

TRURO CITY COUNCIL



*Town Clerk's Department
Municipal Buildings
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May 2024

To: The Mayor (Cllr Mrs C Swain)
Deputy Mayor (Cllr S Rabey)
Chairman and members of the
PARKS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE
and all other Members of **TRURO CITY COUNCIL** *for information*

Dear Councillor,

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Parks and Amenities Committee will take place on **MONDAY 3 June 2024 at 7.00 pm** in the **Large Meeting Room, Second Floor, Truro Community Library, Union Place, Truro TR1 1EP** for the transaction of the under mentioned business:

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **DISCLOSURES OR DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
3. **OPEN SESSION FOR ELECTORS OF TRURO RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA - VERBAL QUESTIONS (5 MINUTES)**
4. **MINUTES**
 - (i). **To Confirm the Minutes of the Parks and Amenities Committee Meeting held on 8 April 2024** *(Appendix A)*
For accuracy.
 - (ii). **To Confirm the Minutes of the Parks and Amenities Committee Meeting held on 20 May 2024** *(Appendix B)*
For accuracy.
5. **TERMS OF REFERENCE** *(Appendix C)*
To review draft terms of references revised following the meeting of Council on 29 04 24.
6. **USE OF CHEMICALS FOR WEED CONTROL** *(Appendix D)*
Item requested by Councillor Sealy.
7. **USE OF BIOCHAR ON PERMANENT PLANTING** *(Appendix E)*
Report by Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer
8. **INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF BENCHES AT CHAINWALK ESTATE** *(Appendix F)*
To ask the Committee if the Council can take on 3 benches funded by Cornwall Council's Community Chest Fund. Parks, Amenities & Facilities Officer to report.
9. **APPLICATION FOR USE - HENDRA PLAYING FIELD** *(Appendix G)*

To consider in principle a request from Young People Cornwall to use Hendra (Dreadnought) Playing Field for a community event on 17 08 24, subject to the receipt of appropriate compliance paperwork. (Application awaited)

10. **PRESENTATION ON NET ZERO AT TRURO CITY COUNCIL**
Presentation by Administrator Committee Clerk / Zero Carbon Officer.
11. **TRAINING EVENT – ZERO CARBON OFFICER**
Administrator Committee Clerk / Zero Carbon Officer is due for a training event on 4 06 24 and must be accompanied by a Councillor. Expressions of interest would be greatly appreciated.
12. **CAFÉ IN THE PARK UPDATE** *(APPENDIX H)*
To consider an update provided by the Parks, Amenities & Facilities Officer.
13. **STANDING ITEMS**
 - (i). **Boscawen Park - Dredging of Swanpool – Update**
This item is included in the Towns Deal grant funding bid for facilities in Boscawen Park.
 - (ii). **Towns Fund Deal Board Boscawen Park Sports Hub Project Update**
 - (iii). **Swing Bridge Project Update**
Parks, Amenities & Facilities Officer to report.
14. **INFORMATION ITEMS**
 - (i). **Idless Nursery - Project and Timeline Update**
 - (ii). **Parks, Amenities, and Facilities Officer’s Report** *(Appendix I)*
To include capital projects & carparking in general & motorhomes parking at Boscawen Park.

Relating to any information for Members that does not require a recommendation.
15. **CORRESPONDENCE**
 - (i) Letter from U3A regarding charges for use of Boscawen Park boules/pétanque piste. *(Appendix J)*
 - (ii) Letter from member of the public regarding parking at Boscawen Park. *(Appendix K)*
16. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – PARKS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE**
Monday 8 July 2024
The agenda for the next Parks and Amenities Committee to be held on Monday 8 July 2024 will be prepared on Wednesday 3 July 2024. In accordance with Minute 302 (03.12.12), should a member wish an item to be included on this agenda, please inform the Town Clerk’s office by Tuesday 2 July 2024 as no items other than those on the agenda can be considered at the meeting.
17. **ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**
 - (i). Draft 3 year costed capital maintenance and 5 year plan setting out a project plan and list of projects
 - (ii). Options paper for parking at Boscawen Park.
 - (iii). Coosebean Meadows Management Plan Launch Event and signage etc.
 - (iv). Café in the Park End of Year accounts



DAVID RODDA MBE
TOWN CLERK

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 8 APRIL 2024 AT 7.00 PM IN THE LARGE COMMUNITY ROOM, TOP FLOOR, TRURO COMMUNITY LIBRARY, PYDAR STREET, TRURO

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Eathorne-Gibbons (Chairman), Rabey, (Deputy Mayor), Ms Southcombe, Swain (Mayor) and Tamblyn.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Green, La Borde, Moyra Nolan, Roby, Roden and Sealy.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Biscoe and Mrs Carlyon.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: David Rodda MBE, Town Clerk
Richard Budge, Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer.

456 DISCLOSURES OR DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

457 OPEN SESSION FOR ELECTORS OF TRURO RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA - VERBAL QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

458 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4 MARCH 2024

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by the Mayor, and
RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parks and Amenities Committee Meeting held on 4 March 2024 were signed as a correct record.

459 PLAY PARK, BOSCAWEN PARK

The Chairman requested that Members consider the state of the play equipment and drainage of the playpark which could become unusable in poor weather. The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer circulated a plan showing the area affected for reference purposes. He explained there was a plan to remove the safety surfacing and install a drainage system linking in with the performance area drainage system and funding might be available via the Towns Fund Deal. The next stage would be to obtain some up-to-date costings and consider how a potential project might be funded. The report was noted.

460 TRURO TIDE GATE

The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer reported that works to replace the tide gate were due to commence on 15 April. Kier Construction, the contractor for the Environment Agency, would install a temporary compound on the dog exercise area adjacent to the Riverside walk. The topsoil would be removed and replaced with hardstanding. An assessment would be made later on the project as to whether that hardstanding would be retained or revert back to a grassed area. He was also due to negotiate with the Environment Agency regarding a charge. The footpath would only be closed when plant was crossing the path, and this would be marshalled by banksmen. The report was noted.

461 POLLEN IN THE PARK

It was reported by the Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer that trading rights had been renewed for the continued seasonal operation of a Café at Victoria Gardens. The cabin building had been relocated from Boscawen Park to Victoria Gardens and electricity and water had been installed. Due to inclement weather a temporary accessibility ramp had been installed and a permanent ramp would be placed there

when weather allowed. Pollen in the Park had opened and operated through the Easter period. The report was noted.

