

Clerk's Report:

Environment and Leisure Committee 13 February 2023

1. Power on the Hill

1.1. The weatherproof casing on the top socket has been repaired

2. Lighting on the Hill

2.1. Attempt to use a cherry picker (reviewed on clerk's report 21 Nov) to replace light strings failed. Uplighters installed for review have been removed

3. Allotments

3.1. Plot 39 awaiting Allotment Association input regarding precisely what needs to be done to make it compliant. – Received 10 February

3.2. Two pedestrian gates for Glebe are in stock and will be installed soon.

3.3. Northern boundary hedge is scheduled to be trimmed

3.4. Item 9.1 Proposal to increase allotment fees to £36 for a full plot (18 for ½, 9 for ¼. 12 for 1/3).

- This is simply a proposal for the PC to consider. This is a 9% increase from the current £33 price and I consider it to be a normal inflation rent review.
- It represents an increase of 25p per month or 6p per week
- It could increase receipts by £280
- In 2014 a plot was £30 so this is a 20% increase over 9 years.
- The Bank of England inflation calculator suggests the cost should have been £36.52 in 2022 based on average cumulative inflation of 2.5% per year [Inflation calculator | Bank of England](#)

4. Hedges overhanging public footpaths

4.1. The hedge at 87 high St has been cut back

4.2. The hedge overhanging the Village Hall access has been cut but not back to the boundary. The council have been advised of the situation

5. Village Hall Car Park

5.1. There are options for ESC to manage this on behalf of WMPC which could include

- Custom tariff to allow a longer free parking period
- Allow parking on the grass but ability to manage this to allow grass to recover
- Carpark relined by ESC

5.2. There are a number of other considerations so I will provide a briefing to the next full council regarding costs, actions and timescales should WMPC decide to go down this route.