

Additional APA Reports May 2025

Grounds Maintenance:

Blunsdon is a semi-rural village location with a diverse mix of formal and rustic grassed, and hedge areas. The PC has defined areas of responsibility to maintain certain grassed and hedged areas, beyond these the Borough Council and Highways England have reasonability (although we monitor and report on any issues as they arise).

The PC are aware of our environmental responsibilities, and will consider a more balanced approach for some areas in terms of less grass mowing etc. to enhance habits.

The PC will continue to monitor our contractors to help ensure we provide a tidy & green village, and provide best value within the financial budgets set. Additional projects will be considered to enhance the village further, where the budget allows.

During the last year an element of grounds maintenance that was completed by an employed member of staff who resigned has been transferred to our existing GM contractor & this additional work element is being monitored for continuity.

An additional area of maintenance has been added at the new community allotment area, that is being utilized by the preschool.

The parish manages & identifies their areas of responsibility via parish online mapping portal that we have populated & updated as required through the year.

The existing contract with our GM contractor will be reviewed later this year as scheduled.

Recreation Ground

The PC has worked with the Football and Cricket Clubs during the year to manage their requirements, and any issues as they arise.

The Parish has benefited from the active involvement of the FC & CC, in maintaining the pitches to their required standards.

The PC has been considering & costing remedial works & improvements to the pavilion building. The building is older & is not to the highest specifications, so all additional expenditure needs to consider this also.

It is noted that additional parking measures have continued to be maintained by the clubs during the year in Sutton Park, and this has resulted in improvements for residents. The PC are anticipating this situation should be helped further when additional parking spaces are available at Linley Road (ref MUGA) when the current construction phase is completed is completed.

Footpaths

The PC does not have direct responsibility for footpath maintenance, this remains with the Borough Council.

We do understand the importance of our many footpaths to residents and continue to monitor and report on issues as they arise.

Ian Selwood May 2025