

ALDBURY PARISH COUNCIL WARDENS UPDATE: OCTOBER 2025

AREA	ALLOTMENTS & MILLENNIUM ORCHARD
TO CHECK	Fencing & gates, benches, trees, hedges & shrubs, grass height, signs, footpaths, housekeeping, ground conditions
INSPECTION DATES	03/10, 10/10, 17/10, 25/10
ISSUES TO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The public footpaths are delineated and in fair condition. 2. Fences and benches are in adequate condition. 3. Information signs are installed and legible. 4. The grass in the orchard is overgrown and needs to be tidily lowered with a self-propelled flail to meet the required standard as outlined in the mowing specification (Photo 1). 5. Most allotment holders are maintaining their plots to a good standard. <p>Outstanding Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Footpath issues reported to DBC remain unresolved. Clerk has chased DBC. ❖ APC to consider arranging a skip in February 2026 to help with site housekeeping.

AREA	PLAYGROUNDS
TO CHECK	Equipment, Safety Information, Fencing & Gates, Benches, Trees, Grass height, General ground conditions, Empty litter bin.
INSPECTION DATES	03/10, 10/10, 17/10, 25/10 Tring Station 18/10
ISSUES TO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Both playgrounds were visually inspected. The following can be confirmed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - User and ownership information was clearly displayed at both playgrounds. - Grass height was complying with the specified mowing requirements. - Benches were intact, and gates were operational. - The litter bin was in fair condition and emptied on a weekly basis. - Overgrown vegetation was present at the Tring Station playground and needs clearance. Quote obtained and on the agenda. - A bench has visible signs of decay at Aldbury Playground. - A log on the Log World bridge is in poor condition, with visible sign of decay (Photo 2). - A swing seat needs prompt replacement due to deterioration, including a full-length split that may have weakened its structural integrity (Photo 3). Clerk obtained a quote from Wicksteed - £48.56 per seat (excluding VAT) plus £11.50 delivery charge. <p>Outstanding Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A gatepost and fence panel at Aldbury Playground remain unstable. This will be fixed on 3rd November. Gaps between swing area rubber tiles need closing to prevent hazards. ❖ Playground signage at both playgrounds should be upgraded, providing emergency instructions, a 'What Three Words' location, and contact phone and email details.

AREA	RECREATION GROUND
TO CHECK	Tennis court, Basketball area, Pavilion, Fencing, Benches/seats, Bollards, Trees & vegetation, Grass height, car park, Litter & dog waste bins, Footpaths.

INSPECTION DATES	03/10, 10/10, 17/10, 25/10
ISSUES TO REPORT	<p>7. Weekly litter picking was conducted and DBC emptied the waste bins.</p> <p>8. Grass height continues to meet the specification.</p> <p>9. All benches remain in fair condition.</p> <p>10. The tennis court appeared in good order. No visible return of algae or moss on the playing surface.</p> <p>11. No visible defects were observed on the trees, other than some trees have shed dead wood as part of the normal life cycle.</p> <p>Outstanding items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Graffiti to be cleaned from the sports pavilion wall. ❖ The car park entrance requires urgent pothole fixes. Clerk obtained a second quote and contacted HCC to recommend contractors. ❖ A dog waste bin, damaged by the GM contractor during hedge cutting, has not yet been replaced; a replacement timeline should be agreed/set.

AREA	VILLAGE GREEN(S) & POND
TO CHECK	Benches, Trees, Pond, Grass height, Stocks, Litter Bins, Notice board.
INSPECTION DATES	03/10, 10/10, 17/10, 25/10
ISSUES TO REPORT	<p>12. All benches were in a satisfactory condition.</p> <p>13. The tree nearest the bus stop has a defective branch that needs to be pruned due to the risk of it dropping (Photo 4). The Clerk has been notified. No other obvious defects were found.</p> <p>14. The grass areas remain in compliance with the specifications.</p> <p>15. DBC emptied the litter bins on a weekly basis.</p> <p>16. Weekly litter picking was conducted; no significant litter buildup has been observed.</p> <p>17. The notice board was in good condition, displaying neatly up-to-date and relevant information.</p>

AREA	HIGHWAY'S, PUBLIC FOOTPATHS & DITCHES
TO CHECK	Surfaces, Pedestrian routes, Signage, Drainage, Grit bins, Litter, Street lamps, Bollards, kissing gates, Notice board (Tring Station)
INSPECTION DATES	03/10, 10/10, 17/10, 25/10
ISSUES TO REPORT	<p>18. A visual inspection of the streetlights was conducted on October 18th, and no new defects were identified for the outstanding items list.</p> <p>19. Litter was collected along Stocks Road (up to the parish boundary), New Ground Road (to the GUC bridge), Malting Lane, Stonycroft, and Toms Hill to FP15.</p> <p>20. The open drain/ditch south of Stonycroft remains overgrown, though no water pooling was observed this month.</p> <p>21. A pothole in New Ground Road, adjacent to the Trooper PH, was reported to HCC. Ref No: 401004839419 (Photo 5). HCC aim to complete a repair by the 3rd of November</p> <p>22. It is understood that The Trooper PH has reopened with new opening hours. However, there is no mention of the former café facility on the current information signage.</p> <p>Outstanding Items (DBC/HCC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Reinstate the waymarker on Hitchins Field (Public Footpath No: 63). Replace the decayed street nameplate on Toms Hill; included in DBC replacement list, Ref No: 895084.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Restore streetlighting at the Recreation Ground entrance, opposite the Church, at the Malting Lane junction, and near the Beechwood Drive junction. ❖ Repaint two faded "SLOW" road markings on Toms Hill and Station Road, HCC Ref Nos: 401004654989 and 401004654999. ❖ Reinstate two metal kissing gates on Footpath No: 68 (Stonycroft to former Isolation Hospital). ❖ Large pothole on New Ground Road (between Brightwood and Aldbury End), HCC Ref No: 401004807991. ❖ Blocked drain on Toms Hill Road near the Beechwood Drive junction, HCC Ref No: 401004807995.
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PHOTOGRAPHS



