

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL Wednesday 24th January 2018

1. Area Care

Painting works of the bollards, sign posts, knee rails and street furniture are currently underway in and around the Winward Way/Shepherdson Way area towards Borough Road.

Planting up of the vacant troughs located in Wilson Street has now been completed helping to enhance the area and create a more aesthetically pleasing environment.

Works to cut back shrubs and trees where required are continuing as part of our programme of winter works with particular focus being placed on main routes within the town.

Our operatives are continuing to deal with any excessive litter or dumped waste throughout the town following the festive period.

Works to thin the trees and remove the understorey on Newport roundabout are ongoing to improve visibility for vehicle users and enhance the appearance of the roundabout.

The wet area at the top of the Avenue of Trees was excavated as previously reported and the wet earth has now been replaced with fresh soil and the grass reseeded.

A small area of grass located at the top of St David's Way which was being continually damaged by cars using it as part of their turning circle has now been reinforced with hardcore. Investigations to consider a more permanent solution are underway however as vehicles are still driving over the area adding to the damage.

2. Waste Policy

Street Champions held a hanging basket event in December where a number of street champions and local residents were given the opportunity to make their own hanging basket to add a bit of colour over the winter months. The event was well attended with over 20 hanging baskets made and distributed – a big thank you to Middlesbrough Community Church for hosting the event.

The Recycling Reward Scheme continued in December with over 10 people each winning £50 Cleveland shopping vouchers. To be in with a chance of winning all residents have to do is present their recycling on the correct day at their normal collection point by 7am.

The Waste Policy team held two Recycling Roadshows during December, one in the Parkway Centre and one in the Cleveland Centre. The events promoted the Council's recycling service and reminded residents what can and cannot be recycled over the festive period.

3. Waste Services

We would like to thank all the refuse & recycling crew members for their hard work over the festive period, especially during the recent inclement weather conditions.

Garden waste collections finished at the end of November so a big thank you to all the residents who participated in the scheme over the last 7 months ensuring a significant amount of waste was diverted from final disposal and sent for composting.

4. Albert Park

A 18m Lombardy Poplar is to be removed from the park side bank of Marton West beck. This is to enable access for the Environment Agency to extend the current trash screen and aid in flood prevention.

The clock tower which stands at the main entrance to the park is now back in operation following repair works carried out during December.

The Christmas events programme was well received over the festive period which included willow wreath and Christmas card making, roller disco and an explorer trail.

5. Stewart Park

The park hosted the annual Frost Fair in conjunction with Askham Bryan College, Dales Farms and the Friends of Stewart Park and even featured an appearance from Santa. The event was very well attended and received by all.

The inclement weather has again lead to some flooding near to the large lake in the North of the park. The Parks Management Team are currently looking into various options to decide the best course of action to resolve this issue.

Middlesbrough Schools held its town wide Cross Country race in the park, this was very well attended and the Tees Valley wide finals will be held in the park on 10th January 2018.

6. Newham Grange Leisure Farm

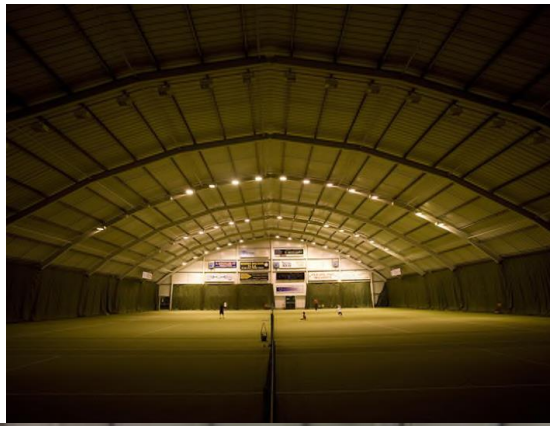
Following a number of annual inspections in early December we are pleased to report that all our cattle tested negative for TB and are in good health and our horse riding licence has again been renewed.

Works are ongoing to tidy up the farm over the winter months including the removal of old fencing and general tidying of the back areas.

7. Tennis World Lighting Improvements

Design Services are currently overseeing works on site at Tennis World to replace all internal lighting to the tennis court areas to meet the client's design criteria. Design Services involvement also included the design and procurement of the necessary works working closely with the Council and external stakeholders.

The proposed lighting arrangement was designed by "Luminous Solutions" as the clients preferred a supplier with the technical design of the containment, support system, wiring and controls being undertaken by Design Services. The proposed luminaires are the Sky A LED Tennis Bay Luminaires (supplied by Northcliffe Lighting) with the layout aiming to meet the requirements of Sport England.



Before

After

8. Safer Bus Station Award

We are delighted to announce that for the second year running we have been awarded the Safer Bus Station award. We were audited at the beginning of November and passed with comments such as the improvements made to the Quiet room (For Dementia sufferers) made the Bus Station an even better safer place for the public and visitors to Middlesbrough.

Phil Taylor the lead officer auditor says Middlesbrough is the best example of a Bus Station in the North East and thoroughly deserves the award.



9. Memorial Service

Over 120 people attended the Christmas Memorial Service in St Bede's Chapel at Teesside Crematorium on Sunday 17th December. The service was conducted by the Reverend John Hearn (retired).

Bereavement Services publish details of the Memorial Service schedule and post invitations to all families who have had recent funeral services at Teesside Crematorium, however the services are all open to all who want to remember a loved one. Each of our Memorial Services start at 3pm and are conducted by a different church minister and the service the names of the deceased, who wish to be remembered by those present, are read out by the minister

10. Donation to Middlesbrough & Stockton MIND

As reported previously, £5000 has been raised by Teesside Crematorium for Middlesbrough and Stockton MIND from its latest share of funds from the national Crematorium Metal Recycling Scheme. I presented the cheque to Bethany Dean, Heather Watson and Sarah Ross from Middlesbrough MIND on 9th January.

