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**Clerk’s Report – for Parish Council Meeting, 16th June 2025**

A monthly report to Councillors with updates, information and correspondence relating to matters which do not require a decision and therefore have not been included within the agenda.

**Updates on Previous Operational Information:**

**1. Replacement Bin at Queens Road Field** – The bin is now in place

**2. Bins on Great Boughton Council Land** – Cllr MacGlashan request that a list of all QR codes on the bins on GBPC land has not yet been started.

**3. Dog Signs –** The final design has been agreed and they should be in situ soon. The foliage on the posts at the front of Thackeray Drive have been cleared in preparation.

**4. The Defib Box** – the defib was ordered and has been received. Our maintenance officer and an electrician have sited the defib box and it is operational. Also, it has been slightly dropped to regulation height as had been too high previously.

**New Operational Information:**

**4. External Auditor** – All paperwork has been completed and sent to the External Auditor and we await feedback.

**5. Thackeray Drive Trees** – An area of land at Thackeray Drive has been locked and planted with trees. VXCC mgr noted growth was beginning to compromise the court fence and also onto the court with brambles that risked users and asked for cut back. It was noted that these trees were not on the tree survey has had not been classed as GBPC owned.

Two quotes were received from Red Squirrel for firstly, cutting growth from court and also cutting trees that had overgrown the adult gym equipment. This was £499 and agreed with Chair’s consultation. A second quote for £499 was received for entering the locked area and cutting a 1m strip alongside the court so that

**6. Vat return** – a Vat Return for Nov-March 2025 inclusive has been submitted

**7. Old Laundy Carol Service** – Service Delivery gave permission to contact Coffee Cwtch who have confirmed they would like to attend and so musicians and coffee van in place.

**8. Great Boughton Awards** – After Service Delivery confirmed categories, a poster is being created and advert will run in July Chester Handbook. Nominations to be received until end of August.

**9. Sam Dixon Visit, 24th July, 3.30-4.30pm** to visit Thackeray Woodland with Mersey Forest to view the tree planting and woodland creation site.

10. Grant for Forest

**11. Training Update** – Cllr Reeves has attained Code of Conduct training but had difficulties joining the Planning training but received presentation. Cllr Miller and Cllr Scargill are due to attend Chair training and Cllr Reeves, New Councillor Training, soon. All Cllrs are able to notify Clerk if they would like to attend training courses.

**12. West Cheshire Town and Parish Conference,** 16th July at MacDonald Hotel, Tarporley at 5.15pm-8pm. At present, Cllrs Felgate, Miller, Myler and Scargill are attending. All RSVP’s must be received by 24th June if any further Cllr’s want to attend.

**13. Insurance Policy** has been renewed and paid at a 3% increase from last year’s premium.

**14. Formal Request to join Littleton and Christleton Neighbourhood** A request was made by Clerk as requested at Parish Council meeting for us to formally join their Neighbourhood plan. This was completely rejected as they are at final sign off in July after the area involved was approved by CWaC in 2023, 2 years prior.

**15. Neighbourhood Plan Briefing by Cllr John Beckitt** – Cllr Bulmer arranged for Cllr Beckitt to present informally to the Cllrs at VXCC on 12th June at 7pm.

**16. Circus** – The circus have agreed to provide an advertising banner for the court wiring and the Scout hut have been contacted and agreed to allow use of the external tap for water. Posters are now available for Notice Boards and public areas.

**17. Mersey Forest Grant** – They have been in touch to say they have visited Thackeray Drive Field and are happy with the progress and prepared to pay next instalment of £1,500 for Trees for Climate grant.

**Updates on Previous Correspondence:**

**1. Disability Access Request for Queens Road** – Frank Aunty has gained access to the Queens Road Park and is enjoying the trees he planted again.

**2. Request for Double Yellow Lines at two junction points** – Feedback received from Council that no yellow lines will be added at the junction. Fed back to resident.

**New Correspondence:**

**3. Branch Fallen at The Pearlings –** Contacted as dangerous branch down, passed the Management Company information to the resident to contact and inform.

**4. Friends of Cherry Grove Crown Green Bowls Club** – Ian Huffer contacted to say that residents of Stocks Lane were trying to establish a “friends of” to protect the Bowls Club. Made him aware that discussions had been made within the Parish Council regarding the future of the site after vandalism incident last year. He was attempting to contact Cllrs Collings and Herd over this matter.

**5. Dulverton Tree** – Maintenance Officer attended Dulverton after reports of branch down across path. He cleared the branch but it had ripped the tree trunk and a tree surgeon was contacted for an opinion. Sadly, the tree was deemed too damaged to be saved and also, dangerous as it leant over fence to neighbour and was already shedding large branches. Tree was removed entirely by Red Squirrel at cost of £250

**6. Queens Road Field** – Complaint to CWaC regarding Russin Vine and Bind weed entering gardens on Queens Road. The complaint was sent on 25th April and we have received it from CWaC on 13th June. I have acknowledged it, Cllr Otter attended site and Contractor is visiting on Monday to inspect area.

**7. Grass Cutting and Road Sign on Marbury Road** – Received a complaint about the state of this and I passed to the Ward Councillors who sent the complaint to officers and we are awaiting their response.

**8. Thackeray Drive Tree Saplings** – Received note from a resident regarding saplings blown over in the high winds. Cllr Bulmer attended the trees and made right again.

**9. Bonfires at Allotments** – We received letter regarding too many bonfires at Allotments from a resident at Manor Drive. Allotment holders have been visited by Cllrs Felgate and Miller who have reminded them to be mindful to other residents and ensure what they burn is correct.

**10. Serious Incident at Melrose Place Playground** – We were contacted as a resident mistakenly thought the playground was our responsibility as a child had suffered severe concussion and three-night stay in hospital after a fall onto ground that did not soak impact. The link to reporting it directly was provided. Ward Councillor MacGlashan was also going to contact officers regarding this.

**11. Visit from Homeowner Affected by Tractor Crash** – a former resident attended VXCC in hope of getting help with housing and requesting a solicitor. He was consoled and then the issues were fed to an Officer in CWaC who contacted him directly and he is being assisted.