

Grounds-person's Report 2022

Gardening session June

The was well supported and with the help of Aidan and Quentin's chain saws we cut back the two larger cherry trees as well as doing an initial tidy up of the Eastern side of the courts. We will hold another this Summer before the BBQ.

Hired a couple of guys with chainsaws and a truck to bring the shrubbery on the Eastern side properly under control and establish a manageable level we could maintain ourselves. It is at least 12 years since we planted many of the shrubs on this side and a severe pruning well overdue.

Monica and I cut back the shrubs inside the fence on the Eastside and Mon kept the West side verges trimmed as well as time and bin space allowed.

Mowing rota worked moderately well...

Equipment

2 years we were granted a substantial sum of money and made plans (appendix to Groundsman's report 20-21) at the time to help spend some of that on new equipment and services

Our plans for tree treatment were severely curtailed by the Council Tree Officer but I have now done the following:

Sought offers for the old kit we wanted rid of. Nothing coming of this, I got the Mower chaps on Alvin Street to take away the oldest Mower and Scarifier.

Bought new Nets.

Bought a Hedge Trimmer, Pole Chainsaw and Strimmer with good lithium batteries.

Plans for 2022

Continue with Green thumb treatments for Court 1 and DIY treatment for Court 2 as before.

Service one of the mowers – I am thinking the Harris which has started making odds noises.

Increase support for Mowing Rota and reminder service.

Encourage the fit and willing to roll the courts whenever possible.

Scarify in next week or two to stop the thatch and moss buildup and maximise the benefits we get from the Greenthumb treatments. Repeat in Autumn

We will not cut the grass areas to the sides of the courts until July in order to help our local bees.

We will organise the usual gardening morning in early June to take on some of the larger shrubs and get them down to a more manageable size once the birds have stopped nesting.

We will potentially schedule an Autumn tidy up and another bulb planting session for around the same time.

Buy some more equipment (to include BBQ and Range of heavy duty garden tools) to help maintain the courts and support social activities.

Clear shed of more stuff that does not support the last point and review need for new roof on shed and general maintenance of the same.

Play some tennis (inc group sessions if of interest).

Benches

Purchase 2 new benches to replace Court 2 and Court 1 Corner bench.

Mowers:

Continue with the ad hoc service arrangements for the two main mowers.

At some point in next 2 years buy a new roller mower (£1500 - £2000)

Scarifier:

Either hire (£35/day) or purchase an electric machine capable of doing the job. (£350)

White lining machine

Keep. Monica restored this last year and there is no need to replace.

Social Event Support

We will need a new BBQ and Gazebo within the next couple of years. Provisional budget £600
Nothing done last year on this front so will revisit but I think the Gazebo can be held over until next year.

Cost of activities last year

Battery powered kit	£469.94
Green Thumb Treatments	£200
Shredder hire	£72.90
Eastside hack back and removal	£300
Nets	£254
Petrol	>£50
Total	£1350

Potential costs of 2022 activities

Scarifier (2 sessions)	£70
Scarifier purchase	£350
BBQ	£350
Mower Servicing	£120
Cutting back large fir tree and removal	£300

Removal of build-up of non compostables	£250
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Total	£1440
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