462 CHANGING PLACES TOILETS – ACCESS CONTROL

The Committee considered a report regarding control of access to the Changing Places Toilets (CPTs) for people with complex needs. The Buildings Facilitator explained that an intercom system whilst suitable for the Boscawen Park facility would not be practical for the Green Street Changing Places Toilet. An alternative solution was the use of a card or fob which could be purchased from the Library or TIC. Opening hours would be advertised on the Council's and national CPTs websites. Application to purchase a fob would include criteria such as being in receipt of benefits such as Disabled Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment. It was hoped that the Green Street CPT would be open in early May

During discussion a number of points were made: It was noted that access to the facilities would be monitored by CCTV. Concern was also raised about the need to avoid potential discrimination, in particular against people over 60 years of age, who might not receive the relevant qualifying benefits. It was suggested that Citizen's Advice Bureaux could provide further information on this matter.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by the Mayor, and

RECOMMENDED that in principle, the option of a registered fob is implemented for the Green Street Changing Places Toilet, subject to further investigations into qualifying benefits and potential costs.

463 STANDING ITEMS

(i) BOSCAWEN PARK – DREDGING OF THE SWANPOOL – UPDATE

The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer stated there was nothing to report since the last meeting.

(ii) TOWNS FUND DEAL BOARD BOSCAWEN PARK SPORTS HUB PROJECT UPDATE

The Town Clerk reported that project managers were busy working on detailed plans prior to the submission of a planning application. A further update would be given at the next meeting.

(iii) SWING BRIDGE PROJECT UPDATE

The Town Clerk reported that the next Towns Fund Deal Board meeting would be prioritizing which projects will go ahead. Further, Councillor Rich would be seeking the Council's support for the Lighterage Quay Swing Bridge Project at a future Council meeting. During a brief discussion it was highlighted that potential economic benefits would be an important factor in this process. The Swing Bridge project would particularly benefit the Newham area, residents on the other side of Morlaix Avenue and the Boscawen Park Sports Hub project.

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Mayor, and

RECOMMENDED that the Parks and Amenities Committee support the principle of the Lighterage Quay Swing Bridge Project.

464 INFORMATION ITEMS

(i) IDLESS NURSERY - PROJECT AND TIMELINE

It was reported by the Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer that works to the greenhouses and electricity supply had been completed and plants were growing at the new nursery. He was investigating the potential installation of an additional rainwater storage container and installation of a chemical store, subject to costings. The report was noted.

(ii) PARKS AND AMENITIES MANAGER'S REPORT

The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer's report had been circulated prior to the meeting. He advised the Committee that the smallest hedgehog had been removed from Trafalgar Roundabout and was currently being refurbished before being displayed at the RHS Chelsea Flower and Royal Cornwall Shows. The report was noted.

(iii) COOSEBEAN MEADOWS

It was reported by the Town Clerk that £198K of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money had been received and the balance of S106 money for this project had been approved. Funding was subject to a costed management plan, launch event and signage etc. The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer reported that the Councillor working group would meet again in due course to move the project forward. The report was noted.

465 DEVOLUTION OF TREES AT NEWHAM ROAD

The Committee was requested by Cornwall Council to consider whether it wished to take over a small area of land adjacent to Newham Road and Morlaix Avenue which included some trees next to an electricity sub-station. The Council had 8 weeks to respond to the notice. The Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer commented that no investigations had taken place into the potential costs or liabilities of taking on this area of land. Further, the trees were not the subject of a Tree Preservations Order or located in the Conservation Area. During discussion the potential benefits to the people of Truro and the question of whether other pieces of land might be available for transfer were highlighted.

[Councillor Tamblyn left the meeting at 7.52pm.]

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Southcombe, and

RECOMMENDED that despite some deficiencies in information provided by Cornwall Council, an expression of interest in taking over the land at Newham Road be made to Cornwall Council, subject to further information being provided to satisfy Truro City Council of the potential benefits to the people of this Parish. A report back would be made to a future meeting.

It was also proposed by the Chairman, seconded by the Mayor, and

RECOMMENDED that further constructive discussions take place between the City Council, Cornwall Council and Cornwall Housing Ltd regarding the potential transfer of other parcels of land.

466 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – PARKS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday 3 June 2024 starting at 7.00pm.

467 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Member noted an options paper for parking at Boscawen Park would be considered at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.

CHAIRMAN

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PARKS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY 22 MAY 2022 at 08:40pm**

PRESENT: The Mayor (Councillor Mrs C Swain)
Councillors Biscoe, Mrs Eathorne-Gibbons, Griffiths, La Borde, Rabey,
Roby, Roden, Sealy and Ms Southcombe.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sealy and
Tamblyn.

Also in attendance: David Rodda MBE, Town Clerk

51 MEMBERSHIP

The new Committee membership was noted.

52 DISCLOSURE OR DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures or declarations of interest reported.

53 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor Roden and seconded by Councillor Southcombe
that Councillor Mrs Eathorne-Gibbons be re-elected Chairman of the
Committee for the Municipal Year 2024-2025.

There being no other nominations it was:

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Eathorne-Gibbons be re-elected
Chairman of the Parks and Amenities Committee for the Municipal
Year 2024-2025.

Councillor Mrs Eathorne-Gibbons in the Chair.

Councillor Mrs Eathorne-Gibbons welcomed members to the Committee and
thanked everyone for their confidence in electing her.

54 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor Roden and seconded by Councillor Southcombe
that Councillor La Borde be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the
Municipal Year 2024-2025.

It was proposed by the Deputy Mayor and seconded by Councillor Griffiths that
Councillor Biscoe be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Parks and Amenities
Committee for the Municipal Year 2024-2025

Following a secret ballot (agreed by more than a third of Members) it was

RESOLVED that Councillor La Borde be elected Vice-Chairman
of the Parks and Amenities Committee for the Municipal Year
2024-2025.

55 SUB-COMMITTEE AND WORKING PARTIES

Land at Comprigney Hill Steering Group

It was proposed by Councillor Griffiths and seconded by the Chairman and

RESOLVED that Councillors La Borde, Roden and Southcombe be
appointed to the Land at Comprigney Hill Steering Group.

56 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODY

Cornwall Playing Fields Association

It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Councillor La Borde and

RESOLVED that Councillor Roby be reappointed to the Cornwall Playing Fields Association.

The meeting closed at 08:50pm.

CHAIRMAN

Report to:	Parks and Amenities Committee	
Date:	03.06.24	
Title:	Terms of Reference	
Authors, Roles and Contact Details:	Cheryl Simpson, Administrator, Truro City Council cheryl@truro.gov.uk	
Approval and clearance obtained from chairman of committee:	Y	
Urgency Procedure(s) used? If yes include rationale.	N	
Recommendations to Full Council		
1. To agree revised draft terms of Reference for the Parks and Amenities Committee.		

