

Dear Town and Parish Councils

As we are rapidly approaching the spring I felt it would be useful to run through the services that come to mind at this time of year, so you are all informed on what will be happening in your area.

Highlighted Spring Services

Grass Cutting

Amenity

- Commence middle March for amenity areas
- 1st cut completed by mid April
- Amenity Grass will be cut monthly
- Additional cuts can be undertaken if separate arrangements are made with the interested parties. Fees apply.
- Completion of cutting will be at the end of the growing season Oct/ Nov

Rural

- Verges will be cut to maintain safety throughout the year. Reports can be made through the MyWiltshire system if concerned about any safety aspects re visibility.
- Scheduled large scale cut commences circa May. One cut of identified rural verges is undertaken.
- Completion circa eight weeks after commencement.

Litter Collection

- Scheduled high speed road litter pick Feb to April. Second litter pick in autumn.
- Scheduled daily litter picking of town centres.
- Scheduled attendance of barrowman in town centre
- All litter picking in compliance with the Code of Practice for Litter and Refuse. Reports can be made through the MyWiltshire system.

Gulley Emptying

- High Risk areas – primary routes will be visited annually, gullies inspected and emptied if required.
- All other gullies will be checked once every other year and emptied only if required.
- Blocked Gullies should be report on the MyWiltshire System:
 - Blocked gullies reported that are likely to cause house or a safety issue will be emptied.
 - All other block gullies will be left to the scheduled visit.
- However, if it is possible for the Parish Steward to address the gulley, please add this to your priority sheet.

Street Sweeping

- Town Centres will be swept a minimum of fortnightly.
- High Risk areas – primary routes will be swept annually.
- All other roads will be checked and swept accordingly.
- Dirty roads should be reported on the MyWiltshire System and they will be swept if deemed appropriate.

Amenity Hedges and Shrubs

- Maintenance will cease in March, as the resource will be switched to grass cutting.
- Maintenance will begin again in November following the ceasing of grass cutting.
- Please check the below link for hedge maintenance to ensure we have prioritised your preferences for maintenance. If you wish areas removed or added areas please contact your Streetscene Engineer with the details.

<http://www.realitygeo.com/explorer.aspx?cfg=wiltsg>

Parish and Town Evening Meetings

The venues are now booked and the arrangements are in place. The dates are:

- 15th May 2017 – County Hall, Trowbridge
- 17th May 2017 – Monkton Park, Chippenham
- 23rd May 2017 – City Hall, Salisbury
- 24th May 2017 – Kennet House, Devizes (Apologises in advance will be cramped)

The times are 1900hrs to 2100hrs.

We have booked them immediately after the elections to allow early dialog. I know your council may not have had a meeting before the evening meetings. But as local parish meetings, parish council and town council meetings can be some time after the elections we felt it was better to commence our dialog at this time. I trust that you will be able to nominate an attendee to represent your area. However, if there is considerable concern to these dates I will arrange the postponement to later in the year. Please let Adrian know if you have any comments.

These evenings are for you to come along and find out more about the Highway and Streetscene Service.

If you want a particular service or topic covered in the presentation, please email Adrian and he will be pleased to include the matter in the presentation.

Bill Parks and Adrian Hampton, the Heads of Service, will discuss the issues. We hope to have Cabinet Member in attendance but this will be subject to the outcome of any result from the election.

Highways will try and do a bit of 'Crystal Ball' gazing into the future, to assist everyone with what to think about in the next coming years.

Parish Steward March Considerations

Please ensure that all requests are made on the Priority Sheets. If you require blank copies please email Adrian and he will arrange for them to be issued to the respective parish/ town highway representative.

We would ask you think about activities for the Parish Steward that support

- hand cutting small visibility areas
- trimming encroaching treatment/removal of weeds
- cleaning/ painting over graffiti (will need to know in advance paint colour if painting required)
- digging back highway verges
- Sanding and painting barriers etc. (weather permitting, there are special arrangements needed for painting at height or over water courses)
- cleaning signs
- Etc.

