

BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL
20 High Street, Brackley, Northants NN13 7DS
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To: Cllrs Baker, Barrie, Butler, Cartmell, Judd, Kew, Langford, Sharps, Thompson, Tiller, E Wiltshire, Young.

You are hereby summoned to attend a Meeting of the **Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee** to be held on **Monday 18 October**, following Planning & General Works Committee at Brackley Town Hall, Market Place, Brackley, NN13 7AB.

Residents are very welcome to ask questions or speak to Councillors at the start of the meeting. Please email deputy@brackleynorthants-tc.gov.uk if you require further assistance.

13 October 2021



Town Clerk

AGENDA

Members of the press and public are invited to attend

- 223/21 Apologies for absence**
Members are asked to receive and approve apologies.
- 224/21 Declaration of interest**
Members are asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda, **and the nature of that interest**, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and Brackley Town Council's Code of Conduct.
- 225/21 Public participation**
This section of the meeting gives members of the public who are present an opportunity to speak. You may speak on any item which appears on the agenda for this evening's meeting. The session will last for a maximum of 15 minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 3 minutes. Members of the public should address their representations through the Chairman of the meeting.
- 226/21 Approval of minutes**
Members are asked to receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee held on Monday 20 September 2021.
- 227/21 Rose Open Space – report attached**
A detailed report is attached for members' information on the design and future maintenance plans for Rose Open Space.
Recommendation: to accept option 1 contained in the report.

228/21 Finger Post Signs for the toilets and defibrillator at Brackley Town Park

Members are asked to accept the quote attached.

229/21 Letter from Strategic Planning about Spatial Options Consultation – documents attached

West Northamptonshire Council Consultation is open and closes on 6 December. There is a meeting on Wednesday 10 November at Brackley Methodist Church if members wish to attend.

Do members want to set up a task and finish group with 5 members to formulate Brackley Town Council's response?

230/21 Queen's Canopy

Operations Manager will give a verbal update on the Queen's Canopy.

231/21 Matters for Information or Discussion

Minutes of the **Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee** held on **Monday 20 September**, at Brackley Town Hall, Market Place, Brackley, NN13 7AB.

Present: Cllrs Barrie, Butler, Cartmell, Judd, Sharps, Thompson, Tiller, E Wiltshire, Young.

Officers: Town Clerk (A Moses) and Deputy Town Clerk (K Hale)

178/21 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Kew and Langford.

Absent: Cllr Baker

179/21 Declaration of interest

None

180/21 Public participation

None

181/21 Approval of minutes

On the proposition of Cllr Sharps, it was **RESOLVED** to:

receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee held on Monday 19 July 2021.

182/21 Town Signs Task and Finish Group Minutes

On the proposition of Cllr Cartmell, it was **RESOLVED** to:

receive the minutes from the Town Signs Task and Finish Group on 14 July 2021.

183/21 Task & Finish Group – Location for Mud Kitchen

Five members are requested for a Task and Finish Group to investigate the location for a mud kitchen.

The five members are Cllrs Young, Sharps, Butler, Cartmell and Weaver.

184/21 Clarification on Town Park Restrictions

Members noted the information contained in the letter from 6 Mount Street and the lease signed on 12 November 2013 stating that there can be a charge for events in the park. We cannot stop members of the public from using the play area which would be free.

185/21 Matters for information or discussion

Can councillors be aware of what they are putting on Facebook please.

Meeting closed at 19:31

Signed:

Signed:

BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL
Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee
Monday 18 October 2021

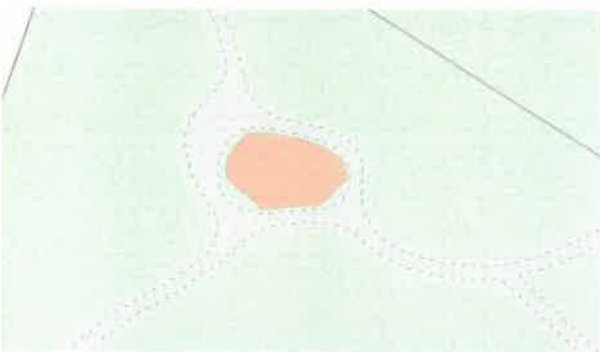
Purpose of Report: Rose garden Tudor open space – design changes and future maintenance plans

Recommendation: **Option 1** - To remove the problem shrubs, prepare and grass seed the area with an addition of some spring bulbs (daffodil, crocus, muscari, aconite). This will keep the area looking tidy, maintain some seasonal colour and reduce the amount of time needed to keep the bed looking good.

