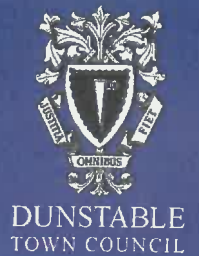


Dunstable Town Council
Grove House
76 High Street North
Dunstable
Bedfordshire
LU6 1NF

Tel: 01582 513000
E-mail: info@dunstable.gov.uk
Website: www.dunstable.gov.uk



David Ashlee Town Clerk and Chief Executive

Our Ref: DA/JC/GES

Date: 8 March 2019

Dear Councillor

Could you please note that a meeting of the Grounds and Environmental Services Committee will be held on **Monday 18 March 2019 at 7.00pm** at the Council Chamber, Grove House, 76 High Street North, Dunstable when the following business will be transacted.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence.
2. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of Grounds and Environmental Services Committee held on 14 January 2019 (copy previously circulated).
3. Specific Declarations of Interest.
4. Minutes of the Meetings of Plans Sub-Committee held on 8 January, 29 January and 19 February 2019 (see page 1).
5. Cemetery, Allotments, Recreation Grounds, Town Centre Gardens and Ranger Service Information and Update Report (see page 7).
6. Creasey Park Community Football Centre and Splash Park Update (see page 14).
7. Vehicle and Equipment Reserve Spending (see page 17).
8. Reports from Outside Organisations –
CBC Development Management Committee – Councillor Jones.

Yours faithfully

David Ashlee
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

To: All Members of the Grounds and Environmental Services Committee
Councillors John Kane (Town Mayor), Nigel Warren (Deputy Town Mayor), Liz Jones (Chairman), Lisa Bird, (Vice-Chairman), Sid Abbott, Philip Crawley, Jeannette Freeman, Peter Hollick, Gloria Martin, Gladys Sanders, Emma Simmons, Ann Sparrow, Johnson Tamara and Jessica Woodward and other Members of the Council for information.

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PLANS SUB-COMMITTEE

HELD AT GROVE HOUSE, 76 HIGH STREET NORTH, DUNSTABLE

ON TUESDAY 8 JANUARY 2019

Present: Councillors Liz Jones (Chairman), Philip Crawley, Jeannette Freeman, Emma Simmons, Ann Sparrow and Pat Staples

Apologies: None

In Attendance: Becky Wisbey (Head of Community Services)

Public: None

1. SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no specific declarations of interest.

2. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – RECEIVED UP TO 2 JANUARY 2019

The Sub-Committee considered all planning applications submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council in respect of Dunstable between 8 December 2018 and 2 January 2019.

RESOLVED: that the following comments be forwarded to Central Bedfordshire Council in respect of the applications indicated:

CB/18/04089/FULL 18 Katherine Drive
Proposal: Demolition of existing conservatory, erection of single storey rear extension, single storey front extension, garage conversion and internal alterations.
Observations: No objection

CB/18/04402/FULL 4 Croft Green
Proposal: Two storey and part single storey side extension.
Observations: No objection

CB/18/04419/FULL 36 Miletree Crescent
Proposal: Single storey flat roof rear extension with mono pitched roof above garage, minor internal alterations.
Observations: No objection

CB/18/04426/FULL 22 Chichester Close
Proposal: Single storey front and side extension.
Observations: No objection

CB/18/04429/FULL 14 Brewers Hill Road
Proposal: New detached house and vehicle parking for existing dwelling.
Observations: No objection

CB/18/04480/FULL 8 Beacon Avenue
Proposal: Single storey rear and side extension to existing dwelling to provide additional kitchen/dining area and storage space.
Observations: No objection

CB/18/04484/FULL 60 Chiltern Road
Proposal: Detached residential annexe in rear garden.
Observations: No objection

CB/18/04501/FULL Units DC1 and DC2 Prologis, Boscombe Road
Proposal: Installation of dust extraction plant.
Observations: No objection

CB/18/04536/FULL 84 West Hill
Proposal: Single storey side extension.
Observations: No objection

CB/18/04565/FULL 15 Hawthorn Close
Proposal: Two storey side extension.
Observations: No objection

CB/18/04590/FULL 1 Victoria Street
Proposal: Conversion and alterations of building in A2 use to large HMO (sui generis).
Observations: No objection

3. PLANNING DECISIONS

Members noted the decisions of Central Bedfordshire Council in respect of recent planning applications.

