

Burntbroom Residents' Association Chair's Report 2022/2023

On behalf of the residents, I wish to thank all the Committee members for their continued involvement over the past year. A special thanks goes to those who have carried out the major tasks involved in maintaining the Association, namely Steven Morrison for taking on the task of identifying; meeting with and obtaining quotes from prospective Gardeners and subsequently active management of our gardener and tree surgeon, Anne Mullen as treasurer; Cat Barr as Secretary, and of course her regular updates on Facebook and finally Julie Morrison, who stepped in to ensure our monthly invoices were approved on time in my absence – thank you.

2022/2023 in Summary

1. Following a disappointing service provision from Plourde Garden Services originally appointed for season 2022/2023, we came to a mutual agreement to cease the arrangement and secure a new provider. Rutherglen Landscapes Ltd. were appointed following review and consideration of a number of quotes received. All quotes received represented an increase to our previous costs, reflecting the increased costs associated with the service. These additional costs were absorbed by Association reserves for year 2022/2023.
2. Having been let down by the tree surgeon at the end of 2021/2022 season for a schedule of work to be undertaken early in the season, a new tree surgeon was appointed in the summer. An agreed schedule of work was undertaken along with a number of adhoc requests for review by residents. A further schedule of work was agreed following review of available funds by the committee in February this year, with work completed in March.
3. All fees for period 2022/2023 were collected. At the time of writing, 95% of residents have transacted payments for 2023/2024. Thank you to all residents who have paid on-time. We will continue to pursue those outstanding.

The major item of expenditure for the Association continues to be the gardener's fees for maintenance of the common green areas of the estate. Rutherglen Landscapes Ltd. have been appointed as our contractor for 2023/2024, following the good service provided following their appointment in 2022. Annual costs of the service have been maintained at 2022/2023 levels, however this is an increase on previous years (reflected in all quotes received as part of the service procurement process in 2022). In light of the Cost of Living Crisis, the committee have agreed that this additional costs be absorbed by the reserves available for the period 2023/2024, however green fees will increase for all households from 2024/2025. These will be agreed once gardening fees have been confirmed and communicated via the annual newsletter in March 24. This will cover both the increased cost of maintaining the green areas and re-build reserves necessary for the proactive management of the estate.

The Association, supported by the good work of the volunteers on the committee continues to be the most 'cost effective' method of maintaining the green areas of the estate.

Finally, many of our residents are joining in the conversation on social media. Everyone can get involved, either through our facebook group, or for those of you who would like to be more active in keeping our estate beautiful, you are always welcome to join our committee – get in touch with one of our existing committee members, via facebook or our email – all detailed on our newsletter or website.

Trina Norquay, Chairperson, 08.05.2023