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 It is best practice to have published terms of reference to guide the work of the Council's Committees.
- 1.2 Draft terms of reference for the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Planning Committee and Parks and Amenities Committee were considered by Council at its meeting on 29 April 2024.
- 1.3 Council agreed that each Committee discuss and agree final terms of reference for their work at this meeting, to be brought back to Council for approval. Council also agreed that authority could be delegated to Committees to act in certain circumstances to prevent duplications of work.
- 1.4 With this in mind, the draft terms of reference have been reviewed and revised for Member's consideration.
- 1.5 Terms of reference for meetings are an important tool to the smooth running of Council's business. At every stage of the meeting process, from drafting agenda to drafting minutes, terms of reference help guide councillors and officers in fulfilling their respective roles.

2 Benefits for Customers/Residents

- 2.1 Terms of reference help clarify a meeting's purpose and keep it relevant for the participants. They provide an important framework so that the agenda is an effective meeting device.
- 2.2 In particular, terms of reference should help the Council to ensure that matters are considered by the appropriate Committee and help direct the

flow of business to be discussed. They can also help a Committee Chairman manage a committee’s workload.

3 Relevant Previous Decisions

3.1 Full Council considered draft terms of refence at its meeting on 29 April 2024.

4 Consultation and Engagement

4.1 N/A

5 Financial Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

5.1 Terms of reference are an important tool in helping the meeting process run effectively. They help Committees run efficiently and reduce duplication and time delays.

6 Legal/Governance Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

6.1 It is good practice to have terms of reference.

7 Risk Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

7.1 The major risk relates to the efficiency and effectiveness of the committee system.

8 Options available

8.1 If the Committee does not agree revised terms of reference, there is a risk of duplication and delay in dealing with their workload.

8.2 If the Committee agrees the revised terms of reference meetings can run more efficiently and effectively.

8.3 It is recommended that the Committee agree revised terms of reference.

9 Supporting Information (Enclosures)

9.1 Enclosure 1: Copy of revised draft terms of reference.

10 Approval and Clearance

10.1 All necessary approvals for this report have been obtained.

All reports:

Final report sign offs	This report has been cleared by (or mark not required if appropriate)	Date
Town Clerk (Required for all reports)	Yes	29.05.24

Mayor or chairman of relevant Committee (Required for all reports)	Yes	29.05.24
Deputy Town Clerk (Finance and HR) (Required for all reports)	Yes	29.05.24

Enclosure 1

Parks and Amenities

1. This Committee considers matters related to parks, gardens and open spaces; public cemeteries; allotments; sports facilities and public toilets.

1. Membership

- 11 members including the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and nine members elected in accordance with standing order part B5 together with the Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. In the absence of the Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, the Vice-Chairman is permitted to attend and to vote.
- Membership of the Committee is established at the annual meeting of the Council.
- The Committee shall elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman for each civic year.
- Co-opted members may join the committee during the year if authorised by the Council.
- 5 members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for meetings.
- Attending Officers: Parks, Amenities & Facilities Officer and Committee Clerk

2. Meeting Frequency: Monthly

3. Specific Functions

3.1. Parks and Gardens

- To keep under review the provision of parks and gardens, cemeteries, allotments and sports and recreational facilities for the residents of Truro including:
 - Boscawen Park
 - Victoria Gardens
 - Waterfall Gardens
 - Dreadnought Playing Field
 - Idless Nurseries
 - Barrack Lane allotment site
 - Nancemere allotment site
 - Redannick allotment site
 - Treverbyn allotment site
 - Treffry Road Allotment site
 - Kenwyn playing field
 - Donkey field
 - Tremorvah playing field
 - Hendra park & skate park
 - Redannick Playing Field
 - Newbridge Lane play area
- To oversee the day-to-day operations of the grounds maintenance workforce and contractors, including cleansing and operational staff.
- To oversee and manage the inspection and safety regime for all sites and facilities, and ensure safe working practices for the staff and users involved in the maintenance and cleansing of these sites and facilities.
- To manage the use of the Council's playing fields and parks by sports clubs which shall include the grant of licences.
- To set an annual schedule of fees and charges for the use and hire of pitches,

allotments and facilities.

- To ensure the Council's vehicles and machinery are all well maintained and used safely.

3.2. Other Amenity Spaces

- To keep under review the provision of other amenity spaces for the residents of Truro including:
 - Beechwood Parc
 - Daubuz Moor
 - Coosebean Woods and Moor
 - Coosebean Meadows
 - Glasteinan Woodland & public open spaces on Beechwood Parc development
 - Treffry Road SUDS meadow, forest, and fruit & nut orchard
 - Truro Public Cemetery, St Clements Hill
- Consideration, recommendation, and implementation of external measures in regard to community partners and local environmental initiatives.
- Undertaking environmental enhancement works.

3.3. Public Toilets

- To keep under review the provision of public toilets in Green Street, Lemon Street, Moorfield Carpark, Old Bridge Street Car Park, The Leats, Boscawen Park, and Victoria Gardens.
- To oversee and manage the cleaning & maintenance of these toilets.

3.4. General Purposes

- To undertake procurement exercises for all aspects of maintenance and ground works in accordance with the town Council's financial regulations.
- Creation and overview of environmental plans.
- Ensuring consumption, biodiversity, behaviour, and circularity are priority actions in Council service delivery.
- To prepare funding bids, work with funding bodies and project manage site redevelopment works.
- Consideration, recommendation, and implementation of external measures in regard to community partners and local environmental initiatives.
- Consideration, recommendation, and implementation of internal organisational improvements for environmental sustainability.
- Ensuring consumption, biodiversity, behaviour, and circularity are priority actions in Council service delivery.
- Ensuring leadership, being a local force for good and embedding climate change aspirations are reflected in Council decision making.
- Consideration, recommendation and implementation of the Council's three-year capital maintenance and five-year project plan.

4. Delegated Powers

Decisions made by this committee serve as recommendations to Council save the following exceptions (a) to (d) below:

(a) The Committee is authorised to approve capital expenditure up to £24,999 to agreed budget areas and to vire monies within said budget.

(b) Payment of invoices for work, services and other liabilities either previously confirmed by Council or where delegated within Financial Regulations to the RFO

and/or Committees.

(c) The Council may consider from time to time delegating specific responsibilities to this Committee (within the scope of the LGA 1972 s101) but excluding any powers that cannot be delegated by the Council e.g. issuing a precept for the rate (s67 LG & FA 1992). Any such delegated responsibility shall be clearly identified and defined within the Council Minutes.

(d) To set up and administer sub-Committees and working parties to facilitate the work of this Committee and for no other purpose. The Committee shall determine the terms of reference and protocols for the sub-committee and working parties that shall report to this Committee. No sub-committee or working party shall be formed or operated without terms of reference and protocols.

Where matters have been delegated to this Committee for approval, it shall comply with all Council's policies, protocols, systems and procedures including Standing Orders and Financial Regulations and any other statute or codes within legislation.

