

## Report Statement

### Report Purpose:

8.2 To update on the Town Ranger service.

### Author:

Lead Town Ranger Andrew McKeith

### Updates:

#### Work Requests;

- Wilton Crescent Weston Estate,
- Removal of Shed & Brash.
- Cut Back Hedge Encroachment from Pathways.
- Kendal Road;
- Installation of Bench on Open Space;
- Portland Walk;
- Scheduled Maintenance of Newly Planted Community Garden.
- Upton Priory Estate;
- Priory Lane to Keats Drive;
- Cut Back Hedge Encroachment from Pathways.
- Removed Fly Tip Becks Lane.
- Moss Rose Estate;
- Mayfield Entrance to Allotments,
- Erected Chestnut Paling.
- Cleared all the Walkway of Nettles, Weeds and Shrub Encroachment.
- Brocklehurst Centre Mayfield Avenue;
- Reduce and Cutback 50 metres of Hedge;
- Macclesfield Areas;
- Sparrow Park;
- Pruned Shrubs, Weed killed and Paths Cleared.
- 2 X Beds Park Green,
- Weed and Hoed Beds.
- Halfords Roundabout Churchill Way;
- Planted out and Maintained Roundabout;
- Heritage Walk;
- Replaced Dead Tree;
- Repaired Damage Fence,
- Painted Entrance Sign.
- Cumberland Street;
- Cleared Pathways of Weed and Swept;
- Westminster Road Wildflower Verge;

- Mowed 2 Metre grass Strip as agreed with CEC Highways.
- Manchester Road;
- Cutback Encroachment from Pathways,

### **Allotments Knowsley Rd and South Park.**

- Erected Chestnut Paling
- Strimmed Pathways.

### **Repair Work, Installation and Painting:**

- Installed Bench Kendal Road {Councillor Harewood}
- Installed Dog Dispenser Christchurch {Councillor Jackson}
- Painted Sign and installed 2 New Posts Tewkesbury Drive.
- Repaired Bench Communal Seating Area Churchill Way/Roe Street.
- Painted Posts, Bin and Bench Churchill Way/Roe Street Communal Area.
- Painted Posts, Bins, Metal Floral Planters and Railings Macclesfield Town Centre.
- Painted Benches Sparrow Park Communal Area.

### **Floral Displays & Community Planting.**

- Planted Out Floral Display Halfords Roundabout Churchill Way.
- Installed 2 x Planters and 10 Half Baskets Pocket Park, {Ian Curtis Mural Painting} and planted out with Floral Bedding.
- Installed 6 x Floral Window Planters Town Hall.
- Installed Floral 3 Tier Planter and 4 Hanging Planters Sparrow Park.
- Planted Out Floral Bedding 2 Planters and Frontage to Heritage Centre.
- Planted Out Floral Bedding and Wildflowers at Portland Walk.
- Planted Out Floral Bedding 19 Baskets Waters Green Carpark Railings.
- Planted Out Floral Bedding 3 x Three Tier Planters Cumberland Street/ Churchill Way.
- Planted Out Floral Bedding 5 x Metal Planters Town Centre.
- Assisted Ansa with the Installation of Barrier Planters and Planting of all the 3 Tier Planters.

### **Watering Allocated Floral Displays;**

During this unusual very dry spell we have been watering all our allocated floral displays 3 times per week. It has taken us up to 3 hours a day to keep our floral displays from drying out and looking at their best. We have also incorporated a regular feeding Programme to keep them looking heathy and Vibrant.

Ansa have kept up also with extra watering during the dry spell to help the Floral Displays stay looking good.

### **Jet Washing and Graffiti Removal**

- Removal of Graffiti Scate Board Ramp and Seating Area Weston Park.
- Removed Graffiti Phone Boxes Westminster Road/ Mill Street.
- Removed Graffiti from Wall B & M Roe Street.
- Removed Graffiti BT Boxes Various Locations.

### **Meetings.**

- Allotments Springfield Road/Park Grove with Helena.
- Britain in Bloom Planning Route. {Laura, Abi, John and Myself}

### **Britain in Bloom;**

With one of the hottest days on record, our judging day Took Place;

RHS Judge Bernard Sheridan arrived at West Park greeted by Laura, Abi, Fiona and I.

