



## **Grounds Maintenance Report: July – December 2021**

### **Grass cutting**

For the first time the team has used two mowers to cover the round and taken on additional areas, some of which were previously outsourced to contactors and the Old Golf Course paths on behalf of Swindon Borough Council, this has gone very well and has kept the grassed areas maintained to a good standard. By the end of season, which finished at the beginning of October, we had successfully completed 14 rounds.

### **Strimming**

We have tried to keep the strimming round to a two weekly rota to coincide with the ride on mowing which I feel works well and keeps everything looking tidy.

### **Dog bins**

After taking the dog bins back in house, we have completed the transition with great success and no disruption to other tasks. All bins are emptied weekly and high usage areas are emptied twice a week. Since taking over this task we have received lots of positive comments from residents.

### **Bedding**

Classic Baskets has once again provided Highworth Town Council with some amazing flower displays this summer, the team also took on the flower watering this summer which has allowed a more proactive approach to the watering and ensuring the best display possible. The summer plants have recently been replaced with the winter bedding.

### **Hedge cutting**

The annual hedge cutting began around mid-October and we are ahead of schedule and very close to completion. We have some height reduction work to carry out to bring the hedges back down to a more manageable height.

### **Side arm**

Swindon Borough Council assisted by Highworth Town Council have completed another annual round of side arm work. We used the side arm to remove a hedge at the entrance to Bydemill Gardens, we hope to be able to turn this area into a grassed area with smaller flower beds and maybe, in the future, some benches making this a pleasant place to take a rest.

### **Leaf clearing**

All members of the team are being trained to operate the Green Machine, this allows for a dual approach to ensure we are able to keep the troubled areas around the town clear of leaves, we are hoping that one more attempt at leaf clearing in the new year will be the last.