- To authorise the Town Clerk to allocate tenants to the Council's allotment sites.
- To authorise the Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer to grant permission to use or hire the Council's parks, gardens, or open spaces for small to medium size events or activities.
- To authorise the Parks, Amenities, and Facilities Officer to inspect all allotments on a regular basis, at least annually, and issue tidy-up letters as necessary.

Report to:	Parks and Amenities Committee	
Date:	03.06.24	
Title:	Use of Chemical For Weed Control	
Authors, Roles and Contact Details:	Richard Budge, Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer, Truro City Council richard@truro.gov.uk	
Approval and clearance obtained from chairman of committee:	Y	
Urgency Procedure(s) used? If yes include rationale.	N	
Recommendations to Full Council <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To note the current limited and targeted approach to the use of glyphosate by Truro City Council in controlling weeds in Truro. 2. To note that alternative methods of control have been piloted in the past by Truro City Council but these have been discontinued due to cost and/or health and safety concerns. 3. To note that Full Council will be discussing a wider Biodiversity Policy at their meeting in June which includes a policy on the use of Glyphosate so it would be unwise to develop a specific policy on the use of Glyphosate outside of this wider Biodiversity Policy. The Biodiversity Policy will be discussed in detail by the Parks Committee at a later date so that a fully costed business case for implementing it can be developed. 		

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report has been prepared in response to a question raised by Councillor Sealy regarding the use of Glyphosate by Truro City Council to control weeds. The information contained in this report is based on our experiences to date and the contents of this report were also tabled at a recent Newquay Town Council meeting discussing this matter as they sought experiences from elsewhere to inform their discussions.
- 1.2 Cornwall Council decided around 2015, that they were no longer going to undertake weed spraying or weed management throughout the whole of the County. They wrote to Town and Parish Councils notifying them of the decision, offering the option and opportunity to those Towns and Parish councils to take on the street weed management if Councils were prepared to

meet the cost. They also provided the contact details for their own contractor Cormac to carry out the service.

- 1.3 At the same time, in addition to no longer treating street weeds, Cornwall Council also reduced its street cleansing provision of road sweeping, and highway verge maintenance. Unfortunately, these decisions had a severe impact on an increased weed infestation, as there were more piles of unswept & uncollected material rotting down and weeds that managed to reach sexual maturity (due to the fact they were no longer cutting the verges), set seed, thus exacerbating the weed issues around the City.

Season One

- 1.4 Truro City Council decided to take on the responsibility of removing street weeds within Truro City in 2016.
- 1.5 The Parks Department employed two members of staff for a period of 6 months at a cost of £26k, to set about hand weeding and hoeing the City's weeds. This was a mammoth task and a very slow process. Unfortunately, after about 6 weeks, staff experienced repetitive strain to the wrist and elbows that if was not addressed could have led to longer term repetitive strain injuries.
- 1.6 During this time, we received a significant number of complaints as Cornwall Council started to direct complaints to Truro City Council, and we probably only covered 5 % of the area and 3 weeks later those streets that were weeded were growing weeds again.

2 Season Two

- 2.1 We started to trial various other weed treatment methods. A demonstration of a hot steam treatment system was arranged, which did work in killing annual weeds but unfortunately was unsuccessful in killing established perennial weeds such as docks, velarium, buddleia, dandelions, and stinging nettle, which cause surface damage to pavements. The other issue with this was the machine itself, which cost over £38,000. It could be hired in but due to the size of the machine to carry out any treatment on any pavements, you had to actually implement a full lane closure to get the equipment near the pavements that needed to be treated. Due to traffic embargos this was not possible between the hours of 07:00 and 19:00, which meant that we had noisy vehicles and engines running during the treatment process. The hot water was brought to boiling point by a large diesel engine, so this option was soon ruled out.
- 2.2 We then considered and implemented the use of petrol strimmers for walking up and down the pavements and knocking off any weed growth that came up. However, once again there were various issues, such as pavements not

being swept on a regular basis, which resulted in quite a bit of grit in the material that we were trying to trim. This then picked up small stones, which then caused damage to cars and smashing windscreens, causing a significant number amount of claims to be made against the City Council.

- 2.3 The next option we trialled was the use of propane gas burners. Once again this began with a little success, but the more established weeds soon recovered from their scorching and grew back. During the period of dry weather, we also had an incident where we were burning material off the pavement, which then ignited; the fire spread and caught a neighbouring property's garden hedge alight. We then had to call the fire brigade to assist extinguishing the fire. This was felt to be another high-risk way of reducing weeds reduction, in addition to the fact that this method used a huge amount of fuel to carry out the treatment.
- 2.4 We then considered the use of alternative products being trialled by some local authorities such as vinegar and salt. However, once again, following investigations into its use, there were mixed results e.g. regarding application of acid to the pavements, as during periods of rainfall the acid was diluted and washed away as it was not taken up by the plants.
- 2.5 We then trialled and purchased a machine called the Kersten sweeper which had a highly abrasive brush attached to it and was very successful in its first season. However, the streets still needed to be cleaned up by hand afterwards. We purchased a machine to try to manually control the weeds and carried out our first weed control to limited areas of the city but within two to three weeks the weeds had regrown.
- 2.6 So, we repeated the treatment with the machine but due to the action of ripping and dragging weeds, it started to cause damage to the surface itself! You also had to be extremely careful around some of the cobb walls within the city and neighbouring housing, as it would take the render and plaster off the walls of houses and walks, or, if you got too close it could also jump and knock into cars.
- 2.7 More importantly from a health and safety perspective, due to the hand arm vibration of the abrasive nature of the machine, we were then exceeding the limited time that the staff could use the machine.
- 2.8 Further, during periods of dry weather the dust was so horrendous staff had to wear large dust masks and we were getting complaints not only from the staff of being covered in dust, but from residents about their windows and vehicles getting dirty alongside the pavements.
- 2.9 We then had no other option than to look at chemical treatment. We contacted a company called Complete Weed Control, who had a new

innovative machine, which had a boom on the front with an infrared light system, which picked up any weeds as it was travelling along and directly spot sprayed those weeds. The operator also had a lance for any weeds that were not picked up by the covered boom, which they then spot-sprayed them. This practice meant there is no need for complete blanket spraying, as each weed is individually spot sprayed.