The first port of call was the Rose Garden at West Park to Judge the Community Garden Display created by Macclesfield Community Garden Centre Team assisting the walk around with the judge was Jo the Manager.

The feedback was positive, with particular interest in the sustainable planting they have achieved as well as their community involvement. He was also impressed with setup of the Garden Centre itself.

The next stop on the judging route was Macclesfield Leisure Centre and The Macclesfield Wild Team.

With the huge expanse of work carried out there with the grass areas being laid to meadows, the planting of wildflowers, saplings and mowed grass walkways, the judge was really impressed with the diversity, sustainable planting and volunteer involvement.

East Cheshire Hospice was next on the route.

Greeted by the management Team, he was directed straight into the Communal Gardens. Great emphasis was made by the variety of different planting schemes they have created with sensory plants and floral displays in raised beds, a god send for the health and wellbeing for the patients.

Outside was met with one elderly gentleman volunteer who had single handed sown wildflowers in 4 beds, planted fruit trees and maintained the grass area. This also impressed the Judge.

Portland Walk was the next route;

With newly established Planted Area the judge was impressed with what could be done with four areas of grass on a budget.

He was Greeted by Councillor Mike Hutchinson and the volunteers who helped with the planting. He praised the Community involvement and also a great use of space for the residence to enjoy. A real Gem.

We then went onto South Park.

Grow Macclesfield met with the Judge who was really impressed with the work carried out By Alex and Volunteers. What a good impression was made. With lots of delightful planting and a whole array of raised beds filled with vegetables and floral displays. Alex showed the Judge around the Grow Macclesfield allotment and I know she gave him a good insight to what is planned for this great community project.

We then went on route to Heritage Walk. The judge was impressed with its location and the wild backdrop onto the Walk which housed an abundance of wildlife. Signage, which was a recommendation, was also commented on, giving the history of the site of what it used to look like in bygone days. The engine, which he took particular interest in, was also noted as a great addition to the walk given its history to the Silk Museum close by.

The Halfords Roundabout was also commented on with the design and plants used, of which photographs were taken by the judge.

Walked up from Heritage Walk to The Heritage Centre, where he was impressed with the building structure and history of the Old Sunday School of which also what its being used for presently, The cinema, Scoop and Scales and also the community involvement.

We went then over to The Pocket Park where the excellent mural of Ian Curtis adorned the wall. He was really impressed and had heard of the mural on social media and was glad he had seen it. Particular interest was noted with backdrop of the hills in the distance, which enhanced its location.

Comments were made about the floral displays which adorned round the pocket park, which he remarked was a perfect location for people to rest and reflect.

A short trip up Mill Street to the Town Centre and he was pleased to see the Tier Planters nicely planted.

Castle Street Public Realm was the next to see and he was impressed with the choice of planters and street furniture. The barrier planters were very pleasing and particularly well placed which adorned the new seating area.

The only down side was there was not enough Floral Planters down one side, which we did explain for that space, was to accommodate for the Treacle Market. A recommendation was made by the Judge was maybe have planters with wheels that could be moved on the Treacle Market week.

The Town Hall was the next port of call, he and commented on the floral impact of its historical space, with St Michaels Church, Town Hall and surrounding Old Buildings.

The adopted phone boxes really impressed, with great use of the displays and the frame work inside to show off the floral craftwork from The local schools.

Sparrow Park was the next visit. The judge loved this great use of space for people to sit, have their lunch, rest and admire the views and with addition of the hanging baskets and 3 Tier planters enhanced it even more. A Pocket Park Delight he added. I also pointed out The Hovis Mill viewed in the distance, and told him that was where the first Hovis Loaf was made, he was pleasantly surprised and took a picture.

I took him round to the 108 Steps where interest was shown of the Historic Realm and Quaint Victoria Buildings which surrounded the Back of St Michaels Church.

Last but not least the Wildflower Verge on Westminster Road. He was really impressed with this one. Lots of photos taken by the Judge with an array of Bees, Butterflies and Other insects all doing their business. Could not ask for better timing.

Summary;

All in all, a really good impression.

Let's Hope its GOLD.