



Clerk Report February 2022

Works to Bunkers Lane Playpark (Signage/Benches/Bins Etc.)

Signage received and fitted by warden.

Rewilding

11/1/2022 email sent to DBC re contractor reinstating the verges opposite Pond Road post works with a wildflower mix as recommended by RC. Chased 8/2/2022 response below

RC has suggested that if the contractor can de-compact the area, RC would arrange to carry out the seeding. RC has confirmed that he will action.

Verges Phase 2

Waiting for HCC and County Cllr/Borough Cllr updates (spreadsheet appended to this report). Email sent 24/1/2022 and chased 8/2/2022.

Budget/Precept

Precept demand signed and submitted before DBC deadline.

Audit update

Etaerio instructed for Audit year end 2021/22. Points raised last audit all actioned. Clerk has requested that he starts earlier this year as it is always so close to statutory deadline.

Projector Insurance Cover

I was asked by the Chairman NMVHA (Village Hall) to check that we have our own Insurance cover for the projector. Confirmed that we do have cover in place for when projector is not stored by clerk.

Defibrillator Sign

Clerk is waiting for quotes to bring back to council. Contactors who have been approached.

Solicitor

Clerk has received recommendations from fellow clerks for solicitors to use for the lease negotiations (if deemed necessary) and will obtain 3 quotes.

Annual Parish Meeting May 2022

Clerk has received no notice from Councillors in relation to changing the format of this meeting and it will therefore be held in the usual format on the same evening as the May council meeting. Clerk has reminded all Councillors of the cut off dates for annual reports prior to this meeting (7th April). With elections due May 2023 Clerk is asking council to consider a forum type event in Autumn 2022 or early Spring 2023 to summarise achievements for the current term, invite external partners etc.

Jubilee

Licenses

Waiting for DBC to confirm whether street licences will be required

HCC/Ringway License and permissions received should council decide they require bunting.

Contractor quotes

Clerk has arranged installation quotes should NMPC require bunting. 1 received waiting for second as site visit has just been undertaken. No response from third company. See separate agenda point.

Refreshments quotes

Difficulties sourcing suppliers and food safety/risk assessment concerns. See separate agenda point.

Tree planting

DBC team have confirmed that tree planting is due to commence shortly.

Fire at The Apsley Paper Trail, Frogmore Mill

PCSO advised clerk that cause of fire has now been confirmed and culprits identified. Clerk has written to Apsley Paper Trail to offer condolences re the catastrophic losses at the museum and visitors' centre.

Training Attended/Attending

Clerk at SLCC Practitioners Conference 15/16/17 February. Office will be closed, except for emergencies during this time.

Agenda can be found [by clicking here](#) should anyone be interested in the content.

Correspondence received (please note that this may not include all items)

- A resident on Bunkers Lane has written with regards to issues with the large lorries using Bunkers Lane. It appears that the route is becoming busier and consequently more vehicles are getting 'stuck'. Links to HCC provided. NMPC have previously discussed width restrictions on this route with the County Councillor at the time. Council to notify me if they wish to raise the matter as an agenda item again.
- Two requests received from residents concerned about verges and enquiring about the inclusion of their verges in the verges project. Responses sent and both forwarded to Councillor MB as working group lead. (Meadow Road/Barnacres Road)
- Request for allotments received. Details of who to contact provided. NMPC have a statutory requirement to consider the provision of allotments under the Smallholdings and Allotments Act 1908¹ but as previously notified by the clerk we do not own any of our own land to facilitate this. The allotments on Chambersbury Lane are all administered by DBC but are within the parish. I have emailed DBC to check this procedure as it appears that the law states that if a parish council is present then they should be the ones to administer the allotments, but I am unsure of the historic arrangements.²
Those at Red Lion Lane are administered by KLAGA (Kings Langley Allotments and Gardens Association).

¹ [Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

² • **Who should provide allotments where there is a Town or Parish Council?**

If there is a Town or Parish Council in a particular area, then the responsibility for allotments within the boundaries of that town or parish lies with them. The District Council, in this case, has no powers to act in any manner over allotments.

(Paragraph 9 sub-paragraph (1) of Schedule 29 to the Local Government Act 1972)

NMPC Verges Project Phase 2 Update Request 20th January 2022

Please see below the final column requesting updates from C/Clr or County Locality Officer please?

We are hoping to table this in March for council to make decisions regarding works and budgets.

NMPC Verges Project Phase 2 October 2021

Verges Schedule (V6) dated 20.08.2021 was used for the purpose of this meeting.