- 2.10 The contractor now treats every road in the whole of the parish and does this by three separate applications a year i.e. April, June and the end of September at the cost of £4000 per application at the start, which represented a significant saving on the £26k it originally cost for the employment of two members of staff to hand weed.
- 2.11 Since its reintroduction the number of complaints about street weeds have reduced massively, but we do on occasion receive a few concerns or complaints about the use of glyphosate. Whilst it is recognised that there are risks involved in using any chemical treatments Glyphosate is still currently licenced for use. All members of staff that use it within our organisation or the contractors that we hire in, are fully trained and qualified in its proper use and application, and, as a council, we are meeting all our needs and requirements from this perspective.
- 2.12 This practice is still the most effective and cost-effective way of treating all our areas in the City.
- 2.13 Currently approximately over 75 Km equating to over 47 miles of streets are treated.

3 Benefits for Customers/Residents

- 3.1 The limited use of glyphosate in a targeted approach helps reduce weed growth and regrowth as it kills perennial weeds which means that our streets are kept clear of vegetative growth and the damage caused by weeds is limited.
- 3.2 The streets of the City look clean and tidy and there is reduced litter entrapment in vegetation.
- 3.3 There is less opportunity for the establishment of weeds causing the lifting up of hard paving areas.
- 3.4 Chemical control remains the most cost-effective method of control which means that it delivers the best value for money for residents of Truro.

4 Relevant Previous Decisions

4.1 There are no relevant previous decisions.

5 Consultation and Engagement

5.1 N/A

6 Financial Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

6.1 The current cost of spraying street weeds is £4,700 per application i.e. £14,100 per annum.

6.2 In addition, there is limited targeting spraying of weeds in the Council's parks and gardens but only where no other form of control is possible or where the weed in question is an invasive species such as Japanese Knotweed.

7 Legal/Governance Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

7.1 No legal or governance implications have been identified.

7.2 The adoption of a wider Biodiversity Policy by TCC will help to set the governance direction for Glyphosate use in the future.

8 Risk Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

8.1 The major risk relates to the potential environmental concerns relating to chemical weed treatments. These are reduced to acceptable levels as the chemical used are licensed and applied by fully trained operatives to manufacturers recommendations. They are also used as "spot" treatments.

8.2 If chemical treatments are not used, then this has significant financial implications to Truro City Council as the alternative treatments are more expensive. In addition, if weeds are not controlled over time they become more difficult to control, will multiply through annual production of seeds and in certain circumstances can cause damage to hard paving areas and buildings.

9 Options available

10 This report is for information only at this stage. Any decision about how to proceed with Chemical weed treatments will need to be considered as part of a wider Biodiversity Policy Supporting Information

11 Approval and clearance

11.1 All necessary approvals for this report have been obtained.

All reports:

Final report sign offs	This report has been cleared by (or mark not required if appropriate)	Date
Town Clerk (Required for all reports)	Yes	29.05.24
Mayor or chairman of relevant Committee (Required for all reports)	Yes	29.05.25
Deputy Town Clerk (Finance and HR) (Required for all reports)	No	-

Report to:	Parks and Amenities Committee	
Date:	03.06.24	
Title:	Use of Biochar on Permanent Planting	
Authors, Roles and Contact Details:	Richard Budge, Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer richard@truro.gov.uk	
Approval and clearance obtained from chairman of committee:	Y	
Urgency Procedure(s) used? If yes include rationale.	N	
Recommendations to Full Council: That a trial of the use of Biochar on permanent planting installations is carried out by Truro City Council.		

Executive Summary

- 1.1 Cornwall Council has offered to engage Truro City Council in a trial use of Biochar on new tree planting, shrub borders, or any other permanent planting undertaken by the Parks team.

Purpose of Report and key information

- 1.2 Cornwall Council has offered to engage Truro City Council in an informal trial use of Biochar on new tree planting, shrub borders, or any other permanent planting undertaken by the Parks team.
- 1.3 Biochar is biomass which has been heated to very high temperatures with little oxygen (pyrolysis). The biomass would be primarily sourced from trees felled due to diseases/pests such as ash dieback. The diseases/pests would not withstand the temperatures of pyrolysis. The biochar itself will be surplus offered by academic organisations involved with the formal trials led by the Green Print Live Labs Project¹. It would be supplied to us via Cormac.
- 1.4 The length of the trial is yet to be determined – it depends on how far the surplus biochar goes.
- 1.5 The primary benefit of biochar (see the enclosure) is associated with carbon sequestration (trapping carbon dioxide) by preventing CO₂ release from normal biodegrading of plant matter – the IPCC recommends its application for this purpose². This puts its use in line with the Council’s declaration of a

¹ <https://www.adeptnet.org.uk/news/live-labs-2-blog-wessex-partnership-net-zero-corridors>

² https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/4/2022/11/SRCCL_Chapter_2.pdf

climate emergency and Net Zero by 2030 goal. Actual figures on carbon sequestration potential to follow but may be measurable relative to our use.

- 1.6 Biochar has also been used traditionally for thousands of years³ as a soil additive to increase nutrient content. The structure of the organic material is retained which encourages microbial activity⁴.
- 1.7 Areas trialled would be new planting installations, so areas including Beechwood Parc, Treffry Road, and Coosebean.

Benefits for Customers/Residents

- 1.8 The trial is unlikely to have a direct effect on residents of Truro. However, carbon sequestration carries the benefit of reducing CO₂ emissions which in turn reduces the greenhouse effect. Climate change as a result of greenhouse emissions is set to have severe impacts on Cornwall and its residents⁵.

Relevant Previous Decisions

N/A

Consultation and Engagement

N/A

Financial Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

- 1.9 Costs would only be incurred should the council directly engage with the Green Print Live Labs project following the trial.

Legal/Governance Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

N/A

Risk Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

- 1.10 The main concern surrounding biochar is that long-term studies are lacking. Eutrophication (accumulation of nutrients into water bodies) should the biochar be released into a water course is deemed by some to be a theoretical risk⁶. The benefits are considered by leading scientific bodies to outweigh the risks in light of the climate crisis and in an absence of known events which prove dangers of its use.

³ <https://www.rhs.org.uk/soil-composts-mulches/biochar>

⁴ Saleem, I., Riaz, M., Mahmood, R., Rasul, F., Arif, M., Batool, A., Akmal, M.H., Azeem, F. and Sajjad, S., 2022. Biochar and microbes for sustainable soil quality management. In Microbiome under changing climate (pp. 289-311). Woodhead Publishing.

⁵ <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/4bpbjvph/cornwall-climate-change-risk-assessment-web.pdf>

⁶ Xiang, L., Liu, S., Ye, S., Yang, H., Song, B., Qin, F., Shen, M., Tan, C., Zeng, G. and Tan, X., 2021. Potential hazards of biochar: The negative environmental impacts of biochar applications. Journal of Hazardous Materials, 420, p.126611.

Options available

1.11 Surplus biochar is trialled by the Council on permanent planting sites as supplied by Cormac. The results of the trial would indicate any benefit or harm to plants, residents, and/or the wider environment and is unlikely to pose any risks.

