

# ABINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Environment, Amenities and Infrastructure committee</b>
<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> February 2026</b>
<b>Report author</b>	<b>Tim Badcock</b>
<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>7</b>

## **Cemetery & Outdoor Services Managers Report**

### **1. Purpose of the Report**

1.1 To update members on the activity of the outdoor services team.

### **2. Summary**

2.1 Our small team have been busy maintaining the towns open spaces and facilities. Carrying out seasonal tasks and completing larger projects where possible.

### **3. Action required and recommendations**

3.1 Members are requested to note the report.

### **4. Link to strategic plan and objectives**

4.1 The team's work since the last meeting has impacted positively on the councils four key objectives.

### **5. Background**

5.1 The council employs a team of 5 operatives managed by myself to provide direct services. We're currently employing an agency worker to assist with the workload.

### **6. Key information and options**

#### **6.1 Activities:**

- Maintenance of flower beds and tubs
- Regular inspection, litter picks and maintenance of play parks and council land
- Play Park/equipment rectifications following vandalism and inspection
- Hedge cutting

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- Weekly Market Place deep cleans and cleaning pigeon mess at County Hall
- Graffiti removal
- Cemetery interments and enquiries
- Tree works
- Maintenance tasks at Roysse Court, The County Hall, Cemetery and depot.
- Maintenance of bus shelters
- Relocation of speed awareness signs
- Fence repairs following high winds

**Market Place Noticeboard**

The Market Place Noticeboard has been installed and is in use. This project has been positively received by the public with various groups contacting the office to advertise events etc.

**Ock Valley Walk Bridge**

The handrails of the bridge that is roughly halfway along the Ock Valley Walk and within the section owned by the Town Council have, for some time, been in a deteriorating state. This bridge is sited over a weir where the Stanford Brook flows into the Ock and with unsafe handrails had become a concern. A local contractor has now installed new railings using a recycled plastic product in preference to wood. This is the same material used in the construction of the smaller footbridge at the St Helens end of the walk.

This completes the restoration works of bridges on the walk that are owned by the Town Council.

**Chilton Close Flood Container**

The container that is to be used by the community flood group at Appleford Drive/Chilton Close has been delivered to Town Council land at Chilton Close. We will be fitting it out with shelving and equipment to assist the group in their efforts to keep the trash screens on the culverted stream clear of debris.

**Bus Shelters**

The installation date for the two new shelters at Stratton Way is the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> February.

Currently awaiting a convenient time for the bus usage group to meet and prioritise maintenance works detailed in the report received from Externiture.

**7. Climate change/green implications**

- 7.1 Some aspects of the outdoor services team activities will have an adverse effect whereas others have a positive effect.

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7.2 All actions taken by the outdoor services team are carried out in a manner considerate of sustainability and environmental impacts

8. **Financial/budget implications**

9. **HR implications**

9.1 No additional HR implications from this report.

10. **Supporting papers and appendices**

None