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## ENVIRONMENT & FACILITIES

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### NAME OF DEPARTMENT / WP

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NewquayCouncil

**To:** Environment & Facilities

**CC:**

**Date of Meeting:** 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

**Time of Meeting:** 7 pm

**Location:** Council Chamber

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#### 1 General update on any activities since the last meeting

**Environment Service Team** – The team continue to maintain all open spaces to a high standard and work towards a maintenance schedule that is still in the planning stage. The maintenance schedules did not accurately reflect the requirements of the service, seasonality or the resources of the team.

During August and September, several members of staff were on annual leave, with one member of staff unfortunately off for two weeks due to ill health. This left the team short-staffed for several weeks, however, the team performed above and beyond expectations, especially during the two busiest months since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

**Waste Management** – Removal of fly-tipped items within Newquay.

Items that have been fly-tipped within Newquay are temporarily stored at Mount Wise where they wait to be taken to a waste facility in St Austell. Alongside these items, there have been several instances where items have been fly-tipped on the grounds of Mount Wise by an unknown person(s).

**Mount Wise Shipping Containers Report** – I attended a Mount Wise working party meeting on 16.09.21, regarding the placement of the shipping containers. Options and suggestions were given verbally alongside an email of a report which was emailed to all relevant members dated 12.08.21.

**Calshot Close Design Report** – A basic report offering suggestions and outline costs emailed to relevant members dated 10.09.21. This report outlines potential short- and long-term solutions to tackle parking on footways that are environmentally and economically conscious.

**The Killacourt** – A refund of £4,444.20 from K Hill & Partners was received for wildflower turf. A refund was asked for due to lead times continuously been missed and a decision was made that I create a new planting scheme in its place. The new scheme cost £1348.57 saving a total of **£3,095.63** from the original budget.

A planting plan is available upon request, including costings.

The new planting area was created by the ES team over three days, preparing the soil, removing any unwanted vegetation and then fencing the area off from pedestrian traffic. Planting the vegetation was carried out over three days, which, included the creation of three lawned paths to allow pedestrian access from the central footpath to the tenants adjacent to the planting area. The planting plan was discussed with members of the

Killacourt Management Working Party prior to works going ahead.

Two new mixed recycling bins and three general waste bins have been installed in two separate locations on the Killacourt. The locations were created by both the ES and APS. The ES team created the space for the concrete foundations by removing vegetation and any other materials and APS installed both the concrete foundations and the new housing units.

APS collected the new housing units and the 1100 Ltr bins from Cornwall Waste Solutions (CWS) in Roche, which meant the bins were ready to be used during the Cornwall Pride event. The bins coped well with the amount of waste that accumulated and have been positively received by the general public.

The collection dates for DMR (Dry mixed recycling) are on Tuesdays and the general waste is every Friday.

The new total bin capacity is now 5500 Ltr with a previous capacity of 1600 Ltr.

The contract not only improves the overall appearance of the Killacourt, but it also allows for the recycling of items that would have otherwise been sent to landfill or even worse the ocean.

The new contract with CWS, provides value for money as it saves not only man-hours associated with the previous contract and waste infrastructure, which required the ES team to empty the bins on site since April 2021 upon the departure of the Biffa contract. This also allows for a detailed assessment each month outlining the amount of waste recycled and the amount of energy created for the national grid when non-recyclables are taken to the incinerator at St Dennis.

A detailed monthly report is available each month.

The removal of all previous waste facilities (Bins) was carried out once the new bins were installed. These were cleaned and stored at the Mount Wise Depot.

**Concrete Waves** – Removal of fly-tipped sofas, and storage at Mount Wise. Several sofas, seating and other objects used by local skaters have been removed and taken to Mount Wise, where they will be taken to the waste facility outside of St Austell. This incurs a cost to the service in both terms of labour and cost of disposal.

**Boardmasters** – Two members of the ES undertook the task of towing the Tourist information trailer to Boardmasters and then towing the trailer to the Killacourt where it has been used by the TIC over the summer months.

The TIC trailer is now stored at Mount Wise.

**Marquee** – An inspection of both the large and smaller marquee was undertaken. The original plan was to erect both marquees in the lower Mount Wise car park, however, after several members of the ES became ill and some were owed annual leave, a decision was made to visually inspect them instead.

