

**TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL
WORKS MANAGEMENT REPORT
September 2024**

1. Works Department

Property Maintenance

In addition to the works previously reported on in respect of Betsy Grimbals Tower further works have been commissioned pertaining to a weed treatment program. Once this has been completed in early September, an updated condition report will be issued and will detail recommendations on the next phase of the renovation works. A preliminary meeting has been held with Historic England.

The replacement of the wooden windows on one of the market perimeter shops has started and will be completed by early September.

The Works Manager has reported a water leak at the Works Depot to SWW. Investigations to identify the location of said leak are ongoing.

Work has been commissioned to repair slipped and broken slates on both the Pannier Market and Butchers' Hall, as well as to install roof vents on the museum.

Works previously reported on that are still ongoing: a Duke Street commercial property toilet redecoration, repair to the rear window on Butchers' Hall.

Grounds Maintenance

The new branded gate has been installed at Bannawell Park and has been well received. Planters crafted by Men in Sheds have been made, however the Works Manager will now wait until Spring to install them within the park.

The bi annual tree inspection of the Town Councils' tree stock has been completed. The Works Manager is reviewing the findings and will commission any arising safety work in order of priority.

The Works Department have been undertaking repairs on various items of play park equipment. It is anticipated by the end of September all items of equipment taken out of use due to needing repairs will be reinstalled. Unfortunately, there have been significant delays in receiving ordered parts from the manufacturers.

The annual scythe of the Green Burial Wild Flower Meadow which took place last month, was yet again a resounding success both in terms of community engagement and the positive impact the management is having on the area. The Works Manager would like to thank the volunteers and staff who worked extremely hard to complete the scything in one day.

Whilst grass cutting continues in our parks and open spaces, the Works Department will also now focus on hedge maintenance now that bird nesting season has drawn to a close.

The Works Manager is in liaison with the WDBC Wildlife Warden Coordinator regarding the biodiversity in closed churchyards project to see if there is any scope for Dolvin Road cemetery. An update will follow as discussions progress.

Community Engagement

The Works Department has assisted the Lions in removing the town bunting. The contract for watering the towns hanging baskets is drawing to an end with the baskets scheduled to come down mid September, as per the agreement with Tavistock BID.

The Works Manager will now focus on preparations for this years Christmas lights and Trees of Light.

Administration

The one remaining vacant position within the Works Department has been advertised with interviews scheduled for mid September.

Events

From October the Works Manager will be handing over the management of events in the meadows to the Town Hall and Events Manager and so going forward please refer to the Events Managers report for details on the use of the Meadows.

Goose Fair

Significant works are now under way/commencing with regard to delivery of Goose Fair 2024 (please refer to the report listed elsewhere on this Agenda).