1.12 Do nothing. Business would resume as usual.

Supporting Information (Enclosures)

Enclosed is a copy of the Carbo Culture Stockholm Model for biochar use in tree planting, for information.

Approval and clearance

All reports:

Final report sign offs	This report has been cleared by (or mark not required if appropriate)	Date
Town Clerk (Required for all reports)	Yes	29.05.24
Mayor or chairman of relevant Committee (Required for all reports)	Yes	29.05.24
Deputy Town Clerk (Finance and HR) (Required for all reports)	No	-

How to get city trees to
live longer and create
a healthy green urban
canopy

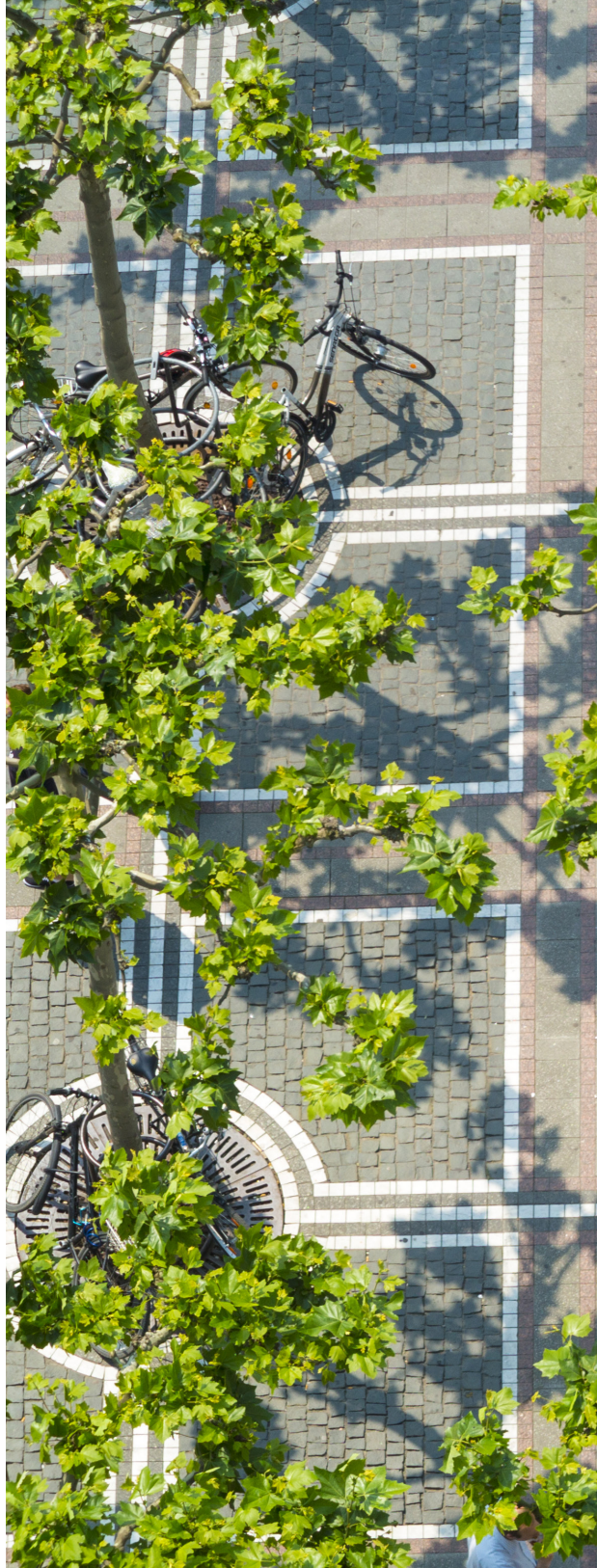
Planting urban trees with biochar

**carbo
culture**

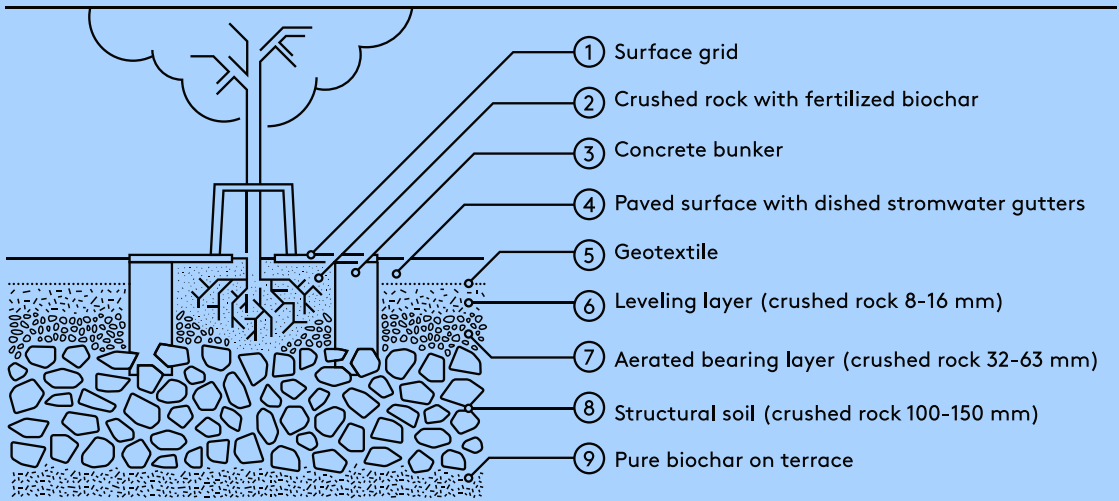


The Stockholm Model

Carbo Culture set out to find where biochar would be the most helpful - and found that many cities had a target to plant a lot of trees, but were facing issues in tree maintenance and die-off. We found the Stockholm model, which helped keep trees alive with a new method of using structured soils and biochar to plant trees. In addition to biochar being carbon sequestered, it helps the tree grow and stay healthy, providing an array of benefits to the city ecosystem, from citizens' health to the city maintenance budget.



Biochar for cities



The Stockholm model is a method to build and remake urban plant beds. By compacting large rocks from construction sites, Stockholm creates stable plant beds with space to allow the roots to grow. This also improves air exchange and water drainage.

A mix of gravel, biochar and compost is flushed down with water into the stable structure made of larger rocks or concrete bits creating a long term supply of nutrients for the plant. The structured soils alleviate the compaction and promote air flow to roots, while the biochar retains nutrients, bacterial life and water, while holding its structure.

The development of the plant beds got started in the City of Stockholm when the city noticed that two-thirds of their newly planted hard surface trees were dying. The use of structural soils with biochar in new and restored plant beds started as a trial to improve the conditions of urban trees growing in compacted soils. The result has shown healthier, stronger trees and more beautiful plantings. The positive results became the start of the Stockholm Biochar Project which won the Bloomberg Philanthropies' innovation prize in the 2015 Mayor's Challenge. Structural soils with biochar is now the standard for all public plant beds in the City of Stockholm.

