

ALDBURY PARISH COUNCIL WARDENS UPDATE: OCTOBER 2024

AREA	ALLOTMENTS & MILLENNIUM ORCHARD
TO CHECK	Fencing & gates, benches, trees, hedges & shrubs, grass height, signs, footpaths, housekeeping, ground conditions
INSPECTION DATES	4/10, 11/10, 18/10, 25/10
ISSUES TO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No noteworthy defects were visible on fences, gates, and benches. 2. Grass has been mown in accordance with the mowing specification. 3. Public footpaths were well delineated with waymarkers in place. Despite heavy monthly rainfall, ground conditions remain good. 4. Good housekeeping was evident.

AREA	PLAYGROUNDS
TO CHECK	Equipment, Safety Information, Fencing & Gates, Benches, Trees, Grass height, General ground conditions, Empty litter bin.
INSPECTION DATES	4/10, 11/10, 18/10, 25/10 Tring Station 25/10
ISSUES TO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. No new defects were observed on the play equipment. Overall, playground equipment remains in good order. 6. User information signage was visible at both playgrounds. 7. Grass is being cut in accordance with the mowing specification. 8. Nettle and bramble growth around the Aldbury playground fence was removed. <p>Outstanding Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Two raised sections of timber, bordering the rubber surface at the AP swings, need fastening down or replacement. Currently represent a trip hazard. ▪ AP playground signage needs updating to meet latest playground guidance. ▪ A plastic cap covering a bolt is missing from inside the fort. ▪ Chains on the cradle swings need replacing. Parish Clerk is acquiring new chains and a replacement seat.

AREA	RECREATION GROUND
TO CHECK	Tennis court, Basketball area, Pavilion, Fencing, Benches/seats, Bollards, Trees & vegetation, Grass height, car park, Litter & dog waste bins, Footpaths.
INSPECTION DATES	4/10, 11/10, 18/10, 25/10
ISSUES TO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Tennis court is in fair condition. Algae and moss growth is visible on the surface. 10. Grass has been mown to a good standard, complying with the mowing specification. 11. A weekly litter pick was conducted. 12. After nitrous oxide (laughing gas) became illegal in November 2023 (Class C drug) no empty metal canisters have been discarded/found at the site. 13. A tree has toppled to the ground and will need removal before mowing recommences in the Spring (Photo 1). <p>Outstanding items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The car park hedge is overgrown. It is understood this will be cut in November.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Professional cleaning of the tennis court surface is required to address algae and moss growth. ▪ A new sign is needed to replace a decayed/collapsed sign that reminds dog owners to prevent pets fouling the facility and prohibits golf.
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AREA	VILLAGE GREEN(S) & POND
TO CHECK	Benches, Trees, Pond, Grass height, Stocks, Litter Bins, Notice board.
DATES	4/10, 11/10, 18/10, 25/10
ISSUES TO REPORT	<p>14. All benches, despite signs of weathering, were found in fair condition.</p> <p>15. No visible defects were noted on the trees. As normal, dead wood continues to be shed as part of the lifecycle.</p> <p>16. Grass height complies with the mowing specification. Overall, a neat appearance frequently lauded by residents and visitors.</p> <p>17. Weekly litter picking was conducted. No major concerns as litter levels tend to remain consistently low.</p> <p>18. Litter bins were found in place and in sound condition.</p> <p>19. The parish notice board was in good condition. Information remains current and relevant.</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	4/10, 11/10, 18/10, 25/10
ISSUES TO REPORT	<p>20. Streetlights were visually checked on the 23rd of October. Streetlight No: 58R by the Trooper Road/Malting Lane junction is defective. Reported to HCC ref no: 401004403067.</p> <p>21. Litter picking was conducted in Stocks Road (to parish boundary), New Ground Road, Station Road, Malting Lane, Stonycroft and Toms Hill.</p> <p>22. Damaged kerb on Toms Hill has been repaired by HCC (Photo 2). A decent job, with no visible damage to nearby telecommunications. Ref No: 401004334818.</p> <p>23. Vegetation growing across the pavement and a drain on Toms Hill has been reported to HCC. Ref No: 401004383616 (Photo 3).</p> <p>24. A badger carcass by the pond was reported to DBC. Ref no:913609. The carcass has now been collected.</p> <p>25. Damaged car bumper and trim has been left on the verge by the Northfield Road/Station Road junction (Photo 4). To be collected by DBC. Ref no: 913991.</p> <p>26. Salt bins In Malting Lane were checked. Both are full, ready for icy weather.</p> <p>27. A blocked drain in Toms Hill (opposite Vimy Ridge) was reported to HCC. Ref No: 401004334822.</p> <p>28. A significant amount of silt was removed from the drain/ditch to the south of Stonycroft. Cllr Webb and a parishioner undertook this work which will lessen flood risk (Photo 5).</p> <p>29. Concerning the above, APC may wish to alert the riparian landowner(s), who are responsible for regular maintenance of the drain/ditch to ensure water flows without obstruction i.e. vegetation, fallen branches.</p> <p>Outstanding Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A tree requires removal from an open drain/ditch (south of Stonycroft). It is understood a local working party is to be formed to remove the fallen tree.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Streetlight no:68R (Recreation Ground entrance) is missing. Third request made to HCC to provide an update. Ref No's; 401004281448, 401004173876 and 401004407148. ▪ The following blocked drains/gullies are on the scheduled HCC drain unblocking programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Station Road (opposite the church). Ref No: 401003990125 - Stocks Road (near Applegarth). Ref No: 401003990137 - Toms Hill (opposite Vimy Ridge). Ref No: 401004334822. ▪ DBC to install new street nameplate for Toms Hill. Ref No: 895084. ▪ DBC to re-set a fallen waymarker (FP63) in Hitchens Field (opposite Church Farm).
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PHOTOGRAPHS

