

Environmental Report – December 2022

Environment Maintenance & Parish Warden

This week the Warndon East Team have been focusing on Wainwright Road area with litter picking and vegetation management taking place. Mike (Warden) is continuing his work on improving the ponds in the parish with the help of a volunteer group. Hedge management has continued and a wooden finger signpost in Woodgreen Drive opposite Tolladine Wood was re-instated in the ground after it became uprooted. There are concerns over the level of rubbish being left in the Lyppard Grange Nature Reserve and the City Council are looking at ways to resolve this. The Tree Team dealt with a tree which came down in the wind, on St Nicholas Lane. Damage to trees in Tolladine Wood has been reported along with signs of some form of encampment. Tarpaulin has been removed. It has also been reported on social media that bark has been stripped from trees near St Nicholas Church.

Hedge cutting

Keith – (Tractor and Flail) has almost completed hedge trimming works in the parish. He is currently on leave for 2 weeks, so will pick up any further work on his return.

There are a number of shrub beds adjacent to the main roads through the estate which over the years have increased in height and Cllr Merriman is concerned about perceived pedestrian safety. Discussed with WCC and Cllr Merriman to provide locations, photographs and recommendations by the end of January, so this can be actioned prior to bird nesting season.

Litter Bins & Fly tipping

Just prior to the Christmas break a resident reported bins overflowing by the Lyppard school and on footpath between Tesco/ and Trotshill Lane West. This was resolved the same day. The Warden has cleared away fly-tipping in Wainwright Road and gas canisters (laughing gas) cleared away from Trotshill Lane East play area this month.

Service Requests

- Request for trees to be trimmed by resident in Leeds Avenue. Cllr Merriman to speak to resident to find out where exactly the issue is as some of this boundary now falls to WCC with the land transfer of the Brecon Ave play area. The remaining land still is the responsibility of the original developer. *To be followed up*

Streetlamps

There are a number of streetlamps in the Parish which are still to be upgraded to the new LED type. An old-style streetlight in Hetherington Rise was reported to Worcestershire County Council – their response *'as lights fail & need replacing they are being replaced by LED*

bulbs. There is a new programme starting in April to convert all of the remaining old streetlights to new LED lights and Hetherington Rise will be part of this programmed works. Unfortunately we are not able to advise on a time scale of when the works will be completed'

Play areas

- Trotshill Lane East - replacement of play equipment. *(Outstanding)*
- Caister Ave - replacement equipment also still outstanding. *(Outstanding)*
- Brecon Ave play area works due to start imminently.

Road signage and Footpaths

- **Dugdale Drive & Woodgreen Drive.** There has been some damage to road signage in two locations. This has been reported to County Council. – *Notification has now been received from the County that these repairs will be carried out shortly.- Remain outstanding)*
- **Road signage at Woodgreen Drive and Dugdale Drive** has been damaged or disappeared. -*Reported to Worcester City Council. (to follow up)*
- **The gate at St Nicholas Lane** (by the church), has been removed due to its condition. County Council are responsible for replacement. *(Cllr Merriman to chase reinstatement as it exposes access to the lane)*
- **Toftdale Green** – The steps remain in a state of disrepair. *(One side of the steps remains cordoned off) Cllr Merriman to chase.*

Lengthsmans Claim

Report received from WCC for period Jul-Sept. Queries resolved and will be passed to the Clerk for processing w/c 9/1/23.

Environment Committee

The Environment Committee met Mon 27th June. Minutes still to be typed and circulated.

Other Matters

Parish Benches

Following proposal presented at October meeting, no further progress has been made with regard to looking at alternative suppliers of materials for comparison costs. Will be brought back to the February meeting.

No progress on installation of benches Off Bodiam Ave and Sterling Ave. I have spoken with Parish Warden and will chase WCC for action.

Allotments Notice Board

Delivery currently being arranged in January for installation asap.

Planning issue

Concern over the siting of another boundary fence installed in Trotshill Lane East. Query with Planning Team

Volunteer Activities in the Parish

Worcester Environmental Group (WEG)

Details of all activities can be found on WEG Facebook page or people can sign up to receive a monthly newsletter. In partnership with Worcester City Council a row of cherry trees have been planted by the group at Racefield in December which will form part of the 12 mile Wild Worcester Walk.

Friends of Warndon Villages

There has been no working group in Nov/Dec due to other commitments.

Warndon Villages Ponds Group

Next event 24th January at Wood Leason Ave pond.

Trotshill Orchard

A volunteer event was held on 17th December and will be held on the third Saturday of every month.

Litter picking

The next meeting of Warndon Wombles was on Sat 7th January. A number of residents are regularly litter picking the area in their own time. Blue bags provided by WCC have been issued to volunteer litter pickers, with the understanding that once full they can be left at the side of the litter bins and will be collected when the bins are serviced. This seems to be working well. I am aware that two young residents in the parish have been enthusiastically litter-picking in the last month, as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Councillor Dawn Merriman (Environment)

6th January 2023