4. LICENSING APPLICATIONS

No licensing applications had been received.

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PLANS SUB-COMMITTEE

HELD AT GROVE HOUSE, 76 HIGH STREET NORTH, DUNSTABLE

ON TUESDAY 29 JANUARY 2019

Present: Councillors Liz Jones (Chairman), Sid Abbott (Vice-Chairman), Philip Crawley, Jeannette Freeman, Ann Sparrow, Pat Staples and Jessica Woodward

Apologies: Councillor Emma Simmons (for whom Cllr Woodward was substituting)

In Attendance: Cllr Peter Hollick and Becky Wisbey (Head of Community Services)

Public: Two

1. SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Interest	Agenda Item
All Councillors	11A Chiltern Road – Non-Pecuniary (Applicant is a DTC Contractor)	Item 3, App 8
Councillor Jones	40 Kingsway – Non-Pecuniary (Applicant known)	Item 3, App 9

2. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – RECEIVED UP TO 18 JANUARY 2019

The Sub-Committee considered all planning applications submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council in respect of Dunstable between 3 January and 18 January 2019.

RESOLVED: that the following comments be forwarded to Central Bedfordshire Council in respect of the applications indicated:

-
- 1 CB/18/00502/TRE** 63 Derwent Drive
Proposal: Reduce a large Ash tree in height by approximately 4-5m and reduce width to shape accordingly and remove low hanging branch. Tree located in the rear garden and protected by TPO 2/1976 A3.
Observations: No objection
-
- 2 CB/18/00516/TRE** Unit 17, Humphrys Road
Proposal: Unknown species tree which is dead (shown on sketch plan as Tag 835) - fell tree to ground level as low as possible; and 8 Acer campestre (shown on sketch plan as Tags 584-591) - repollard to previous points. Trees located on Humphreys Road and to the rear of properties 20-28 Wilbury Drive. Trees protected by TPO reference SB/TPO/03/0005 G2.
Observations: No objection
-

3	CB/18/00529/TRE	Land to the rear of 3 to 4 Walnut Grove Proposal: Prune 1 Walnut tree located within the grounds and car parking area. The tree is listed as T1 and protected by Order Ref: SB/TPO/89/0008 Observations: No objection
4	CB/18/04540/FULL	18 Burges Close Proposal: Removal of small flat roof front porch, creation of larger porch with wc. Observations: No objection
5	CB/18/04567/FULL	122 Union Street Proposal: Re-submission CB/18/03149/FULL. Retrospective application for change of use: Conversion of office space to 1-bed dwelling. Observations: Whilst the Council does not object it would like to record its displeasure with retrospective applications of this nature. The Council would also like CBC to ensure that waste collections are satisfactory for such conversions.
6	CB/18/04692/FULL	12 Carlisle Close Proposal: Single storey front extension with flat roof, first floor side extension over existing garage with pitched roof, part one-storey and part two-storey rear extension with pitched and flat roofs. Observations: Having received representation from residents of the neighbouring property and taking account of their concerns, the Council object to this application due to the detrimental impact the proposal would have on the neighbours and the street scene and the loss of light for the neighbouring property.
7	CB/18/04694/FULL	15 Langdale Road Proposal: Single storey side and first floor rear extension. Observations: No objection
8	CB/18/04726/FULL	11A Chiltern Road Proposal: Construction of 4no. 1-bed flats. Observations: No objection
9	CB/18/04741/FULL	40 Kingsway Proposal: First floor side extension and loft conversion with rear dormer. Observations: No objection
10	CB/18/04797/FULL	21 Kingsbury Gardens Proposal: Single storey side extension. Observations: No objection

3. PLANNING DECISIONS

Members noted the decisions of Central Bedfordshire Council in respect of recent planning applications.

