

## **Maintenance of Village Greens**

### **Background**

At present the County Council cuts the grass on all the village green areas – as they do all the open green spaces in the village.

However DCC generally do not strim around stones, up against fencing in between trees etc on village green areas. Hence they can look messy and uncared for. Trees / shrubs planted on village green are not maintained by DCC and likewise can become overgrown.

Land registered by the Parish Council as village green is the Parish Council's responsibility to maintain not the County Council's and so the Parish Council is not in a position to demand more care is undertaken by DCC.

Under the Clerks delegated authority, A Baker was asked to strim around the edges and stones on the village green on South Street( Opposite the Jubilee Hall) last month when working in the Heritage Garden . Other areas are in similar need of a tidy up.

The village green area of the "REC" on School Avenue was specifically mentioned in the Parish Plan as an area that should be improved with bulbs, flowers, planters as it is the largest most central green space in the village but looks a bit neglected especially in and around trees areas. The Parish Council agreed to lead on the implementation of this recommendation – with DCC being named as the partners/dependency as they own the land. WRLVP was also named as a partner/dependency as there are links to other community group actions in the parish plan e.g replacement of play equipment, scheduled for December 2017 ( Play Group) and reduction in the use of herbicides.( Green Group).

### **What do we want the village greens to look like?**

#### **Options for the Parish Council to consider**

Should the Parish Council make arrangements for the regular strimming of edges etc on all areas of village green?

Should the Parish Council make arrangements for the regular pruning of trees and shrubs on village green?

Should the boulders on South Street, opposite the Jubilee Hall, be painted white to improve the overall appearance of this green?

What improvements to the "REC" does the Parish Council wish to pursue with DCC?

Should the areas in between and around tree planted areas be cut back/ cleared or allowed to grow wild - perhaps with planting of wild flowers or would a more formal planted look be preferable eg flower beds

**Cllr Wallage,  
July 2017**