

9 x interment of bodies
 3 x interment of ashes
 1 x exhumation of ashes
 11 x memorials and additional inscriptions.

Environmental Overview Group: This group was set up during the year 2012/13 in order to improve the communication lines between the Council and its grounds maintenance contractor. Many of the existing Working Parties include responsibility for small elements of the grounds maintenance contract, and in the past, this has led to a fragmented approach to determining the overall requirements. This new group, which will meet quarterly and report back to Council, will focus on coordinating the requirements of the various commissioning groups and communicating these to the contractor through one point of contact. By establishing clear guidelines and regular feedback, it is anticipated that the partnership between the Council and its contractor will flourish and lead to continued improvements in the service provided.

Fairchild's Meadows: The last twelve months have seen lots of volunteer activity in the meadows and some extreme weather conditions. Incidents of vandalism remain low and apart from occasional rubbish left and the inevitable dog mess left by a few people, the meadows appear well regarded and cared for by users. At present there is plenty of water in the pond! However, it is apparent that there is still a leak in the small area of pond by the footbridge; this will be left as a marginal area. Diggers from the Haddenham Drainage Board will be coming later in the year to build up and extend the clay barrier at the overflow ditch. This barrier will be then covered with wire (to deter children from 'breaching' the dam) and planted with appropriate plants. It is intended that they also remove the Reed Mace patch in between the two ponds as they are becoming invasive. We still have an on-going saga with the creeping thistle in the wildflower meadow. In the spring the grass was heavily grazed so that the thistles could then be sprayed when they outgrew the grass. Unfortunately the weather conspired against us and the persistent rain meant the grass grew as fast as the thistles and it wasn't possible to do a weed wipe. Our intention, this year, is to spot spray rather than weed wipe and grazing the grass in the autumn showed a belt of thistles by the central footpath, which will be targeted. The footpath around the outside of the meadow will be cut next to the fence, rather than the middle, so regular cutting and walking will keep the thistles down there. We were lucky to be given about 4 kilos of Yellow Rattle seed by the Wildlife Trust in October (worth about £500-£600). It does not remain viable for long and so we had to sow it in January although conditions were far from ideal. It has gone onto the central area of the bonfire field (where we will harvest it later in the year), the wildflower meadow and Wayman's Pits. Some will also be sown in the old burial ground. Plastic matting has been laid where there is a natural spring on the far side of the long meadow and where the path leads out between the trees onto the footpath. The first mats, which were put down in March, have bedded down and are doing the job but it was difficult to decide where to put the rest as everywhere is so boggy. Cub Scouts and pupils from primary schools have made use of the pond dipping equipment and insect nets in the past twelve months but it remains underused by organised groups. Teachers at Haddenham will be reminded about the availability of the dipping equipment, as one of the science topics for the summer term is 'Minibeasts'.

Green Footpaths & Trees: The County Council has been unable to finance the trimming of local green footpaths but most Parish Councils are continuing to look after the paths near the centre of their villages. The Aldreth Causeway and Cut Bank droves are being closed in the winter months to 4 x 4 traffic. A large Horse Chestnut tree at the rear of the Pavilion has been removed on safety grounds and trees at the bottom of the Non Conformist Burial Ground are to be worked on. A Royal Oak sapling, donated to commemorate the dedication of the Recreation Field as a Queen Elizabeth Field has been planted near the car park.

Guppy's Pond: The group has been carrying out regular maintenance at the Pond during the last year. A successful Boating Day was staged and many people are using the Pond walks as part of a circular walk around Fairchild's Meadows. There are some problems with fishing, which we are trying to address with the help of a part of the police force called Eco Cops. There are some problems with sewage at one end of the lake, which we have asked the Parish Council to look into, as it may need an intervention by the Environmental Health Department.

Recreation Ground and Pavilion: Since having professional cleaners working at the pavilion we have had some excellent reports from users about the improvement in the cleanliness of the whole building, in particular the toilets. We will continue with this service as it is proving to be a hit with regular users and the public. We have now completed a year with the new grass cutting contractors and again have had some glowing reports re the improvement in the condition of the playing fields. The MUGA had a "spring clean" last year, which improved the playing surface. We are told that this will prolong its life for another 5 years. Litter is still a problem with bottles and crisp packets discarded. The skate park is still causing problems mostly with vandalism. We have spent considerable amounts this year with running repairs.