4. LICENSING APPLICATIONS

No licensing applications had been received.

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PLANS SUB-COMMITTEE

HELD AT GROVE HOUSE, 76 HIGH STREET NORTH, DUNSTABLE

ON TUESDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2019

Present: Councillors Sid Abbott (Vice-Chairman)(In the Chair), Philip Crawley, Jeannette Freeman, Gloria Martin, Ann Sparrow, Pat Staples and Jessica Woodward

Apologies: Councillor Liz Jones (Chairman)(for whom Cllr Martin was substituting) and Emma Simmons (for whom Cllr Woodward was substituting)

In Attendance: Cllr Terry Colbourne and Becky Wisbey (Head of Community Services)

Public: None

1. SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Interest	Agenda Item
All Councillors	Grove House, 76 High Street North – Non-Pecuniary (DTC Application)	Item 3, App 6 & 7

2. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – RECEIVED UP TO 8 FEBRUARY 2019

The Sub-Committee considered all planning applications submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council in respect of Dunstable between 19 January and 8 February 2019.

RESOLVED: that the following comments be forwarded to Central Bedfordshire Council in respect of the applications indicated:

-
- | | | |
|----------|-------------------------|---|
| 1 | CB/18/04736/FULL | 27 Buttercup Close
Proposal: Demolition of garage, new kitchen extension plus new porch and internal alterations.
Observations: No objection |
| 2 | CB/18/04763/FULL | 40 Hadrian Avenue
Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension, two storey side extension, single storey front extension and erection of rear dormer window.
Observations: No objection |
| 3 | CB/18/04786/FULL | 62-68 West Street
Proposal: Change of use of ground floor from commercial to residential use for the development of 3 residential apartments.
Observations: No objection |
| 4 | CB/19/00029/TRE | 44 Hillyfields
Proposal: Prune 1 Beech tree located to the side of the garage. The tree is protected by TPO Ref: SB/TPO/58/00001.
Observations: No objection |
-

5	CB/19/00056/FULL	201 Jeans Way Proposal: Single storey rear extension combined with new pitched roof over new and existing rear extension. Observations: No objection
<hr/>		
6	CB/19/00068/FULL	Grove House, 76 High Street North Proposal: Installation of flagpole and associated foundation within the grounds of Grove House. Observations: No objection
<hr/>		
7	CB/19/00069/LB	Grove House, 76 High Street North Proposal: Installation of flagpole and associated foundation within the grounds of Grove House. Observations: No objection
<hr/>		
8	CB/19/00161/FULL	17 West Street Proposal: Conversion of first floor to form a 1x1 bedroom and 1x2 bedroom flat and rear extension to form 1x1 bedroom flat. Observations: Object due to over-development and concerns with the waste management provision. The proposal provided a smaller area for waste than currently provided, even though there would be three additional domestic dwellings as well as the commercial unit.

3. PLANNING DECISIONS

Members noted the decisions of Central Bedfordshire Council in respect of recent planning applications.

4. LICENSING APPLICATIONS

No licensing applications had been received.

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL**GROUND AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE****MONDAY 18 JANUARY 2019****CEMETERY, ALLOTMENTS, RECREATION GROUNDS, TOWN CENTRE GARDENS AND RANGER SERVICE INFORMATION REPORT**

Purpose of report: - The purpose of this report is to update members on the management and maintenance of the town's cemetery, allotments, recreation grounds, town gardens, floral displays, play areas and Ranger Service.

1. DUNSTABLE CEMETERY

- 1.1 Burial activity has remained ongoing and the table below provides a comparison for the period 1 Dec 2018 to 28 Feb 2019 against the same period for the previous year.

