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**Report To:** Full Council **Date:** 30 October 2023

**Contact Officer:** Paula Harrison

**Subject:** Services Update

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## 1. Services Work Completed (4 weekly update)

1.1 The Parish Council team has undertaken routine work over the last four weeks as follows:

- Grass cutting programme – last cuts of the season
- Fly tipping and bin emptying – reduced staffing creating some issues
- Hedge and shrub cutting, some delays due to the continued grass cutting into October. Damage to the side arm lost 3 day's work capacity.

1.2 Routine play maintenance is ongoing with a change over to once weekly play inspections from October half term until the Spring half term after which it will be twice weekly again.

1.3 Play improvement work has been undertaken including

- Replacement seat for zip wire at Whitehill Park
- Replacement pedals on exercise equipment at Mead park
- Replacement seat on a rocker at Middleleaze
- Replacement surround for unit at the Chesters
- Top up of play grade woodchip to multiple sites

### 1.4 **Project Work**

The team have completed

- Installation of a noticeboard at Peatmoor
- Claypits play area landscaping and drainage works.
- Collecting many loads of waste for Westlea Park group
- Installing new drainage and re-stoning and fencing for Peatmoor Woodland group
- Preparing containers and ground planters for the Autumn/Winter planting
- Bulbs ordered for multiple locations across West as agreed by the Planning, Leisure & Environment Committee and planting has commenced.
- Planting improvements will commence at Shaw Village Centre including adding bamboo and matching up the brick planters at the entrance and rear.

### 1.5 **Income Generation:**

Scrap metal income £159.00

### 1.6 **Requests for Service:**

The team have received regular requests for low hanging branches on footpaths on Shaw Forest and Shaw Ridge Linear Park, cleaning up work after flooded subways. Obstructions to sight lines have been checked promptly and work completed on Swinley Drive.

1.7 **Land ownership** – none arising this month.

1.8 **Cross Parish Support**

The Parish team have given additional assistance to St Andrews Parish Council for adjusting play equipment. Specialist play tools borrowed from Swindon Borough Council

1.9 **Vandalism**

The Parish team have had bins pushed over a number of times, one has now been secured to a post.

**2. Services Work (November 2023)**

2.1 **Hedge and Shrub Cutting**

The team will continue with the Autumn shrub and hedge cutting, with the majority of the team focused on this. Hand cutting is in Sparcells and Nine Elms and will then focus on Middleleaze..

2.2 **Grass cutting**

The Parish grass cutting equipment will be cleaned and stored for the Winter period.

2.3 **Play Maintenance**

- pivot part for Clay Pits swing due end of November
- replacement of zip wire at Mead Park

2.4 **Floral Planting**

Autumn/Winter planting will be planted over the next few weeks. At the end of the month, the Parish team will look to improve Freshbrook Village Centre planters. Checks will be made for volunteer planting and bulbs planted by the team across various locations.

2.5 **Village Centre Maintenance**

If paving work is completed satisfactorily at Shaw Village Centre by Swindon Borough Council, the bench will be installed.

2.6 **Bins and Flytipping**

Business as usual. Village centres emptied Monday to Friday daily, other bins generally twice weekly.

Report Author: Paula Harrison