

ANNUAL REPORT – 2023-24 – PARISH ASSETS



The Parish Council continue to hold their bi-monthly meetings in the Parish Pavilion. During this past year it has also been used as a meeting venue for Buckland Newton

Community Property Trust, The United Charities of Buckland Newton and the Environment Group. The school and Youth Club have served refreshments from it and family celebrations such as birthday parties and christenings have also taken place. The public toilet continues to be open 24 hours.

Maintenance work carried out:

- Repointing of brickwork
- Repairs to wood in entrance porch roof
- Cleaning windows
- Smart meter has been fitted

The Pavilion is available for use by parishioners for a small donation towards utility costs; if you would like to book the Pavilion for an event, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Following requests from pupils at the school, a drinking water fountain has been mounted on the Pavilion wall.



Parish Paddock – The Parish Council purchased a parcel of land about ¾ of an acre, to the west of the Parish Field. The Council consulted with the Dorset Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) who produced a plan to enhance the wildlife habitat as well as providing some amenity access. Some work



has already been carried out which includes hedge laying, brush clearing, pollarding and planting new hedges.

Thank you to the environment group who helped with hedge planting and to the forest school group that helped with mulching.



Councillor Needham has cleared the area around Henley Telephone Box and a paint request has been submitted to BT.

The telephone box near the Gaggle of Geese has had a makeover, with thanks to Councillor Crouch for the spring clean and Councillor Manny for the repaint.



Play Area – The Annual inspection was carried out by an independent consultant in May, with subsequent checks done on a regular basis by Councillor Osmond.



Councillors have painted the play equipment, carried out repairs and replenished bark. The hedge has been trimmed and metal estate

fencing along with a self-closing gate has been installed around the play area. Repairs to the existing fence running along the top of the Parish Field opposite the school have also been completed



All Weather Track – The Parish Council researched alternative surfaces for the track and laid a trial section of washed limestone to see how it weathered and reacted to

footfall. As the test patch was deemed successful, resurfacing of the whole track took place in August.



The tree on the Parish Pound has been risk assessed by Dorset Council and advisory work has been carried out. The Pound and the triangle by the Church are regularly strimmed.



Bus Shelter – It is planned to put a notice board in the bus shelter, making it an information point for the village.

New bench – a new bench has been purchased to replace the bench which was gifted by Sir William Aykroyd.

Trees – The Youth Club and Parish Council donated and planted some trees on the verge by the Parish Field.