Please remember when we allocate the Parish Steward resources next year it will be based upon your participation in the scheme which is gauged by the returned Priority Sheets.

Great British Spring Clean

Please find attached the Great British Spring Clean information and we hope you will all join us in supporting the event. Wiltshire Council's Spring litter pick of main roads will be coordinated around the event and we will be picking up some of the litter collections made on highway land by volunteers.

The council's contractor 'Id Verde' is also supporting the event.

Can I just remind all to follow the collect procedures when collecting waste from the highway and other land. We continue to receive reports of volunteer litter pickers collecting waste without the required protective equipment and legal signage.

Wiltshire Council cannot give permission to work on the A303 or A36, even in the residential areas, as these roads are trunk roads and controlled by Highways England (HE). Permission needs to be sought from the HE for any works. We have received reports that volunteer litter pickers have been collecting litter on these areas without reflective jackets and with no signage. This is dangerous and we ask any volunteers to contact the HE to check their arrangements before any works are undertaken.

Wiltshire Council's Highways Section are supporting the event and will be providing collections for a number of events throughout the county, the following week. The Community Engagement Members will identify the events in their areas.

Litter disposal, where litter picking has taken place from parish, town, MoD, private landowner or city responsible areas this cannot be collected by Wiltshire Council.

Parish Steward Programme of suggested work/ considerations:

Month	Activity	Consider
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hand cutting small visibility areas – Trimming encroaching treatment/removal of weeds 	Review the visual aspects of the area that could be improved by the PS.
Apr 14	– Good Friday	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
Apr 16	– Easter Sunday	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
Apr 23	– St George's Day	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
May	– Local Elections	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Weed Control – Grass strimming at road junctions and other sensitive locations 	Control of vegetation during growing season
May	– Highways Parish and Town Evening Meeting	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
June	– Ragwort Pulling	Control of Ragwort before Seeding
July	– Ragwort Pulling	Control of Ragwort before Seeding
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Weed Control – Painting hand 	Control of vegetation during growing season

	rails, bollards, parapet rails and ancient mile posts	
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hand clearing, and cutting of growth from drainage grips and drain gully covers – Hand clearing of blocked gullies – Rodding of drainage systems – Clearing of small culverts, pipes and pits 	Before Autumn Rain
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hedges and vegetation from around road signs and railings – Clear vegetation growth over signs – Wash and clean signs 	Identify hedge etc. work after growing season
Oct 31	– Halloween	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Clear leaves from footways – Bus shelter maintenance – Graffiti hot spots 	Winter maintenance
Nov 5	– Guy Fawkes Night	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
Nov 11	– Armistice Day	Any special highway arrangements to

		support the event
Nearest Sunday to Armistice Day	– Remembrance Day	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
Nov 30	– St. Andrew's Day	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Clear leaves from footways – Bus shelter maintenance – Graffiti hot spots 	Winter maintenance
Dec 25	– Christmas	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hand clearing, and cutting of growth from drainage grips and drain gully covers – hand clearing of blocked gullies – rodding of drainage systems – clearing of small culverts, pipes and pits 	Drainage work before spring rain fall
Jan 1	– New Year's Day	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
Jan 21	– Burn's Night	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cutting hedges and vegetation from around road signs and railings – Clear 	Identify hedge etc. work before bird nesting season

	<p>vegetation growth over signs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Wash and clean signs 	
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Digging back encroachments on footways – Hand removal of weeds from footways – Sanding and painting barriers – Clearing Graffiti hot spot areas 	Identify access issues over footways etc. before drier weather and increased use of footways
Mar 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – St. David's Day 	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
3-5 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Great British Spring Clean 	Any special highway arrangements to support the event
Mar 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – St. Patrick's Day 	Any special highway arrangements to support the event