

Gardens Report – Jul 23

Our gardener, David Saunders, continues with fortnightly mowing at Ocean Drive, Langbury Lane and The Grove, together with some tidying-up within the time he has available at present. At my next meeting with David I shall enquire if he is able to increase the hours he allocates to us.

Generally, though, I am quite satisfied with the look of Ocean Drive where existing plants have provided some colour without the need for additional planting. Some of these will continue to form the basis of the site moving forward.

About a month ago I was surprised to encounter a mini shipping container-like structure on the grass at Ocean Drive – a large port-a-loo for the gas contractors. Enquiries of the owners shed no light as to who had instructed/given permission, but our Chairman was able to contact relevant parties and the cabin was moved within a few days with no damage to the grass.

Already aware that the Highdown site has been neglected, I had diarised to attend to it last Thursday – which I duly did. Unfortunately, some of the local residents were unhappy with the appearance resulting in a prior email from Janet Porter (via Nikki) asking what was happening. She was happy with my explanation and, hopefully, with the ensuing tidy-up.

Last Friday, I also managed to spend 3 or so hours clearing some of the area against the mesh fence at the Langbury Lane site.

The gentleman who lives alongside advised me that he had fixed the FRSA sign to his fence, being 'fed up' with it being thrown into his garden. I thanked him for his involvement, and apologised that he had been inconvenienced.

On my return from holiday, in a couple of week's time, I shall purchase a couple of new barrel planters. One for the Highdown site, which I presume remained with Ferring Nurseries when we requested that the winter planting should not proceed. The other as a replacement for the barrel at Langbury Lane which is 'on it's last legs'.