Detailed visual analysis indicated that due to how they were previously stored, their condition was in a poor state. Mould, black spot, paint stains (Vandalism from a previous event) and two missing supports were identified. The outcome was to store both marquee's in one of the shipping containers at Mount Wise and then await confirmation of what to do with them next.

**Hanging Baskets** – Watering and feeding of hanging baskets twice a week ongoing,

however, due to staff holidays, sickness, and other commitments such as Boardmasters,

emptying waste bins and the maintenance schedule, plus the sheer volume of footfall during the early hours this service was only achievable for the number of days mentioned.

An audit of the hanging basket infrastructure has been carried out with a detailed report to follow. It is important to recognise the value the hanging baskets have for the town and look at solutions that are environmentally, economically and aesthetically conscious.

**Raised Bed Planters** – There are several raised bed planters dotted around Newquay. Several of these planters are used to discourage parking on footways, with several used to beautify an area. An audit of these planters has begun, with several planters having new planting schemes installed using vegetation grown by the ES team.

**Horticulture Operative Apprentice** – Matt Wilce is the ES teams apprentice who has begun to audit all of the town councils planting beds. Working alongside me, he has begun to draw to scale plans of all beds, including detailed information on plant names, quantities and orientation.

This will help him fulfil his educational commitments as well as providing the ES with an up to date plan for future reference.

Matt has also been asked to start growing plants from seed to help with planting schemes within the service. One example of this is the need for ground cover planting at the Killacourt to prohibit weed growth in bare soil. He has started to plant and grow 1000 *Thymus serpyllum* from seed and will eventually plant once ready.

**Priory Woods** – Widening of the bridleway has begun, with a width of 2 meters been created for clear and safe access for pedestrians and horse users. All dead, diseased and damaged branches have been removed for safety reasons, alongside a continued visual inspection of ash dieback. The task of widening the bridleway is ongoing and will be completed by the end of October.

**Atlantic Road Car Park** – A site visit was carried out by me, Deputy Town Clerk. and Adam Stock from APS. The initial visit highlighted several areas of concern, these range from surface treatment, the width of security barriers to the vegetation used in the children's play park, as well as the potential of the site in terms of economic and environmental value. A full site analysis will be carried out within the coming weeks and a detailed report will be submitted thereafter.

**Doorstep Green** – Site Visit with Anna Druce and Emma York (Treloggan Residents Association) regarding the placement of bespoke benches, picnic tables and trees. An agreement between CC and NTC has been approved. This agreement allows the ES to undertake all maintenance of the surrounding area directly adjacent to the play park, with CC maintaining the rest of the site.

**Mount Wise Roundabout** – It was brought to my attention by Cllr North that the surfboards erected on the Mount Wise roundabout may have been tampered with by the general public, however, after consultation with CCTV, this may or may not be the case.

CCTV indicated the following:

Hi Joe. We can't see the surfboards on the roundabout they are directly underneath the camera so it would be impossible to see if anyone e went there unless the operator was actually moving the camera. And without a time frame we would have to sit reviewing 168 hours of footage.

Regards mark

With that in mind, a visual and physical inspection of the site was carried out by me and indicates that the surfboard foundations may not have been sufficient to support them in high winds however as per CCTV advice and view of the roundabout it vandalism cannot be ruled out.

Landscapes of Distinction have been emailed regarding advice and course of action.

**2 Specific update on any actions allocated in previous meeting**

N/A

**3 Any key issues the Manager/Working Party/Lead Member wishes to draw to the committee's attention**

**Mount Wise Roundabout** – Some remedial action needed on the surfboards on the Roundabout and Newquay in Bloom and Landscapes of Distinction are aware.

**The Killacourt** – The newly installed waste bins have been used by local businesses that are not situated in the Killacourt. One business has been identified and formal notice was given by the enforcement team.

**Mount Wise** – Several low-value items have been taken from the fenced area of Mount Wise. The items in question are wheelbarrows and small ladders, although small in value, these still incur a cost to the service. A request has been made to the ES maintenance team to store all equipment away where possible, however, certain items are too large for storage.

Several items have also been fly-tipped at Mount Wise. These items range from fridges, chairs to glass shower doors. These items are then taken to a waste facility in St Austell at a financial and labour cost to the service.

One issue of concern regarding fly-tipping and theft is that CCTV is non-functional at present, which means that the council are unable to monitor and determine who is taking NTC equipment and who is fly-tipping on NTC property.

