



Management of green spaces has been affected by the extremely hot and dry summer. The second driest summer in a row. As well as impacts on trees and vegetation, effects such as increased erosion having an ongoing effect – with soil turned eroded to dust, hopefully light rain will reinstate surfaces before heavy rain causes significant soil loss. Fire damage to trees at Sladesbrook will be monitored.

The Town Wardens have been carrying out their usual duties:

- Looking after public toilets
- Emptying bins around the town
- Litter picking, sweeping and clearing dog waste and graffiti in the town centre and elsewhere
- Grass cutting, including meadow cuts to increase biodiversity on our estate and vegetation management including weeding and pruning
- Preparing interments at the cemetery
- Carrying out maintenance of the Town Council's green spaces and buildings
- Assisting with Council activities such as the Town Market
- Supporting volunteers including CluB, who have carried out clearance of litter and vegetation causing obstruction or hazard. We are at the seasonal change to autumn/ winter so more vegetation is now being cleared.
- Supporting the Nature Volunteers, who, with Kate from the BOA Preservation Trust have been looking after Hen's Orchard. And this weekend have worked at the tree nursery beside Culver Close

In addition, recently they have:

- Refurbished Millie's Garden, including installing new public art. Some planting has been held back because of the heat and dry ground. This will be planted soon as the soil becomes wetter
- Moved the Tourist Information Centre to its new location at St Margaret's Hall
- Watered and fertilised hanging baskets
- Watered trees – both with treegator bags and direct watering
- Refurbished disused phone boxes ready for new Town Council projects
- Following the end of August, carried out ornamental hedge works
- Carried out repairs to play equipment
- Installed new benches
- Assisted at events including the Music Festival and sports and other bookings on and in town council facilities

Environment and Green Spaces Meeting 13 October 2026

Agenda item 7 – Green Spaces Update

Written by – Green Spaces Officer



We have had visits from judges from South West in Bloom in July and September – to judge the town, Poulton Park, the Country Park and various It's Your Neighbourhood entries in the town. Results are due at the end of October.

Repairs to the riverside wall at Westbury Garden are now entering their second phase, with reinstatement of the riverbank.