Main Issues and considerations:

The bed is unmanageable in its current state, in order to keep it looking presentable we would need to put at least four hours per week throughout the growing season into its maintenance, which is a disproportionate amount of time on this small bed (estimated at 50 m²).

Problem and current layout



The bed was planted by volunteers some years ago and was to be maintained by them with minimal council involvement, but over the years this has lapsed and now the only maintenance is carried out by the BTC grounds staff. It was planted in the style of a formal rose bed, but this is suited neither to the area, or the amount of time the grounds team can dedicate to it, and as a consequence is regularly over-run with weeds (seeding from the other wilder areas in and around the park), and the plants that are supposed to be there look leggy, scruffy and unkempt.

The grounds team do not regularly attend to this bed in the same way we do the towns other formal beds as there is no need for a watering regime here with the current planting, and access is more difficult. Therefore, maintenance is ad hoc – usually when the weeds etc. have got out of hand.

The edges of the bed are also poorly defined since the new footpath was installed, and this leads to woodchip on the path, as well as areas around the edge that are weed filled grass rather than properly defined grass, or planting area. The diagram above (top left) shows the rough planting area as it stands, the photos show the condition of the beds as of the 17th of September, but are fairly indicative of its appearance spring through autumn.

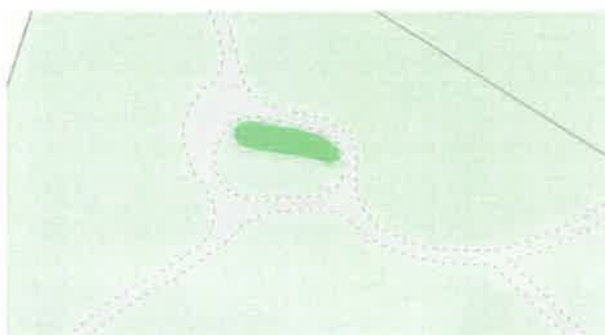
The planting on the South side is the most problematic, there is a random selection of shrub roses, four very large Buddleja and some lavenders on the eastern and western ends.

There is a very nice Ginkgo tree in the centre of the bed, and some good size wild rose bushes to the north side (see second and third photos above), and I would propose these stay no matter what, the tree is an unusual specimen, and is very healthy, and the roses match with the planting in the immediately surrounding areas, these two features are easily maintained within our current methods and programmes.

Potential solutions

In order to keep the bed looking tidy, without spending a disproportionate amount of time on one small bed, the proposal is to remove the problem plants (Buddleja, shrub roses and lavenders) and re-siting them in more suitable areas, clearly defining the boundary between grass and bed (clearing and re-seeding grassed areas), and deciding if any additional planting is required from the two below options;

Option one



No additional shrubs, we plant a selection of bulbs around the area as defined above in darker green to ensure we have some colour from spring to autumn, and lay the rest to grass, leaving no bare soil for weeds to establish in.

This would be the most in keeping aesthetically with the rest of the park, as well as the cheapest option both initially, and in terms of ongoing maintenance, as it would only need hedge-cutting a couple of times a year and mowing as part of the existing contract

Installation cost >£100

Ongoing cost negligible

Option two

We Install wooden edging to more clearly define the bed in something like the shape outlined above, and replant with more easy to manage shrubs and a selection of bulbs, giving more year round colour and an appearance closer to a formal bed. We can also add bedding plants as per the High street beds and attempt to manage it in the same way, this would leave some bare soil for weeds to germinate but if we water as regularly as we do on the high street this could be kept under closer control, albeit at a cost in terms of man hours.

Installation cost £300 for timber edging plus shrubs and bulbs

Ongoing costs £400 pa for seasonal bedding plants (estimate based on last bedding invoice) plus an extra 2 hours per week through growing season on watering and weeding (this is an estimate and could rise, weeds being more of a problem here due to the surroundings).