What is biochar?



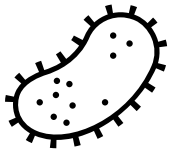
Biochar is a clean and sustainable plant material that has been carbonized through the process of heating the material until it becomes charred. Biochar is to the soil what coral reefs are to the ocean - a structure for soil microscopic life to thrive on.

The structure of biochar absorbs nutrients and when applied to the planting soil, it makes the nutrients available for the plants. The structure and composition of biochar resembles a sponge. It is full of small pores, which gives it the ability to hold water, air and nutrients. And thanks to the stable nature of biochar, it does not need to be reapplied.

What is plant bed?

A plant bed is the space where the roots of a plant can spread, find nutrients and water. In urban settings the space for plant beds can be very limited. In a natural environment the plants' roots will coexist with stones, bedrock and other root systems. Water and nutrients enter the soil to fulfil the needs of the roots and holes in an uncompacted soil enables the crucial exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide.

Biochar improves the soil utilised in urban plant beds:



Cultivating soil micro-organisms needing access to carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, phosphorus and oxygen.



Biochar can substitute finite resources often used in plant beds, like sand, peat and clay.



Improving water filtration - securing water supply to plants by creating a water reservoir, and preventing stormwater flooding.



How to get started

1

Find a champion within in your city! Doing a trial with biochar should be taken forward by a person or team creating positive momentum and curiosity towards using this new method.

2

Meet with a local biochar provider, or email trees@carboculture.com and draft out the trial. Find out where would be a good spot for new plantings, or where old trees are being taken out, or where a street is being opened and repaired.

3

Find budget and inform your usual providers/contractors who work with planting trees about the trial.

4

For the first two years, Nitrogen Phosphorus Potassium (NPK) 0.001 % solution water needs to be added to the trees.

5

No added maintenance required after the first two years!

Report to:	Parks and Amenities Committee	
Date:	03.06.24	
Title:	Installation and maintenance of benches at Chainwalk Estate	
Authors, Roles and Contact Details:	Richard Budge, Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer richard@truro.gov.uk	
Approval and clearance obtained from chairman of committee:		Y
Urgency Procedure(s) used? If yes include rationale.		N
Recommendations to Full Council: That three benches are installed and maintained by the Council at Chainwalk Estate.		

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 A request was made by Councillor Wells about the possibility of installing and maintaining three benches on the Chainwalk Estate in Truro.
- 1.2 Installation of the benches has very little cost implication as it would be paid for by Cornwall Council's Community Chest Fund, which would also make a contribution to the on-going maintenance costs.
- 1.3 This would bring a number of benefits to residents and has few anticipated risks.

2 Purpose of Report and key information

- 2.1 To request that three benches are installed and maintained by the Council at Chainwalk Estate.
- 2.2 Kenwyn Community Association are raising the funds for the benches via Cornwall Council's Community Chest Fund.
- 2.3 The Council maintains all street seat furniture as of the handover from Cornwall Council in 2015.
- 2.4 The proposed design is a low maintenance steel construction with recycled plastic boarding.

3 Benefits for Customers/Residents

- 3.1 The provision of seating for residents of the Chainwalk estate, thus improving access to the outdoors for those who need resting points and facilitating social interaction and inclusivity.

4 Relevant Previous Decisions

- 4.1 In 2015, care of street seating furniture in Truro was handed over by contract to Truro City Council.

5 Consultation and Engagement

N/A

6 Financial Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

- 6.1 Very little cost is anticipated as the construction will be low maintenance and the installation cost will be covered by the Community Chest Fund.
- 6.2 There is, as per other street seating installations, a risk of vandalism by cutting/burning of the material or other damage to the seating.
- 6.3 At the end of their useful life the benches would be removed with no requirement to replace them unless additional funding can be identified.
- 6.4 The cost of repair/replacement of street furniture is typically covered by the Parks budget and is considered a small and manageable expense.

7 Legal/Governance Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

N/A

8 Risk Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

- 8.1 Low financial risk - see 6.

9 Options available

- 9.1 Approve the request to install and maintain the three benches. The chosen option.
- 9.2 Reject the request to install and maintain the three benches. This is not recommended as it could potentially lead to reputational damage and would not contribute to the need to provide improved access to the outdoors for those who need resting points and facilitating social interaction and inclusivity.

10 Supporting Information (Appendices)

N/A

11 Approval and clearance

All reports:

Final report sign offs	This report has been cleared by (or mark not required if appropriate)	Date
Town Clerk (Required for all reports)	Yes	29.05.24

Mayor or chairman of relevant Committee (Required for all reports)	Yes	29.05.24
Deputy Town Clerk (Finance and HR) (Required for all reports)	No	-

Report to:	Parks and Amenities Committee	
Date:	03.06.24	
Title:	Application for Use - Hendra Playing Field	
Authors, Roles and Contact Details:	Richard Budge, Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer richard@truro.gov.uk	
Approval and clearance obtained from chairman of committee:	Y	
Urgency Procedure(s) used? If yes include rationale.	N	
Recommendations to Full Council: That the committee accept in principle a request from Young People Cornwall to use Hendra (Dreadnought) Playing Field for a community event on 17 08 24, subject to the receipt of appropriate compliance paperwork.		

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Committee is to consider in principle a request from Young People Cornwall to use Hendra (Dreadnought) Playing Field for a community event on 17 08 24, subject to the receipt of appropriate compliance paperwork.
- 1.2 Application details not yet received – to follow.

2 Purpose of Report and key information

- 2.1 To consider in principle a request from Young People Cornwall to use Hendra (Dreadnought) Playing Field for a community event on 17 08 24, subject to the receipt of appropriate compliance paperwork.
- 2.2 Details of the event are yet to be communicated to the Council. Application and compliance paperwork not yet received.

3 Benefits for Customers/Residents

- 3.1 An event is held by a young people’s charity to benefit Truro’s youth residents.

4 Relevant Previous Decisions

N/A

5 Consultation and Engagement

N/A

6 Financial Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

6.1 There are no financial implications to the Council.

7 Legal/Governance Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

7.1 Compliance paperwork would be checked upon receipt, and use will only be granted if this is completed to standard and approved.

