

Date: 02 July 2020

Title: Report Item 8 – Business in Progress

By: K Larkin (Parish Clerk)

Purpose: To provide an update on progress since the June meeting

Recommendations: a) To note the progress report
b) To approve the purchase of new brackets for the hanging baskets in the shopping precinct
c) To consider a request from the Tree Warden for registration as a Foundation member of the Arboricultural Association at a cost of £67pa

The following items are for decision:

- Purchase of brackets for hanging baskets – the former Lead Member advises the council that some of the existing brackets are corroded and not that well secured to the wall, and should be replaced as a matter of safety. She is keeping the baskets until they can be put up securely. The majority of brackets cost under £5 each. Here is a link to one from Homebase at £2.95:
<https://www.homebase.co.uk/search/products?q=brackets%20for%20hanging%20baskets&redirectFrom=Any> There is currently £458 in the East Dean in Bloom budget.
- To consider a request from the Tree Warden for registration as a Foundation member of the Arboricultural Association at a cost of £67pa

The following items are matters of report:

- Closure of East Dean Surgery –the Chair has written to the Clinical Commissioning Group (copy to Cllr Lunn) as agreed. The CCG has replied that East Dean surgery will review all the responses and share them with the CCG who will then be asked to consider the branch closure. The CCG hoped to consider the closure at their scheduled meeting on June 19. As yet there is no more news.
- Annual Audit – the completed Annual Governance and Accountability Return has been submitted to the External Auditor with supporting documents, and they have acknowledged receipt. The Public Rights Notices were posted on the website and on the notice board on 23 June and the inspection period runs until Monday 3rd August 2020. This is a week later than expected in the report to council at the June meeting, but is still within the permitted time frame.
- Strimming verges – the council's contractor has been requested to keep further distance from saplings and to reduce the width of mown verge in Downs View Lane to 1m, allowing the hedge to re-grow
- Extension of scorer's hut and Estate licence – the Cricket Club has been notified that the council hopes to appoint a new Lead Member for the Recreation Ground at the July meeting

- Moving the cricket square – the clerk is making enquiries as to whether VAT could be reclaimed on this project if the contract is placed by the parish council.
- Storage of boxes – a request for space to be made at the pavilion has yet to be followed up.