

## Clerk's Report to Full Council – 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026

### Annscroft Play Area Improvements

Invitations to tender were sent out to the advertised emails of 10 suppliers and a number of site visits were arranged. During a follow up exercise, it was discovered that several suppliers had not received the invitation. It was therefore decided to resend the ITT and to allow an additional week for all suppliers to submit their proposals, to ensure a full and fair process. The revised submission deadline is 5pm on 17<sup>th</sup> March.

### Convex mirror and post – Longden Shop

The Area Technician has been asked to confirm whether a post-mounted mirror can be installed opposite the Longden shop and a quotation obtained from a suitably accredited contractor as a comparator to the quotation provided by Shropshire Council. The contractor quote is higher than the Shropshire Council quote due to the need to obtain a permit to work in the highway. We are awaiting a date to meet the Area Technician.

### Annscroft trees

During the recent heavy snowfall, a large silver birch tree on Annscroft bank was damaged with a broken branch lying across the boundary of the neighbouring property. I have advised the resident they can arrange to have the broken branch removed as it is in a dangerous condition. (See separate photograph).

They have also requested permission to reduce the height of the damaged tree and the one next to it, which restrict light from her patio. Shropshire Council were approached initially but they disclaimed any responsibility for the trees. The ownership of the trees is therefore unknown, but the resident is willing to pay for the tree work if there are no objections from the parish council.

The resident has undertaken clearance of the scrub and ivy behind the parish noticeboard. They are willing to replace the ivy with shrubs and keep them tidy if acceptable to the parish council. They have also agreed to become a guardian of the Annscroft defibrillator.

### Replacement bins

Installation of the new bins was completed quickly after delivery but many of the bins have quickly been filled to capacity. Shropshire Council has been asked to confirm that they are being emptied regularly and the locations confirmed. The emptying of litter bins is presently subcontracted to Idverde but will transfer back to Shropshire Council's main contractor Kier in April. Shrewsbury Town Council has enquired whether parish councils wish to contract with them to empty litter bins from April when they take over street cleaning services for the town.

### Internal Financial Controls Checks

The Clerk met with Cllr Arnold on 17<sup>th</sup> February to review a sample of transactions to ensure the Council is complying with its statement of financial controls and standing orders. The report is attached as Appendix C.

Caroline Higgins

Clerk to Longden Parish Council