Author

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Customer Name & Address	Delivery Address
Brackley Town Council 20 High Street Brackley NN13 7DS United Kingdom	Brackley Town Council 20 High Street Brackley NN13 7DS United Kingdom

QUOTATION	
FAO:	Brackley Town Council
Quoted Date:	06/10/2021
Your Acc No:	153433
Taken By:	Emma
Our Order No:	325117

Qty	Code	Description	Price Each	Line Total	Line VAT
1	BESPOKE	BESPOKE 2 FINGER POST POST Single Level AS980 Finger Arm 770mm x 165mm (face to view) 800mm x 165mm (plank size before assembly) Chevron End C/W AS980 Post Socket Applied to One Edge Powder Coated to RAL 9005 Jet Black Gloss (all over) C/W Gold vinyl applied to BOTH faces (listed below) C/W 2x M8 x 10mm Grub Screws X 2 AS13 Gold Non-Reflective Vinyl Cut Graphics 770mm x 165mm (overall size) Pressure Applied to the Above X 4 76mm Aluminium Post @ 3500mm Long Powder Coated to RAL 9005 Jet Black Gloss X 1 76mm Round Internal Post Cap AS12 Black Closest RAL Match RAL 9005 Jet Black X 1 76mm Base Plate C/W Bolt, Including Nut and Washer X 1	394.14	394.14	78.83

Bank Details For BACS Payment
Natwest Bank
Sort Code: 52-41-19
Account Number: 29006686
Account Name: BHMA Limited

Goods Net:	394.14
Delivery:	26.60
Order Net:	420.74
VAT:	84.15
Total:	504.89
GBP	

Please use our order no as reference. **This Quote is valid for 30 days**

Letter from Strategic Planning Team

West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan – Spatial Options Consultation

West Northamptonshire Council is preparing a new Strategic Plan for the area. This will replace the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy and will cover the period up to 2050.,

The Options Consultation is the second stage in preparing the new Plan [after the Issues Consultation], no decisions have been made yet and the purpose of the document is to seek views on a Vision, Spatial Objectives and Development Options at this stage.

We have produced a Spatial Options Consultation document which includes a series of questions on which we would like your views. There is also an additional opportunity to put forward ideas for potential development sites through a further 'call for sites' exercise.

The Spatial Options Consultation document and background documents including the call for sites form are available on the Strategic Plan consultation website: <https://westnorthantsplan.inconsult.uk/>. You are encouraged to visit the website and use the online forms available to respond to the consultation.

You can inspect a hard copy of the Options Consultation document in West Northamptonshire Council's Offices at Lodge Road, Daventry, The Guildhall, Northampton and The Forum, Towcester and all public libraries in West Northamptonshire during normal opening hours. In addition, we are holding exhibitions at the following online and in-person events, where you can find out more and ask questions:

Venue	Date	Time
Online https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/184576552437	Thursday 21 October	6.00-7.30pm
Online https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/184602690617	Wednesday 27 October	6.00-7.30pm
Online https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/184604425807	Monday 1 November	6.00-7.30pm
Wootton Community Centre	Tuesday 2 November	2.00-6.00pm
Daventry Leisure Centre, Saxon Suite	Thursday 4 November	1.00-5.30pm
Moulton Community Centre	Tuesday 9 November	1.00-5:30pm
Brackley Methodist Church	Wednesday 10 November	2.00-6.00pm
Towcester The Forum, Council Chamber	Thursday 11 November	2.00-6.00pm

The consultation period starts on Monday 11th October 2019 and closes at **midnight on Monday 6 December 2021.**

How to comment:

The easiest way to respond is online via the consultation website:

<https://westnorthantsplan.inconsult.uk/>. Word versions of the response forms are also available on the website. Paper copies of response forms are also available at the Councils' offices and public libraries in West Northamptonshire and on request from the Strategic Planning team (email: strategicplan@westnorthants.gov.uk or call 0300 126 1900 [the line is open 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday]).

Hard copies of the response forms can be returned by post to: West Northamptonshire Planning Team, The Guildhall, St Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE or electronically to: strategicplan@westnorthants.gov.uk

Please note all comments must be received by midnight on Monday 6 December 2021.

If you have any questions about the consultation or need help completing the forms, please contact the Strategic Plan Team by email strategicplan@westnorthants.gov.uk or you could call on 0300 126 1900, Monday to Friday 9-5pm.

Yours sincerely

The Strategic Planning Team