




Update on Estates Issues

This report sets out progress on a number of estates issues raised by the committee or reported to the clerk. Progress against the work plan agreed at the February meeting (Min. 24.02.8.1, Report WPC.EC.24.02.01 refers) is summarised below:

Current Financial Year (2025 – 26)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work to damaged Memorials where no deed holders found• Upgrades to play areas	Ad hoc February 26
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increasing accessibility to grave space records for Councillors – work to onboard burial Registers has been completed and purchased grave spaces records have been transcribed ready for onboarding once final checks have been completed.• Replacement posts at Coltsfoot Green• Registration of Cemetery & Six Acres• Replacement Fencing (Bury Road)• Memorial Clock – Service and repair	April Min Ref 23.02.13 Approved Min. Ref 24.09.10 – Report to this meeting July '25
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upgrades to Play Areas• Work to parish trees – re-shape to increase light• Cemetery Notice Board	February Work Completed June '25 Work completed April '25 Completed August '25

Six Acres and Recreation Ground

The joints of the coronation bench by the zip wire appear loose. A video has been sent to the original suppliers to determine what action they will recommend/take.

Maintenance in Cemetery

Volunteer days in Cemetery started on the first Wednesday in February. A general tidy was carried out, and all three of the Memorial benches have now been rubbed down and re-oiled. The memorial bench in the new wildlife area behind the Chapel of Rest has been moved into the porch, and a new lock fitted to the small noticeboard, which has also been moved into the porch of the Chapel of Rest (with thanks to Cllrs A & K Grimes).

The October event was set aside for:

- Sowing seed in the children's play area
- Brush strimming weeds back at MUGA and Skate Park
- Cleaning down play equipment

And the November event set aside for tidying the Cemetery in preparation for the Remembrance Sunday event.

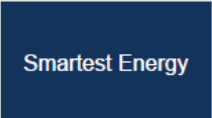
Play Areas

The annual report on play areas has identified a number of low risk issues, which the clerk is seeking to prioritise with the assistance of the WS Play Inspector, reported under WPC.EC.25.11.04).

Chapel of Rest

Thanks go out to Cllrs A and K Grimes for their care of the Chapel of Rest and the Cemetery.

The Electricity contract expired in September 2025 and a new contract to follow on from this has been agreed by the clerk through Love Energy Savings

	Electric	
	S038012011012940829020	Standing Charge (p/day) : 0p
	2 year(s) from 25/09/2025	Day Unit Rate (p/kWh) : 24.96p

Hilary Workman
Clerk & RFO
October '25

WPC.EC.25.11.02 – Estates Issues

Based on an annual consumption of 8Kwh, this should cost a total of £1.99 plus VAT per year – a saving against budget in the current financial year of over £80 plus VAT.

There are a number of clauses in the insurance schedule which have a bearing on cover for items stored in the Chapel of Rest:

Clause 240.3 Minimum security condition

*We will not make any payment for **damage** unless the physical security measures at the **insured location** comply with the following criteria and all devices are put into full and effective operation whenever the premises are closed for business or left unattended:*

1. *The final exit door is secured by:*
 - a. *a rim automatic deadlock conforming to or superior to BS3621; or*
 - b. *a mortice deadlock conforming to or superior to BS3621; or*
 - c. *a key operated multi-point locking system having at least three locking bolts.*
2. *Any other external door or internal door providing access to any part of the building not occupied by **you**, which is not officially designated a fire exit by the local fire authority, is secured by:*
 - a. *a locking device specified in 1 above; or*
 - b. *by two key operated security bolts to engage the door frame.*
3. *Any other external door or internal door which is officially designated a fire exit by the local fire authority is secured by:*
 - a. *a panic bar locking system incorporating bolts which engage both the head and sill of the door frame; or*
 - b. *a mortice lock having specific application for emergency exit doors and which is operated from the inside by means of a conventional handle and/or thumb turn mechanism.*

Please note:

*(i) The local fire authority must be consulted before **you** replace or augment the existing locking device fitted to a designated emergency exit door;*

The Chapel of Rest doors are secured by three mortice locks, rather than a c. a key operated multi-point locking system having at least three locking bolts. At the last meeting, **Powers:**

- Local Government Act 1972, s.214(2) - Power to provide and maintain cemeteries in or outside the council's area.
- Local Government Act 1972, s.111 - Power to do anything that will facilitate, be conducive to or incidental to the discharge of its powers and functions.

Budget:

Revenue:

Cemetery & Churchyard	Adjusted Budget Committed		Actual	Against Budget
NNDR - Cemetery	£	-	£ -	£ -
Cemetery Software	£	645.00	£ 456.00	£ (189.00)
Cemetery and Churchyard	£	1,000.00	£ 516.46	£ (483.54)
Cemetery Refurbishment	£	1,000.00	£ -	£ (1,000.00)
Cemetery Extension Project	£	-	£ -	£ -
Total Cemetery & Churchyard	£	2,645.00	£ 972.46	£ (1,672.54)
Safety and Security		250.00	0.00	£ (250.00)

The clerk has approached the Carnival Committee for a contribution towards the cost of the replacement door, on the basis that storage is made available to the committee free of charge.

Recommendation:

Authorise cost of a replacement lock for Chapel of Rest to BS3621 or superior at not more than £200.00 plus VAT (installed).

Water usage at Bowling Green

Consumption has levelled out with the cooler autumn weather and the account was in credit (£82.76) at the most recent bill.

Hilary Workman
Clerk & RFO
October '25

All Saints Churchyard

The noticeboard has scheduled to be re-set on spikes to improve stability as part of the next parish day.

The church warden, Paul Bevan, has reported that the clock is now working, but that the chimes mechanism motor is broken yet again. He is awaiting an update from them.

Village Sign

The village sign, installed in 1998, is now looking very sunbleached and faded. The original installers, The Village Sign People, have indicated that an initial approach would be to arrange for gentle cleaning with soap and water, to remove any accumulated grime. They report that this can make a substantial difference to the sign's appearance. They have also provided a quote for the cost of a full refurbishment (attached as Appendix B) at £2283.75. They currently have a lead time of eighteen months, and once a purchase order is submitted, any price quoted would be honoured. The clerk has also sought a further quote from a sign writer recommended by Stradishall Parish Council.