**Environment Service Team** – The service continues to take all their green waste to First Call skips in St Austell. This includes waste left in specific locations by Newquay in Bloom and collected by the ES team.

**Green Waste Cost for a Three Month Period**

Date	Details	Labour hrs	Amount
11.06.21	General waste	3	£385.00
21.06.21	Removal of tyres/Extinguishers	3	£115.00
24.06.20	Green waste	3	£57.50
01.07.21	Mixed waste	3	£21.00
05.07.21	Mixed waste	3	£110.00
08.07.21	Mixed waste	3	£105.00
22.07.21	Mixed waste	3	£105.00
30.07.21	Mixed waste	3	£105.00
03.08.21	Mixed waste	3	£105.00
03.08.21	Mixed waste	3	£105.00
04.08.21	Mixed waste	3	£105.00
16.08.21	Mixed waste	3	£201.60
19.08.21	Mixed waste	3	£113.40

**Total:                    39    £1,633.50**

**Total Including hourly rate:            £390    £2,023.50**

Notes:        Mixed and general waste includes green waste.  
                  Total amount does not include fuel cost.  
                  Labour hrs is the time it takes to and from the waste facility.  
                  Labour hrs is the hourly rate of the employee £10 per hour

The above spreadsheet shows the cost of the service over three months. This is primarily green waste that could be taken to Tren creek Allotments which in turn will save the service financially and in labour hours. These figures are likely to increase due to NTC open space assets increasing. Locations such as Atlantic Road car park will greatly impact these figures, due to the scale of the open space.

**Raised Bed Planters** – Some of the raised bed planters in Newquay which were introduced a couple of years ago are looking old and in need of modernising, this includes the style, build and vegetation within each planter.

**4    Any suggestions for improvements**

**Concrete Waves** - With the new bins installed on the Killacourt, there is the potential for the same scheme to be installed at the Concrete Waves site. The positive impact this scheme has enjoyed at the Killacourt in terms of public engagement, as well as a positive environmental impact, will benefit the skate park greatly.

Unfortunately, we have a contract in place with with Biffa till August 2022. Early cancellation may be available; however, this may incur a cost to the town council.

Due to the constant removal of fly-tipped furniture at the Concrete Waves and the cost associated with the removal, this could be attributed to the removal of the shelter which in itself was removed due to vandalism.. If this is something the committee would like to explore again, I can produce a simple report on locations, construction materials and their estimated costs, in comparison to the cost of removing the fly-tipped furniture.

**Mount Wise** – Installation of CCTV to be completed at Mount Wise to help identify illegal fly-tipping and theft. However, in the meantime, I have made the team aware that all items suitable for storage must be put away when not in use.

**Raised Bed Planters** – A complete review of all raised bed planters. This will help to identify modern, environmentally and financially viable options suitable for each planter location, and whether or not using planters are suitable in the long term.

5 **A look forward to make the committee aware of any up and coming issues to be planned for**

N/A

6 **Any decisions taken under delegated authority by Officers or WP**

N/A

7 **Any new decisions requiring committee resolution including options and costs where possible**

**Trencreek Allotment Design Report** – A steer regarding the allotment space at Trencreek, with the evidence provided and site analysis/design report submitted, is it possible to start phase one of the project to allow the Environment Service a green waste facility, area for in house plant production and composting?

**Calshot Close Design Report** – A decision regarding the outcome of the design report. Who will take ownership of the issue, Cornwall Council or Newquay Town Council?

**Mount Wise Shipping Containers** – Decision regarding the orientation of the shipping containers, previously agreed arrangement before my arrival or newly submitted suggestion using the report dated 12.08.21. Including concreting previously unfinished areas of hard standing.

**8 Any recommendations to the committee on the above decisions**

**Trencreek Allotment Design Report** – With the summer season coming to an end, it is the perfect time to begin the design process of the allotment space at Trencreek. Therefore, I would advise it would be advantageous to investigate phase one of the project to help with the services ever- growing need of a local facility to manage its green waste, ready for the growing season in 2022.

Phase two of the project could follow after, by engaging with the local community (public consultation) and relevant research into the legalities of allotment usage, communitygardens and social prescribing. Given allotments are protected by law this will need what options are available will need to be looked into.