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River Wall Update:

The Clerk received this response from the head of engineering on the 25th September 2024 and responded that the Council would be carrying forward £60,000 as funding for this scheme.

Hi Iain

Just to update you.

I have met with LCC and they have no issues with the bridge and have no concern over the proposed works.

We are meeting with the EA on 3rd October to discuss in detail scheme proposals and options.

As you know we will have to apply for an EA permit. This process is dealt with even more remotely and can take a few months at best and we cannot start the process until we have a scheme that they are likely to accept.

Bearing all this in mind, and the fact generally works are only allowed in main river between July to September, works will not commence until July 2025.

Please can you confirm the budget that you have allocated – I think you mentioned £60k and can you confirm that it can be carried forward to 2025-26.

We will progress with the permitting process once we have had the EA's input.

I apologise that this has taken a while but as you know this is down to the loss of staff within the Engineering team.

Best Regards

Scott

Update on the meeting: The EA are happy with the proposal and an application for a permit will be submitted soon with a view to carrying out the works next summer.

Inspection of Play Equipment Barrowford Memorial Park:

The Parish Council has received the Annual Playground Inspection report which highlighted several issues that need addressing. The Clerk met Mr. Higson and Mr. Riley on site on Friday morning to discuss the reports and items that need to be budgeted for in next year's budget.

The four main problems that had been highlighted were:

1. The surface in the infant area needed power washing and this has been done.
2. One of the small pieces of equipment has become loose from its fixings which will necessitate refixing and repairs to the soft surface and that has been ordered.
3. The Cargo net on one of the pieces of equipment needs replacing and this has been ordered.
4. One of the chains on the swings needed replacing as there was excessive wear to the links. This has been done.

The safety surface to the infants play area is multi-coloured with one colour being inlaid into another, the different coloured areas expand and shrink at different rates and significant gaps appear between the colours and around the edge of the surface

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creating trip hazards. The Council has had several of these repaired in recent years but this will be a perennial problem with repairs being needed on an annual basis.

In hindsight a lot of local authorities are moving away from multi coloured surfaces stipulating a single colour that can be laid in one piece with the only shrinkage occurring around the perimeter. Pendle has started using an alternative solution which involves overlaying with a carpet of new material.

Mr. Riley has obtained a rough estimate to include all necessary preparation and in green to approximately 336sqm would be- £11,550+VAT to include an 8-year warranty. This is the junior side only; this is an approximate figure and we would need to arrange a site visit to accurately measure up etc. If this sounds feasible let me know and i can arrange in due course. It could be then also discussed if you wanted any alternative colours putting in at the same time or just keep it the same green.

Coronation Walk:

Whilst there the Clerk looked at Coronation Walk which has a mixture of tarmac and some concrete flags. Many of the flags are broken and represent a future trip hazard. These will need addressing over the next couple of years.

Recommendations;

1. The safety surface should be included in the 2025-26 budget with the work being carried out early in the next financial year.
2. That £15,000 be included in the budget with £10,000 set aside for Coronation Walk and £5,000 for ongoing tree works, bin replacement and other minor replacements.

Park Maintenance Costs 2025-26:

The Clerk has received the costs for next year's park maintenance:

Below are the indicative charges for works to be carried out at Barrowford sites from April 2025;

<u>T&PC</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Works Price</u>
Barrowford	Parks	Barrowford Park Colne Rd Barrowford	29,113
Barrowford	Parks Games	Barrowford Park Colne Rd Barrowford	2,892
		Barrowford Total	32,005

In addition to these charged there is an agreed contribution to the works price for Victoria Park.

Gemma-Louise Wells, Head of Finance, Borough of Pendle

The figure for 2024-25 was £31,112 the increase is £893.00 an increase of around 3%.

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Meeting with Bowling Club:

A constructive meeting was held on Wednesday 2nd October with representatives from the Bowling Club.

The immediate concerns were:

1. Boarding around the channel at the edge of the green which is rotting away.

The Bowling Club are prepared to assist with the work and the Clerk suggested plastic boards and will look into the cost.

2. Low fence needed to the lakeside of the bowling green.

This is to prevent the geese easy access onto the bowling green and prevent bowls going into the lake. The Clerk suggested that the Bowling Club should try and obtain grant funding and will assist where possible.

3. New bowling equipment.

The Clerk suggested approaching County Cllr. Howard Hartley to see if he had any funding left from his annual amount. The Clerk has emailed Cllr. Hartley with the club's Chairmans details.

Round Flower Bed Adjacent to Bowling Pavilion:

The Clerk received this email from Phil Riley regarding a proposal of change of use to provide a more diverse habitat.

Morning Iain

Walking through the park and looking at the circular flower bed below the bowling green this week, we would like to propose an alternative for next year if you can kindly consider with your members?

Im not sure if you have driven up Netherfield Road or been to ball Grove in the last 2 months but we have sown some large strips with a wild flower mix, which has turned out to be a fantastic display, even members of the public emailing to say how good it looks. They are now just coming to the end and will shortly be mown down. Benefits of a lot of colour in the park as well as a bonus to pollinators.

Instead of planting the annual bed in 2025, could we plant a strip of wildflower, maybe 6ft x 20 ft Instead? We have tried in other locations to sow seed within the shape of old annual beds and it hasn't looked the best, definitely better in a wide strip. Picture below to give an example of results from when they just started sprouting in summer which then went from strength to strength before a a final burst of tall yellows coming out of the top? Happy to have a chat, could maybe do somewhere else in the park as well?

Phil Riley
Green Spaces Manager
Operational Services
Pendle Borough Council

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Proposal above, Netherfield Road below