	Dec 2017 – Feb 2018	Dec 2018 – Feb 2019
New earth grave	8	14
Re open earth grave	13	15
New ashes	6	9
Reopen ashes	10	5

- 1.2 At the time of writing this report, 159 burials will have taken place in the lawn section of the cemetery extension.
- 1.3 The Cemetery profiled income and expenditure to the end of January 2019 is provided at Appendix 1. The overall variance is positive for the period and this remains largely attributable to overachieving on burial and memorial income on 7 of the 10 months to date.
- 1.4 The Friends of Dunstable Cemetery and a group of children and teachers from Weatherfield Academy, met on 29 January 2019 to clear notable overgrown graves and rake fallen twigs and small branches that had dropped from the trees in more recent windy conditions. The group will meet again on 11 March 2019.
- 1.5 A 7ft high close board fence and double gates has been erected to enclose the general waste skip that is sited at the entrance to the cemetery.
- 1.6 A number of 5mph speed signs have been placed on the pillars at the entrance to the Cemetery and on kerbside posts on the main road through the Cemetery. Door signs have also been put in place to better identify the office, chapel and toilets on site.
- 1.7 Five bird boxes have been strategically placed on a number of trees within the Cemetery to encourage the nesting of small songbirds. These were supplied by the 'Men in Sheds' project and they will shortly be supplying bat boxes and an owl box.

1.8 The cemetery team are working hard to prepare the area ready for Green Flag judging in April or May. The photos below show some of the recent works mentioned above.



2. ALLOTMENTS

2.1 At the time of writing this report there are 58 people on the waiting list, which is comparable to figures reported to this Committee in September. The table below provides some detail about the make-up of the waiting list and the plots that are currently under offer.

	Total	Resident	Non-Resident
Number on waiting list	58	37	21
Number currently under offer	4	4	0
Number that will accept offer of any plot /site	18	4	14
Number that have requested a specific plot /site	31	26	5
No. requesting a second plot	5	3	2

2.2 The renewal of tenancy agreements and annual rent payments has resulted in 24 tenants vacating their plots. These plots will shortly be offered to those persons on the waiting list in time for spring cultivation and growing.

2.3 At the Pascomb Road site a new concrete edged tarmac path has been laid from the first set of gates on the main road to the allotment entrance. Prior to the works, the area was overgrown, the original tarmac surface was crumbling and loose under foot and the pathway was covered in moss.



2.4 One of the tenants at the Hillcroft site has recently joined the Dunstable in Bloom team and plans are in hand to improve the site and showcase the area to the Anglia in Bloom judges.

2.5 The Grounds Operations Manager will shortly be looking to erect notice boards and information signs at all allotment site entrances as part of the wider improvement plan.

3. RECREATION GROUNDS

Play Areas, Grove Skate Park and BMX

3.1 Since the last report to this Committee, there has been just one incident of misuse of play equipment resulting in damage to chains on one of the swings at Bennett Memorial Recreation Ground.

3.2 Works to install the new adventure play area at Bennett's commenced on 25 February 2019. At the time of writing this report, the double zip wire has been erected and most of the excavations and foundations for other items have been completed. Further deliveries of equipment are scheduled for week commencing 11 March 2019 and a verbal update on progress will be given at the meeting. The contract remains on schedule for completion in time for the opening of the splash park in early May. The car park remains fenced off as a site compound for the duration of the works and once completed the car park will be white lined to denote parking spaces.



AGENDA ITEM 5

- 3.3 The security improvements approved by Members in September 2018 are nearing completion. Contractors have installed three height restriction barriers at Luton Road and Downs Road Recreation Grounds and Frenchs Avenue Open Space to deter unauthorised encampments. Drop-down bollards have been installed at Ridgeway Avenue and Markham Crescent and the barrier at Downside Recreation Ground is being replaced entirely with a new barrier and height restrictor. The height restrictor at Bennett's will be delayed until the play area has been completed. Over 200m of bow top fencing is on order for Frenchs Avenue Open Space and it is anticipated that this will be installed during late March and early April. The works proposed for Memtmore Recreation Ground will now seek to include measures to deter the motorcycle issues raised at the recent Town Meeting. However, this may delay some of the security measures originally planned for this site. The photos below show some of the recently completed security works.



