

Gardens Report – AGM June 2024

I have pleasure in reporting that our overall spend for 2023 was under £3,000 – which is less than half of the previous year. Obviously, this must be viewed in the context that it was the first year of a transitional period as we switch from bi-annual planting-up of bedding plants to replanting with perennials.

A local professional gardener and resident, David Saunders, was engaged to undertake the regular maintenance and tidying of the sites at Ocean Drive, Langbury Lane and The Grove.

In addition to this, the following has taken place:

Ocean Drive –

Most established shrubs and plants were left in place. They continued to provide some colour through Spring and Summer and will form the basis of the site moving forward.

David provided suggestions for suitable flowering plants to be introduced and in November around 50 perennials and 80 bulbs were added.

These may take a year or so to establish fully, and we may look to add further where required.

A list of the new plants may be found on the website in the November report.

Langbury Lane –

The old Barrel planter was replaced, with the existing Cordyline replanted in it. For 2024:

Costings are to be obtained for either replacement of, or repairs to the bench. The planting of a new bed will be considered.

Highdown Way –

I'm afraid this was neglected for a while, but now tidied and weeded.

A new Barrel planter was purchased and planted up.

Clover Lane –

Focus for 2024 will be on how the site may be enhanced.

In closing, I would like to thank those generous members who contributed to the Garden Fund in 2023.

I also wish to thank David Saunders for all his hard work and help, both in keeping our sites well maintained and for his input and suggestions regarding suitable plants to be added.

Simon Thompson

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