ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

Duchess Wood Committee

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

18th August 2015

Routine Maintenance & Budget Statement

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The two trees at West Highland Line, the works order has been issued and work should start there shortly.
- 1.2 Litter bins have been getting emptied as normal over the last three months. Knotweed, first treatment has been completed and over coming next two weeks the second treatment will be carried out.
- 1.3 Funds available for works within Duchess Wood stands at £11,526.40 however as a further tender is being drawn up for Strathclyde Court garage works this figure may reduce by a further £3,500 and there is a £1,000 set aside for new culvert.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Strathclyde Court Garages, works are still outstanding and tender is being drawn up so that these works can be carried out once laves are off the trees. By delaying these works it will make it much easier for contractors to carry out the works without the weight of the leaves on the braches thereby reducing risk of damaging the garages. There has been a quotation for this work last year of £3,500.00 this is a base line figure.

3.0 DETAILS

- 3.1 Litter Bins were emptied as normal over the summer period and will continue to be emptied over the next three months.
- 3.2 Tree works on the boundary between Duchess Wood and West Highland Railway has been put out to tender. There were two returns to the tender, West Coast Group at £4,108.00 plus vat and QTS at £978.00 plus vat. The QTS tender was awarded and this work should start shortly.
- 3.3 There are two trees at the side of 22 Duchess Park that require to be removed. This will be carried out early in winter months as there is no danger to property or residents of 22 Duchess Park.
- 3.4 To date no costs have been forth coming for new culvert and there is £1,000.00 set aside for these works.

3.5 Knotweed, second treatment will be carried out over the next two weeks. Areas included in the treatments are Car Park area, area off Rhu Road Higher, Duchess Park area and at the top of playing field close to Strathclyde Court garages.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 General maintenance has been completed on target and the works order for the trees at the West Highland Line has been issued. Works at Strathclyde Court should be completed in time for the next Duchess Wood committee meeting.
- 4.2 Budget for the wood is presently standing at £11,526.40 however there are two further charges outstanding. Once works at new culvert is completed and Strathclyde Garage tender come in funds may be as low as £7,026.60

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Policy None
- 5.2 Financial The works at West Highland Line has reduced funds available and Strathclyde Garages works will reduce it further once works have been completed.
- 5.3 Legal None
- 5.4 HR None
- 5.5 Equalities None
- 5.6 Risk There is still a Health and Safety issue with regards trees at Strathclyde Court Garages however this should be minimised if works are completed before the worst of the winter weather.
- 5.7 Customer Services –None

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure

Policy Lead Councillor Ellen Morton

10th May 2015

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