Sports Pitches and General Grounds Maintenance

- 3.5 The grounds team are working hard to ensure that the stadium pitch at Creasey Park is in as good condition as possible leading up to local league cup finals that are due to be played over the next two months.
- 3.6 Chain harrowing of all the football pitches at Creasey Park and the recreation grounds has been carried to ensure that the playing surfaces remain in good condition after the heavy rain on recent weekends.
- 3.7 Grass cutting has commenced on all sites earlier than usual due to the recent warm and wet conditions

4. TOWN CENTRE AREA

Priory and Grove House Gardens and the Town Centre

- 4.1 The Grounds Operations Manager has arranged for moss and worm control treatment to be carried out on the croquet lawn in Priory Gardens. This will be followed up with a fertiliser treatment and broad leaf weed control. The grounds team will then scarify, over seed and top dress the croquet lawn in late March/early April before the start of the croquet season on 24 April.
- 4.3 The winter/spring bedding plants have started to flower early due to the warm weather at the beginning of March.
- 4.4 The Grounds team have placed slabs under the benches situated between the physic borders at Priory Gardens to make cleaning under the benches easier and improve the area.

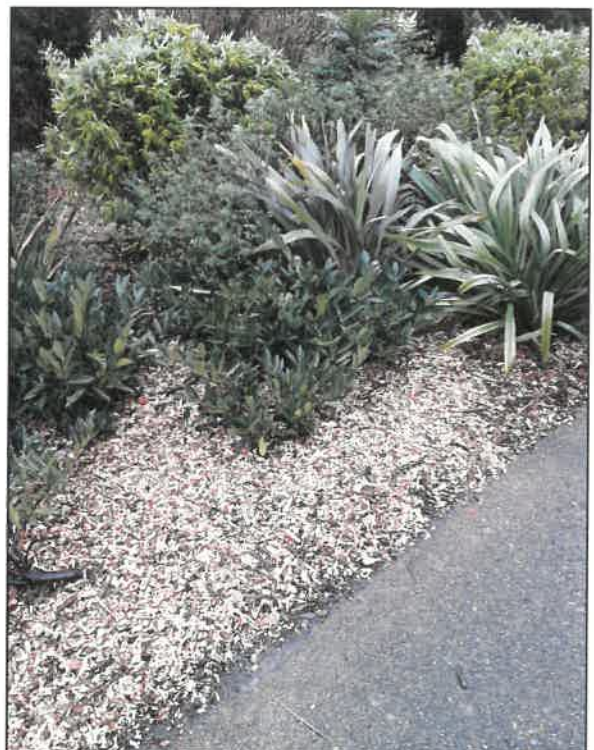
Dunstable in Bloom

- 4.5 With this year's theme being 'Plants for the Senses' the Council continues to work with Dunstable in Bloom and its partners to plan the 2019 campaign and judging tour. A number of new initiatives and projects are emerging which it is hoped can be show cased to the judges when they visit in July. These include the gardening project at Westfield Nursery, the new garden at the Old Palace Lodge and the sustainable drainage border being planted in West Street as part of the recent Town Centre improvements.

5. ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

- 5.1 From time to time this report will include an update on any actions or initiatives within the grounds service, which support the Councils Environment and Sustainability Policy. Some of the more recent initiatives include:

- Chipping woody green waste and using it as a mulch on shrub borders. This has recently been completed in Grove House Gardens.
- Composting leaves collected in the autumn and re using the composted material as a soil conditioner and mulch on flowerbeds and borders. Again, this has recently been completed in Grove House Gardens.



