

**Clerk's report to Council September 2020.**Land transfers

The transfer of the lease for the SANG in Sturt road has been completed. I am trying to arrange a photo and press release – I will let councillor know when. The land transfer of Woodcock Green, Grover's Garden, St Christopher's Green and Town Meadow should be completed within the month.

Lion Green

We have been informed by WBC that all events on Lion Green where goods are sold also need a street trading licence. These cost from £140 and the paperwork and cost may mean that we lose some of our regular charity of not for profit events. I have raised concerns with WBC and asked them to waive costs for those types of event. In the meantime we have applied for an annual licence for the event which would cover us for 3 events per month. There will still paperwork to lodge with WBC for each event held.

The wooden posts, designed to stop people driving on the grass, have been installed on Lion Green. I hope you agree that they look great.

We have installed 2 x 240l temporary bins on Lion green and this appears to be helping with the littering issue. Going forward the current bins need replacing with seagull flaps but it is not possible to retro-fit these.

Events

This year's walking festival has had to be cancelled due to the Covid pandemic. All booking for Lion Green are cancelled until the end of the year, as are those for the Council Chamber.

Remembrance Sunday will be a small socially distanced event to which public are to be encouraged not to attend. We will be live streaming the service and this will be widely publicised before the event. Clearly this is subject to change and I am keeping an eye on latest Government guidance. Jo is checking to see if churches are holding services and whether councillors are able to attend to lay wreaths.

Staffing / Office

All 4 staff are working in the office on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Other days on an ad hoc basis. The office is closed to drop-in visitors, but available to the public via appointments. This is working well. I understand that WBC may be re-opening to the public on 5<sup>th</sup> October, I am trying to find out on what basis. I am having a meeting with other clerks in the next couple of weeks to discuss what they are doing and will make a decision on office re-opening in conjunction with Chair of Staffing.

Everything else

Arran has done a great job of rebuilding the bench at Grover's Garden.

Having contacted a significant number of contractors we have quotations for access work to the Pocket Park – it is hoped that we will be able to get this started shortly.

Town Hall heating / cooling system. The contractor has revised the quote received some time ago and it remains in budget (+£300). Arran is looking into planning application and quote for external covers.

George Denyer pavilion, we have been working with Cllr Matthes to get this ready for post-Covid support. We are hoping that broadband/Wi-Fi issues will be addressed this week. WBC are working on the legal documents and written confirmation that we will not be responsible for rates.

CIL Working Party – if Cllrs have any infrastructure projects they would like the CIL WP to consider please email the Deputy Town Clerk with full details.