8 Risk Implications of the proposed course of action/decision

N/A

9 Options available

9.1 Approve in principle the use of Hendra Playing Field on 17 08 24, subject to the receipt of paperwork.

9.2 Defer decision until relevant paperwork is received.

9.3 Do nothing.

10 Supporting Information (Appendices)

N/A

11 Approval and clearance

All reports:

Final report sign offs	This report has been cleared by (or mark not required if appropriate)	Date
Town Clerk (Required for all reports)	Yes	29.05.24
Mayor or chairman of relevant Committee (Required for all reports)	Yes	29.05.24
Deputy Town Clerk (Finance and HR) (Required for all reports)	No	-

Coffee Bar : Boscawen park

Period 1st April 2024-26th May 2024

Vote No	Description						2024-25
		April	May	Actual	Budget	Variance	Estimate
		Actual	Actual	to date	to date		Total
		£	£	£	£	£	
Expenditure							
5000	Gross Pay Costs	10,648	10,738	21,386	22,017	-631	132,104
6004	Purchases of Sale Items	7,651	4,373	12,024	11,782	242	70,693
6100	Repairs & Maintenance	207	0	207	833	-626	5,000
6102	Local Authority Rates	593	593	1,186	1,186	0	7,115
6103	Cleaning Materials	188	157	345	435	-90	2,607
6300	Electricity	259	259	519	519	0	3,113
6301	Water Charges	112	112	224	224	0	1,343
6303	Equipment & Materials	220	279	499	214	286	1,281
6307	Insurance	124	124	248	248	0	1,487
6407	Computer costs	32	0	32	209	-177	1,256
6409	Card charges	142	38	180	275	-95	1,650
	Gross Expenditure	20,176	16,673	36,849	37,942	-1,092	227,651
Income							
4004	Sales	19,859	19,915	39,774	39,115	659	234,688
	Gross Income	19,859	19,915	39,774	39,115	659	234,688
	Net Expenditure	-317	3,242	2,925	1,173	1,752	7,037

The highlighted cells relate to averaged expenditure not the actual. These are calculated as 1/12ths of the estimate. The rates 6102 are also based on the estimate. The new rates have not been set by VOA yet.

Please note - At the time of producing this on the 26.5.24, the income for May does not reflect the takings for half term week.

Estimated net expenditure for May will be around £10,000.

Parks, Amenities and Facilities Officer's Report:

Use of Parks and Gardens

The Parks and Amenities Manager's Secretary continues to process applications for use and events in the Council's parks and gardens as usual. Since the last meeting these include:

Boscawen Park

- Use of area by boat shed for annual Hasler canoe race on 14.04.24 (Truro Canoe Club)
- Active Cornwall - free yoga sessions from 05 05 24 for 20 weeks.
- Use of performance area for Tai Chi – Sundays & early evenings Wednesdays/ Thursdays.
- Use of grassed area to north of slipway & adjacent to top car park for the Truro Triple competition (Perranporth Surf Lifesaving Club).
- Use of grassed area by ice-cream van & café for Cornwall Wildlife Trust information stand on 1 June & 14 July.
- Use of field for charity 5-a-side football (Vickery Holman)
- Use of boules piste by Carrick U3A, Truro Morlaix Twinning Association & Cornwall Twinning Association Committee

Penarth Lane

Use of Penarth Lane on 19 06 24 by Truro Running Club for their Truro Trail 10k race.

Victoria Gardens

Use of area for Tai Chi for Health classes on Monday mornings for 1 year.

Garden & Allotment Competition 2024

Entry forms have been sent to previous competitors. The deadline for the receipt of entries is 21 June. I will be judging the competition on 27 June unless the weather is inclement.

Parking At Boscawen Park

Work is ongoing. I have contacted Cornwall Council regarding parking orders & it seems very likely that the City Council is required to apply for an order even if there is to be no parking charge. The Council is receiving numerous complaints about no space in the car park, overnight campers and people that appear to be living in vehicles.

RHS Chelsea Flower Show and Royal Cornwall Show

As many of you have seen, our hedgehog was a huge hit at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, appearing a couple of times on the BBC coverage. He is also due to form part of our display at the Royal Cornwall Show which includes a bandstand, permanent planting, bedding and baskets. We will now be using this as an opportunity to advertise what we can offer in the parks from summer events, volunteering opportunities, our Ranger service along with great gardens, The Visitor Information Service (TIC) are also using this as an opportunity to join us to market Truro as a destination. We will also be conducting surveys on visitor experience.

RECOMMENDED:

That the report be noted.

Richard Budge
Parks, Amenities & Facilities Officer
29 May 2024

J

[Redacted]

Truro City Council
Municipal Buildings
Boscowen ST
Truro
TR 1 2NE

Dear Councillors

Charges for use of Boscowen Park

I have been asked to write on behalf of the Committee of u3a Carrick to express our disappointment that Truro City Council have felt it necessary to impose a charge for the use of the Petanque piste in Boscowen park.

The enthusiastic group of elderly pensioners who play there enjoy many benefits from their activity and social interaction in these times of isolation and hardship for many.

Whilst we have agreed to pay the annual fee it was felt that we should communicate our surprise and disappointment at this charge for the use of a public open space. We are informed that the group take great care to ensure that the piste is clean and tidy and have spruced up the bench in the area.

Kind Regards

[Redacted Signature]

Gillian Davies
Secretary Carrick u3a

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

K

Truro City Council
Municipal Buildings
Boscawen Street
Truro
TR1 2NE
30th April 2024

Dear Councillors,

I am writing with respect to the free parking at Boscawen Park, Malpas.

I use both the park and the café daily but have to ensure I arrive early to secure a parking space. This is because of the increasing number of people who work in Truro town centre and shoppers who are abusing the system to avoid parking in the town. There are a good 10 – 15 cars parked there before 9am in the morning and I see them walking into the town dressed for work. The café staff also are aware of this and see them return at the end of the day. Likewise, shoppers return after several hours with shopping bags throughout the day. As I am sure you will appreciate, this is not fair on the individuals and families wishing to use the café and park for leisure especially in the summer months when there is an even higher volume of people trying to get parked. There is space on the road at this early hour, but nobody uses this opting instead to park in car park.

There are also three spaces designated for café staff and one for motorcyclists. These are indicated by the wording Café and MCV's. Few people pay heed to this and park in these spaces regardless meaning staff in the café starting a later shift can't get parked. It is possible some people are mistakenly thinking that the wording 'Café' denotes customers' usage and I wonder if this can be altered to 'café staff'?

I do hope this problem can be addressed. I would rather pay for my car to be parked in the car park than see the system abused and people wishing to use the park and facilities being denied due to people's selfishness.

I understand from Cheryl Simpson that there will be a meeting addressing the parking on 3rd June. Regrettably, I can't attend but hope my letter might help to influence any decisions that are considered. Cheryl has been very kind in liaising with me on this which I have been doing for some time. The situation is escalating as the number of people using the car park increases.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter and do not hesitate to contact me on [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] if I can be of any further help.

Kind regards,

Michele Jowett