

**TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL  
WORKS MANAGEMENT REPORT**

***1. Works Department***

Property Maintenance

The rental property on Market Road which is now vacant requires internal redecoration and building repairs due to rising damp concerns. The Works Manager will outsource to an external contractor once all three quotes have been received.

Cemetery Lodge is near completion with the new carpets now fitted. Once all three quotations are received, the kitchen re fit will be commissioned, completing the property refurbishment / maintenance.

Minor kitchen repairs to one of the Duke Street properties is scheduled for week ending 19<sup>th</sup> June.

The Town Hall still has ongoing water ingress concerns specific to the Mayors Parlor and Office. Further information is available from the General Managers Schedule of Works June Report.

The water boiler in the Pannier Market Trader kitchen is no longer in action. A replacement has been ordered and is scheduled to be fitted in July.

It is anticipated the bandstand refurbishment will be completed by September.

Ground Maintenance

The Works Manager is still awaiting a response from DCC in regards to Bannawell Play Park and the much-needed repair works to the culvert.

The Pixon Lane hedgerow and open space is scheduled to be maintained in due course by an external contractor Date to be confirmed.

The Green Burial Meadow will receive its annual scythe in August. The Works Manager has incorporated a training day for staff and volunteers of the meadow to further learn and develop this essential skill in the meadow's annual maintenance program.

Working alongside the Community Gardeners, as part of the Town Council's ongoing commitment to climate change and promoting biodiversity, major refurbishment of the Canal Beds, in the Meadows has started. This was a space that had failed to fulfil its potential, dominated by the non-native pampas grass as well as brambles it had become a nesting ground for rodents and caused a detrimental impact on the local ecology. The plan includes replanting the area with: crab apple trees, underplanted with shrubs and perennials, specifically chosen for such aspects as nitrogen fixing. With the Pampas

Grass cleared and the shrubs planted, in the autumn the crab apple trees will be planted of different species, therefore increasing the flowering season for pollination.

Dolvin Road Cemetery has unfortunately been closed since Storm Eunice caused extensive damage. In addition to the large tree that came down (visible from the road), there is one monument and one grave both of which have been significantly impacted and are currently at risk to public health and safety. Following an on-site meeting with an external tree specialist, works to remove the fallen limbs and make the areas concerned safe are now scheduled in for late June / July with the view of then re-opening Dolvin Road Cemetery to the public.

Plymouth Road Cemetery received its first COVID19 related death since the pandemic began. There are now no restrictions in place and so this burial was managed in line with our existing procedures and safe working practices.

The South West in Bloom judging date has been scheduled for Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July. The presentation will take place in the Guildhall with TTC staff making the necessary arrangements i.e. set up, staffing etc.

### Staff

The Works Department still currently has one member of staff signed off on long term absence.

Staff successfully completed and passed the Five-Day Chainsaw course and Chapter 8 Street works training.

### Events & Community Working Partnerships

The Meadows will host the following events and fundraisers;

- Aquathlon Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June 10, 2022 Tavistock Pride Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June.
- Church in the Park Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June
- Tavistock Lions Fun Day 10<sup>th</sup> July
- Ecofest Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July

Tavi Pride have approached the Town Hall, requesting the front windows are "lit up" Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June. As with other community activities, the Works Department are lending traffic cones to the organizers for the event.

The Town Council and staff were thanked by Devon Orienteering for use of their land during their orienteering event over the Platinum Jubilee weekend. The event attracted approximately 160 participants plus additional family members from all over the south west and further afield. Urban orienteering is now a recognized aspect of the sport.

The Works Department have installed the towns hanging baskets and are undertaking the regular watering & feeding schedule.

Working alongside Tavistock Community Gardeners, as part of the Council's ongoing commitment to climate change and promoting biodiversity, the Canal Bank area is scheduled to be planted with Crab Apple trees, of different species, therefore increasing the flowering season for pollination. The trees planted are part of the Council's pledge to the Platinum Jubilee campaign, the Queens Green Canopy. Alongside this, under all of the trees, shrubs will be planted, chosen for such aspects as nitrogen fixing, comparable to the planned planting scheme with 4<sup>th</sup> Tavistock Brownies and Meadowlands, as an extension to the Blue Campaign.

#### The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The Works Manager led on arrangements for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon Ceremony which has been deemed a success by Officers and the local community who came in droves to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's 70th year as Monarch and Head of the Commonwealth. The Works Manager would like to thank the team for their hard work in making the event such a success.

The seven semi mature trees planted in the Meadows last month have settled in well. Once the commemorative plaques have arrived an official unveiling of the flagship tree (the English Oak) will take place with the Town Mayor Councillor Paul Ward.

The Platinum Jubilee TTC arrangements were delivered within the Council budget, the Works Manager is currently waiting for an update on the final costings from BID.

#### Goose Fair

The General Manager and Works Manager held a positive meeting with WDBC reference their engagement in this years Goose Fair. It was noted the WD fairground will go out to tender this year. The next stakeholder meeting will be scheduled for July.

**REBECCA ROWE  
WORKS MANAGER  
JUNE 2022**