

Bench Working Party Report

Parish Council and Community

The Tennis Club picnic table was taken apart, reassembled, stained several coats and delivered back to Parkfield Rec. Yet more new posts and rails were fixed to the northern fence of Parkfield Rec and to the west fence of the Horse Show field. Some branches were removed from obstructing footpaths near Dovehouse wood and Parkfield wood at the request of the footpath working party. On the roadway from Hitchin Lane to Parkfield Rec car park some holes were filled and a barrier put across the roadway to try and divert the water running down the slope – thus, hopefully, reducing the amount of holes developing. Two new picnic benches were assembled for Parkfield Rec and yet more bark was spread underneath the play equipment at the Recreation ground play area.

At the request of the Cricket Club, we removed a considerable amount of growth from the base area of the trees growing on the eastern boundary and took it to Park Farm for Simon Thompson to burn. Apparently, they kept losing their balls in this growth (sic).

The Bench Working Party trailer bearings were replaced with new. Several benches were cleaned and stained around the village. On behalf of the Horse Show we erected a banner at each end of the village.

At the northern gate of ROW 17 at Bibbs Hall we dug out soil and straightened the hanging post so that the gate opened freely. We repaired some of the rails of the kissing gate at the east end of Hoo Park wood, and improved the gate opening at the east end of ROW 26 (near the old bridge).

We looked at the hole left from the aborted table tennis table installation and calculated the amount of materials to fill it in again, (a cubic metre of soil and turf to fit).

A bench was fixed at the bottom of Lawn Avenue on a previously occupied hard standing.

The electrical equipment outside the school was mended. This is the supply used for the Christmas lights.

Memorial Hall

A split in a rainwater pipe and a broken s-bend were repaired. The edging of the brick path on the north of the Hall was raked out ready for it to be repointed. Weeds and other growth were removed from the car park and other areas around the Hall. The benches in the garden were moved from each end, under trees, and placed on the patio – this is to stop the bird mess being dropped on the bench seats from the trees.

Dacre Rooms

We removed the old notice board from the Country Properties site and installed it at the Dacre Rooms. Also refurbished it with new locks and hinges and gave it a coat of paint. We cleared weeds from the perimeter of the building.

Churchyard

The Johnson gate at the NW corner of the churchyard was given a second coat of paint, some of the memorial plaques at the north of the church were lifted and more soil put under them to raise them up to ground level.

Bob Finch 14th July 2021