AREA	Site Visit Outcome	Action to be taken	County Officer Response	Update Required Please
GEORGEWOOD ROAD - Junction of Barnacres	A suggestion was made by RC that this Verge could be adopted for 'Rewilding with Wildflowers' which he advised is currently being planted along roadside verges in Hertfordshire.	Clerk sent separate email to Rob Cassidy 12/10 to commence this process.	I believe RC stated its not highway. No visibility/highway issues. Ok for the rewilding.	
GEORGEWOOD ROAD – Junction of Highbarns	It was recommended that as the verges are not heavily damaged, which shows occasional parking, then we should leave this for the time being and monitor over the coming months	No action at the moment	Agreed.	
EAST GREEN – Grasscrete recommended for both areas.	PW advised that there did not appear to be any serious safety issues and that he recommended Grasscrete to both these areas. A price for these works is to be obtained for further discussion. It was agreed that it would be sensible to allow the works to be carried out on the exposed 'Hole' in this area before any Highways works could be done.	Obtain quotes for grasscrete as an indicator for future works please	Approximate desk top cost for both areas 53m x 1.4m = 74m2 = £11,000	
CHAMBERSBURY LANE -Junction Market Oak Lane	The verges are growing back so it was agreed to Monitor this area over the coming months.	No action at the moment	Agreed	
CHAFFINCHES GREEN	PW agreed that the tarmac should be repaired and replaced at the corner and Highways would review. PW agreed that a TRO would not be required for the standard junction protection (white lines) to be installed. PW advised that they look into options and costs for this area as there are already Double Yellow Lines installed so an extension could be considered. It was agreed that it would still be difficult to stop residents parking on some of the verges. JM advised that she thought that some of the land belonged to Housing. Highways to report back.	Highways to report back.	A TRO is required for all new or amended yellow lines including junction protection. Junction protection requires less consultation as HCC consider junction protection is endorsing what's in the highway code. Approx. desk top cost for 30m2 bitmac, 9m kerb and 7m pcc edging = £3,000.	Highway report and recommendations required.

CHAMBERSBURY LANE (above 120 past the small park)	The verges are growing back so it was agreed to Monitor this area over the coming months.	No action at the moment	Agreed	
CHAMBERSBURY LANE (87-89)	The verges are growing back so it was agreed to Monitor this area over the coming months.	No action at the moment	Agreed	
CHAMBERSBURY LANE (42 Highbarns next to 27 Chambersbury)	PW advised that there was no serious safety aspect at this junction as the views were not obstructed so he suggested that we could extend the Tarmac Apron to create a further 2 parking spaces or Grasscrete. However, having reviewed JG (DBC) email 7.12.20 he advised that Tarmac would be installed and in keeping with what is already there. PW also suggested that the Kerb should be dropped to match the opposite side for the safety of Pedestrians crossing with pushchairs or for residents with disabilities. This should also be extended on the corner to Highbarns Road. PW also suggested that the concrete bollards should be installed to match what is currently installed to stop parking on the corner pavement. To be discussed with Councillors.	Costings and funding options to be investigated for tarmac, dropped kerb, bollards.	Approx. desk top cost for 41m2 bitmac + 1 pair ped. dropped kerb + 6 bollards. = £6,900	
BARNACRES ROAD #A (514-518)	It was felt that the developers of these new houses had not provided sufficient parking which has now created over parking and the verges have been destroyed. It was agreed that the only solution would be to be either Tarmac or Grasscrete both areas. JM advised that she would speak for Joe at DBC for further advice. To be discussed by Councillors.	Response outstanding from JM JM advised that she would speak for Joe at DBC for further advice.		DBC and Jan to advise further
BARNACRES ROAD #B (387-425 / 423)	PW advised that works to this area have already been approved and programmed to be carried out by Highways. Double Height Kerbs will be installed and Grasscrete accordingly.	Update please on approved and programmed works	Was due 29.9.21. Update requested.	In progress, works commenced
PARKING at JUNCTION CHAMBERSBURY LANE/BUNKERS ROAD	We looked at the problems that are being caused at this junction due to cars being parked on the pavement heading up the hill. This has become dangerous with cars having to regularly drive on the opposite side of the road as it is blocked by parked cars. It is a matter of time before an accident. PW advised that Double Yellow Lines could be considered but would have to be	PW advised that Double Yellow Lines could be considered but would have to be initiated by Borough Councillor Costings required please.	See note on Chaffinches Green re junction protection.	Further report and recommendations due from Jan.

	initiated by Borough Councillor. Costs implication for TRO. To be discussed by Councillors.			
NEW CROSSING AT BUNKERS PARK ENTRANCE	PW confirmed that there is a new crossing being planned for this road and he would advise further once the design is available. JM will look into this	NMPC awaiting design and update re this	I need to discuss the crossing with Jan. Following that I can provide an update.	Jan to progress the Design with Highways.

Phase 1 Agreed but Works Outstanding (funded by HCC)

33 & 37 MEADOW ROAD – Grasscrete both areas.	PW and JM advised that they would look into when these approved works will commence	Update from HCC please	Approved works - Jan / Highways/DBC to confirm when these will commence as delay was due to design details being carried out by DBC.
DENES - Double Height Kerb. (Repairs to the Verge with Topsoil and Seed)	PW advised that he investigate when these approved works will commence.	Update from HCC please	Completed 19/10/2021 Photos sent to PW. Could we review with Highways and Borough Councillor for recommendation of posts or bollards to be fitted as a further deterrent now or as part of the Denes make-over. Will need to be brought back to Council for discussion.