

DEPUTATION MEETING REPORT

Date & Time: Wednesday 23rd of September 2026 @3.00pm.

Deputation Group: Cherrywood Residents Association.

Deputation Group attendees: Carla Vedres & Andrei Popa.

Elected Members: Cllr Shirley O Hara.

Council Officials: David Fennell (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), Fionnuala Keane (AO Community Dept) Alison Somerville (SO Community Dept), Emma Conlon (ASO Community Dept), Abdullahi Mahamuud (CO Community Dept).

Cllr Shirley O Hara presided.

Items Discussed

Item 1 – Storage concerns – Since the formation of our group we have requested a storage container. Our suggestion for a storage space has been repeatedly turned down for every area suggested. We need a place to store the machinery and tools for us to continue working.

David Fennell (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), replied to the groups query

Commitment given:

The manager deemed after careful consideration all the areas the group had put forward to be unsuitable for a storage container for machinery & tools. He mentioned this was largely due to the possibility of antisocial behaviour that these containers can attract. In relation to the allotment space the group put forward – the manager advised there is a lengthy allotment list and that space would be sought after to dedicate to more allotments rather than storage facilities. David agreed that should a suitable location come up that SDCC will work with the residents on pursuing this request but regrettably for now there is no such suitable location.

Item 2 – Cherrywood Crescent boundary with Corkagh Grange Avenue was planted with copper beech and was destroyed by antisocial behaviour. We would like this area to be tended to and requesting netting at the gates to stop litter flying into Cherrywood Crescent.

David Fennell (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), replied to the groups query

Commitment given:

The manager acknowledged the reason for firstly selecting copper beech for planting was due to its durability and he will look at repairing the damaged area. He advised he might look at replacing these with a prunus native hedge. The plan will

be to go out and assess what is currently growing and if necessary, he will replace this with something that has more suitable growth. He advised sometimes spikey options are better, and he may put one in here to deter anymore anti-social behavioural damage.

In relation to the proposed netting on the rails – the manager confirmed this would not be an option going forward.

**Item 3 – Cherrywood Grove fencing between the park and the football pitch.
Requested paint to update the fence or native shrubs to be planted to cover the fence as its an eyesore for residents.**

David Fennell (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), replied to the groups query

Commitment given:

The manager explained that the steel railing is galvanised, this is done in a protective cover to resist potential rusting and while painting the zinc rails may look nice it won't last and will eventually chip away and peel. He went on to explain that with a fence as old as this that the best option is to leave it as is with the galvanised finish.

The manager agreed that the planting of a native hedge is a good idea and he will run a utility check within the next two weeks to check for water pipes, cables etc underground. He endeavoured to plant this winter should the results of the findings be clear. The manager mentioned a few options for planting such as a hawthorn, blackthorn and a small maple mix.

The meeting ended as there was no other business