AGENDA ITEM 5

- Introducing a pilot recycling scheme in the cemetery extension to ask visitors to separate plastic plant pots and green waste from general waste so that it can be more easily recycled. The plastic pots will be made available to Dunstable in Bloom and its partners for growing plants.
- Purchase of battery powered strimmers and cutters to reduce CO2 emissions, reduce the use of fossil fuels and eliminate hand-arm vibration risks.
- Treat all weeds at Dunstable Cemetery with hot water treatment to eliminate the use of herbicides.
- Lighting in the Grove House outbuildings is now all via LED's

5.2 In addition the Council has been contacted by CBC to advise that they will be replacing all the lighting in Grove House Gardens with new modern LED upright columns. A timescale has not yet been provided but it is anticipated that this work will be completed during summer / autumn 2019 so that improved sustainable lighting is in place for the darker winter nights.

6. TOWN RANGER SERVICES

6.1 The Town Rangers have been making improvements to enhance the area within the vicinity of the toilets in Ashton Square car park. This has included removal of shrubs, rotovating and sowing grass seed on areas that were previously litter traps and reducing the height of existing shrubs to allow better visibility for users of the car park.

6.2 The Rangers have noted a rise in the number of graffiti incidents in the Town Centre, which they are working hard to eradicate.

6.3 In the past month the Rangers tasks have included: Snow clearance, graffiti removal, applying anti-graffiti coating, hedge trimming, buildings maintenance, litter picking, jet washing, work carried out for Central Bedfordshire Council, painting, road sign cleaning, street sweeping and bus stop maintenance. The feedback from members of the public remains positive regarding the service.

6.4 The Town Ranger team worked with the grounds team and members of the events and community service team, to ensure that the performance area store was completely empty prior to commencement of planned refurbishment work to the building.

7. AUTHORS

Ian Swinnerton, Grounds Operations Manager
ian.swinnerton@dunstable.gov.uk

Mary Dobbs, Cemetery Manager
mary.dobbs@dunstable.gov.uk

Appendix 1 - Dunstable Cemetery Profiled Income and Expenditure as at 31 January 2019

	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January
Budgeted Expenditure	£17,783	£7,533	£7,530	£8,783	£7,533	£7,531	£8,783	£7,533	£7,530	£8,783
Actual Expenditure	£16,596	£6,728	£8,804	£7,663	£6,094	£7,532	£9,340	£4,009	£7,204	£7,437
Variance	£1,187	£805	-£1,274	£1,120	£1,439	-£1	-£557	£3,524	£326	£1,346
Budgeted Income	£13,175	£13,175	£13,175	£13,175	£13,175	£13,175	£13,175	£13,175	£13,175	£13,175
Actual Income	£20,436	£22,616	£21,227	£22,104	£11,789	£8,891	£11,828	£17,160	£14,732	£16,952
Variance	£7,261	£9,441	£8,052	£8,929	-£1,386	-£4,284	-£1,347	£3,985	£1,557	£3,777
Total Variance	£8,448	£10,246	£6,778	£10,049	£53	-£4,285	-£1,904	£7,509	£1,883	£5,123
Overall Variance						£43,900				

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

GROUNDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

MONDAY 18 MARCH 2019

CREASEY PARK COMMUNITY FOOTBALL CENTRE AND BENNETT'S SPLASH UPDATE

Purpose of Report: To provide a progress report on operations at Creasey Park Community Football Centre, Bennett's Splash and the Splashside Café.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report gives members a summary account of performance to date.

2. ATP AND GRASS PITCHES

2.1 Creasey Park held Luton Town FC holiday courses every day in the February half term, as well as hosting Luton Town FC youth development squad fixtures against Norwich City FC.

2.2 Creasey Park hosted the Eastern Regional finals for the Disability FA People's Cup. Eight teams competed and the winners will go on to the finals at Wembley.

3. INCOME & EXPENDITURE

3.1 The CPCFC profiled income and expenditure report, as at end of January 2019, is provided at Appendix 1.

3.2 In January, expenditure was £1,068.00 over the profiled budget. This was largely due to additional wage costs associated with paying staff double time when the centre was open on Boxing Day and New Years Day.

