Fences and gates at the playgrounds remain in reasonable condition. It was noted by the ROSPA inspector that the self-closing device on the entrance gate is not functioning.</li> </ol>

<b>AREA</b>	<b>RECREATION GROUND</b>
<b>TO CHECK</b>	Tennis court, Basketball area, Pavilion, Fencing, Benches/seats, Bollards, Trees & vegetation, Grass height, car park, Litter & dog waste bins, Footpaths.
<b>INSPECTION DATES</b>	31/05, 7/06, 14/06, 21/06
<b>ISSUES TO REPORT</b>	12. Tennis court was in good order.

	<p>13. A litter bin, close to the tennis court, is tilting but remains steady. Low risk of collapse.</p> <p>14. Grass is meeting the mowing specification. Overall, a neat and tidy appearance is being maintained.</p> <p>15. A weekly litter pick was carried out.</p> <p>16. A displaced heavy log has been returned to its original position.</p> <p>17. Base of a football goalpost is badly corroded (Photo 7). It is understood the goalposts are circa 40 years old and were custom-built by a local company. Clerk has alerted the Sports Club Committee.</p> <p>18. Basketball area remains in a run-down condition. Surface is extremely uneven.</p>
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<b>AREA</b>	<b>VILLAGE GREEN(S) &amp; POND</b>
<b>TO CHECK</b>	Benches, Trees, Pond, Grass height, Stocks, Litter Bins, Notice board.
<b>DATES</b>	31/05, 7/06, 14/06, 21/06
<b>ISSUES TO REPORT</b>	<p>19. All benches were seen in fair condition.</p> <p>20. Trees were found in a sound condition. Some dead wood has been shed and lying on the ground. No broken branches were visible on the trees.</p> <p>21. Grass was meeting the mowing specification. Favourable public feedback continues to be voiced about the renovated pond and neat surrounds.</p> <p>22. Weekly litter picking was carried out.</p> <p>23. Litter bins are in place and found in reasonable condition.</p> <p>24. Parish notice board information continues to be current, relevant, and well presented.</p> <p>25. A wooden post has toppled on the village green (Photo 8). Clerk aware. This will be replaced after filming.</p>

<b>AREA</b>	<b>HIGHWAY'S, PUBLIC FOOTPATHS &amp; DITCHES</b>
<b>TO CHECK</b>	Surfaces, Pedestrian routes, Signage, Drainage, Grit bins, Litter, Street lamps, Bollards, kissing gates, Notice board (Tring Station)
<b>DATES</b>	31/05, 7/06, 14/06, 21/06
<b>ISSUES TO REPORT</b>	<p>26. Streetlamps were checked on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June. A defective lamp was noted at the Recreation Ground entrance. Reported to HCC (Ref No:401004173876). All other lamps in the Parish were working.</p> <p>27. Litter picking was completed along Stocks Road (to the walled garden), New Ground Road (from GUC bridge), Station Road (to railway station bridge), Malting Lane, Stonycroft and Toms Hill.</p> <p>28. Branches concealing a school highway sign (by the church) were successfully cut back.</p> <p>29. A broken picket fence on Stonycroft Green needs minor repair (Photo 9)</p> <p>30. A decayed street nameplate at the bottom of Toms Hill was reported to DBC. Ref No: 895084 (Photo 10)</p> <p>31. A large pothole in Kiln Road has been repaired by HCC. Ref No; 401004167018 (Photo 11).</p> <p>32. Vegetation growing across the pavement in Station Road (near Clarkes Spring), is blocking pedestrian access (Photo 12). HCC informed. Ref No; 401004191214.</p> <p>33. A footpath post (PF27) is heavily corroded at its base and leaning (Photos 13 and 14). The post is opposite the Recreation Ground entrance. The Clerk has informed Clayton Rae at DBC.</p>

### Outstanding Items

34. A tree requires removal from an open drain/ditch (south of Stonycroft)..

35. The following blocked drains/gullies are on the scheduled HCC drain unblocking programme:

- Malting Lane (x 2) Ref No: 401003990129 and 401003990131
- Station Road (opposite the church). Ref No: 401003990125
- Stocks Road (near Applegarth). Ref No: 401003990137

### Notes

APC may wish to review current playground signage. A leading play inspection company suggests the following information should be included on playground signage:

- Playground ownership and contact details i.e. telephone, email and website address
- Playground details including the site address and a 'what 3 words' location in the event of an emergency. The nearest AED can also be specified.
- Age-appropriate rules and supervision conditions i.e. under 8's should be supervised by an adult.
- Encouraging public support in reporting damage, defects and concerns.

APC may also wish to consider sending a council member on a RPII Operational Training Course to strengthen or acquire knowledge of current playground safety requirements.

# PHOTOGRAPHS



