

ALDBURY PARISH COUNCIL WARDENS UPDATE: MAY 2025

AREA	ALLOTMENTS & MILLENNIUM ORCHARD
TO CHECK	Fencing & gates, benches, trees, hedges & shrubs, grass height, signs, footpaths, housekeeping, ground conditions
INSPECTION DATES	9/5,16/5, 23/5
ISSUES TO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Public footpaths were found to be in satisfactory condition and well demarcated within the orchard. Most plots are well maintained, but rubbish, debris and unwanted materials need to be removed from the site (Photo 1). Perimeter fences, gates, and benches were functional and in acceptable condition. Information signs were clear and readable. The grass height has been maintained in accordance with the mowing specification. The allotment paths and formal areas adjacent to the play area were mown twice this month (1st - 23rd May). <p>Outstanding items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new waymarker is required for public footpath no: 6

AREA	PLAYGROUNDS
TO CHECK	Equipment, Safety Information, Fencing & Gates, Benches, Trees, Grass height, General ground conditions, Empty litter bin.
INSPECTION DATES	9/5,16/5, 23/5 Tring Station 09/05, 24/05
ISSUES TO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Both playgrounds were visually inspected and are in good condition. However, the following was noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large gaps have opened between several rubber mat tiles in the swing area posing a hazard. It is recommended that APC instigate a repair as soon as possible (Photos 2,3 and 4). Patches of turf at Tring Station playground are covered in scratch marks and pocketed with small holes (3-4 inches depth). This suggests the presence of a badger(s), employing sharp claws to seek out worms or insect grubs (Photo 5). Both playgrounds display user and ownership information. This was found clear and legible. The grass at Aldbury Playground was cut twice this month (1st-23rd May), and at Tring Station it was cut once (1st - 24th May). Grass height meets the specification. The benches were observed to be in fair condition, and gates were found operational. The litter bin was emptied weekly, signifying increased usage. <p>Outstanding Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A decayed fence/gatepost at the Aldbury playground, along with attached fence panel, is unstable. Playground signage should be updated to comply with best practice standards.

AREA	RECREATION GROUND
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TO CHECK	Tennis court, Basketball area, Pavilion, Fencing, Benches/seats, Bollards, Trees & vegetation, Grass height, car park, Litter & dog waste bins, Footpaths.
INSPECTION DATES	9/5,16/5, 23/5
ISSUES TO REPORT	<p>11. Grass height conforms to the specification and was mown twice this month (1 - 23rd May) to a good standard. Members of the public often comment on the tidy appearance of the surroundings (Photo 6).</p> <p>12. Weekly litter picks were conducted. DBC are emptying the litter and dog waste bins on a weekly basis.</p> <p>13. Benches were found in fair condition.</p> <p>14. The tennis court was in good order.</p> <p>15. No new defects were identified on the trees.</p> <p>16. Overgrown vegetation and scrub have been cleared from FP 60 (behind tennis court). Regular footpath users have appreciated this improvement (Photo 7).</p> <p>Outstanding items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A dead tree is leaning against another tree and requires removal. Council to decide action at June meeting. • Tree branches are extending over the basketball backboard. Council to decide action at June meeting. • Car park entrance needs surface/pothole repairs. • Removal of graffiti is needed from the sports pavilion wall in a bid to deter further incidences. • A public footpath sign needs to be reinstated (public footpath no: 27). Clerk is chasing DBC.

AREA	VILLAGE GREEN(S) & POND
TO CHECK	Benches, Trees, Pond, Grass height, Stocks, Litter Bins, Notice board.
DATES	9/5,16/5, 23/5
ISSUES TO REPORT	<p>17. The benches were found in good condition.</p> <p>18. No obvious defects were visible on the trees.</p> <p>19. The grass areas were mowed twice this month, resulting in a well-maintained and orderly appearance.</p> <p>20. Litter bins were emptied weekly by DBC.</p> <p>21. Weekly litter picking was conducted.</p> <p>22. The notice board was well-maintained, displaying current and pertinent information.</p>

AREA	HIGHWAY'S, PUBLIC FOOTPATHS & DITCHES
TO CHECK	Surfaces, Pedestrian routes, Signage, Drainage, Grit bins, Litter, Street lamps, Bollards, kissing gates, Notice board (Tring Station)
DATES	9/5,16/5, 23/5

<p>ISSUES TO REPORT</p>	<p>23. A visual check of the streetlights was conducted on the 24th of May. No new defects were identified to add to the existing list of 'outstanding items' below.</p> <p>24. Litter picking was conducted along Stocks Road (to the parish boundary), New Ground Road (to the GUC bridge), Station Road (GUC bridge to Aldbury Village), Malting Lane, Stonycroft and Toms Hill to FP15. Litter collected has included unopened items, primarily alcohol cans and bottles.</p> <p>25. The drainage ditch south of Stonycroft was found clear of obstructions.</p> <p>26. Driveway shingle that had encroached on to Stocks Road has been cleared (Photo 8).</p> <p>27. HCC has issued an order to temporarily prohibit all vehicular traffic on Malting Lane. It is stated that vehicular access for Malting Lane residents will be maintained whenever possible. The closure is for a period of up to 18 months starting the 3rd of June. A notice is on display (Photo 9).</p> <p>28. HCC County have fixed a dislodged kerb stone by the village green (Ref no: 401004639208). Photo 10.</p> <p>29. Two faded SLOW road markings, immediately before sharp bends (Toms Hill and Station Road) were reported to HCC. Ref No's 401004654989 and 401004654999 (Photos 11 and 12).</p> <p>30. A resident has asked if overgrown shrubbery, encroaching on to Trooper Road from a nearby property, can be cut back. This will enable parents and children to walk safely to/from school. The Clerk has been informed.</p> <p>Outstanding Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinstatement of waymarker in Hitchins Field (public footpath no:63). Clerk is chasing DBC. • DBC to replace decayed street nameplate on Toms Hill. This has been added to DBC replacement list. Ref No: 895084. • Restore streetlighting at the Recreation Ground entrance, opposite the Church, Malting Lane junction, and near Beechwood Drive junction.
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PHOTOGRAPHS