3.3 Overall income was £4,290.00 under the profiled income target due to bar & catering being £2,500.00 under profile and pitch hire £1,790 under profile.

3.4 It is hoped that trading over the remaining two months of the financial year will ease the current predicted deficit.

4. EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS

4.1 The centre has been popular with parents for football parties having hosted eight such events in the last three months.

4.2 Function bookings are looking healthy with functions booked every weekend in March.

4.3 Creasey Park also hosted the Mayor's Race Night event, which was attended by 59 people and was a great success.

5. BUILDING AND ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

- 5.1 At the most recent CBC Executive Meeting the Capital Programme for 2019/20 to 2022/23 was approved. This capital programme includes £90,000 funding to install a grass pitch irrigation system at Creasey Park. Discussion is ongoing with CBC officers to accelerate this project as swiftly as possible with an aim to have a system installed by end July 2019. Members should note that the new irrigation system will require ongoing maintenance which will subsequently impact the 2020/21 revenue budget as a growth item.
- 5.2 New changing and shower room flooring has now been installed in four changing room areas.

6. BENNETT'S SPLASH & SPLASHSIDE CAFÉ UPDATE

- 6.1 Bennett's Splash remains closed at present. However, the Splashside Café has been hired out by a 'Move with Peppa Pig' children class.
- 6.2 CBC's vulnerable adult group will be hiring the café again this year, starting on Wednesday 6 March. They will open each Wednesday from 11am to 2pm for an 8-week period.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The news regarding the irrigation funding will have a very positive impact on the grounds teams grass pitch renovation programme and over time will greatly help increase the quality of the grass pitches.
- 7.2 The overall financial position for Creasey Park is not so positive and there will be an end of year deficit against the budget. The task for the remaining months is to reduce this deficit as much as possible.

8. AUTHOR

- 8.1 James Slack – Sports and Leisure Facilities Manager
james.slack@dunstable.gov.uk

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL**GROUNDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE****MONDAY 18 MARCH 2019****VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT RESERVE - SPENDING APPROVAL**

Purpose of Report: The purpose of this report is to request authorisation from this Committee to purchase various new grounds equipment from the vehicles and equipment reserve.

1. ACTION RECOMMENDED

- 1.1 That the Committee recommends to Finance and General Purposes the release of up to £9,500 of earmarked reserves for the purchase of new items of equipment for the Grounds and Environmental Services Team.

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Grounds Operations Manager has identified the need to purchase a number of new items of equipment to assist day-to-day grounds maintenance operations.

3. MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The table below lists the equipment required, the purchase costs and the justification for purchase.

Equipment	Purchase Cost	Justification
Tipper truck tail lift with 500Kg lifting capacity.	£2,850	To aid movement of equipment more safely and reduce manual handling risks for grounds staff.
Double set of ramps.	£1,200	To aid loading of wheeled equipment into vans and reduce manual handling risks for grounds staff.
Allett interchangeable pedestrian mower cassettes for scarifying and verticutting.	£3,000	To help improve the quality of grass pitch playing surfaces.
Three backpack grass and leaf blowers.	£2,450	To improve the efficiency and safety of grass and leaf blowing and reduce Hand-Arm vibration.
Total	£9,500	

- 3.2 The Grounds Operations Manager is currently organising the trialling of an electric van to ascertain if such a vehicle would be a suitable replacement for the diesel Ford Ranger pick-ups, which are currently in use. Should the trial be successful, a

further report will be presented to this Committee, with a view to releasing further funds to purchase the vehicle.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Council currently has £65,932 available in the vehicle and equipment reserve for the purchase of these items.

5. POLICY AND CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The proposal and recommended action are in line with current policy and the Corporate Plan priority to improve and develop the provision of green space within the town.

6. HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The purchase of these items will assist in reducing the manual handling risks for all grounds staff.

7. HUMAN RESOURCE, ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None

8 APPENDICES and BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 None

9. AUTHOR

- 9.1 John Crawley
Head of Grounds and Environmental Services
john.crawley@dunstable.gov.uk