

To receive a report from the Service Delivery Department

BURIAL AUTHORITY

1st November 2022

Grounds Maintenance

Our Autumn grounds program is ongoing, we are currently cutting every two weeks as the current weather conditions, mild temperatures and showers is still promoting growth.

The Summer period brought sustained dry periods and high temperatures, this slowed grass growth and caused some patches of grass to die back, these areas are now recovering.

The high temperatures facilitated the cutting of wild meadow areas to be cut back much earlier than planned. The tall grass presented a high risk of wild fire outbreak, a risk assessment of the area was done and the hazard was assessed as very high; the decision was therefore taken to manage and control the risk by cutting the areas down to a much smaller height, SEA were kept informed of all works.

Borders and formal hedges were maintained, weeded and pruned as required.

Our Schedule of Works for the Autumn includes the pruning of all formal hedges and perimeter hedgerows, raising the crowns (lower branches) on all trees so that Churchyard visitors and Service Delivery team members can pass through and work in areas safely. All pathways will be cleared of weeds and moss and monitored and managed during any really cold weather conditions.

The Memorial Rose Garden

Our Schedule of Works here includes, re-edging the border to the garden and weeding the rose bed regularly, the Box border will be trimmed and pruned as required. We currently still only have two memorial roses planted in the garden, there is currently no signage identifying or highlighting the Memorial Garden!

Fence and gates

The Cemetery gates will be treated during this season and the Cemetery Store compound fence is scheduled for repair due to wind damage, once repaired this will also be treated.

The Store and its external area is currently undergoing a Workplace Organisation review and comprehensive full stock take of all assets, spare parts and consumables. This review will allow us to maximise storage, organisation and operating efficiency, all required corrective actions will be completed by the end of November 2022.

Memorial Management

The Health and Safety inspections continue with the entire churchyard being completely inspected during August/September. There are no issues to report.

The legal requirement for Memorial Headstones is to be inspected every 5 years; however, the inspections will be continued on a quarterly basis.

End of Report

Service Delivery Manager