

Grounds Maintenance Standards

Grass cutting

The grass is to be kept to between 1" and 3" at all times.

Grass cuttings on greens and verges are not collected but the contractor must clear them from hard areas, shrub beds etc, before leaving the site by sweeping or blowing them off. The only exceptions to this general rule are the children's play area and the cemetery where the grass should be cut to the same standard but collected and disposed of as set out in the contract.

Verges

Roadside verges are to be mown up to and including the village name signs. There are 2 roadside benches just outside the village boundary which are to be kept free of overgrown vegetation.

Shrub Bed Maintenance

Shrub beds are to be maintained in accordance with recognised horticultural best practice.

This requires:

- beds to be maintained in a weed, leaf and litter-free condition and to be left in a cultivated condition
- herbicide to be applied as required to maintain a long term weed-free effect
- beds to be edged using an edging iron following maintenance operations
- fertiliser to be applied in late spring
- shrubs to be pruned in accordance with the requirements of each individual species.

Hedge Maintenance

All hedges are to be cut a twice a year: once before the end of February and once again in late August/early September.

Maintenance of Hard Areas

All hard areas covered by the grounds maintenance contract should be kept free of litter, obstacles and organic matter at all times. Any overhanging or abutting vegetation should be cut back.

All hard areas must also be kept free of weeds, leaves and moss at all times (using chemical control if necessary).

Management of Litter

All sites covered by the grounds maintenance contract should be maintained in a litter-free condition at all times.

Monitoring of the Contract

The performance of the contractor will be monitored closely by the clerk and members of the parish council who will carry out regular inspections across the village. They will also respond to complaints and comments from the public. The clerk and the contractor will regularly discuss the state of the grounds maintenance and any specific issues which arise.