

John Morgan

10:09 (21
hours ago)

to me, margaret.lumb

Dear Mrs Davidson

Some time ago you advised that hedge cutting would begin on 6 August; it is now mid-September and the hedge to the rear of Sumerling Way has not yet been cut. Do you know when this will happen?

I am due to replace my rear fence and the area needs to be accessible for my contractor. In order to prepare the area for work to begin I will, as previously agreed with the PC, clear the area to the rear of the hedge and cut the hedge as required behind properties 4, 5 and 6. Although the council has mandated that exterior fence maintenance can only be carried out by accessing the rear of the hedge from Colne Road you will be aware that hedge/tree growth makes this impossible; the area will therefore be accessed from my property.

Regards
John Morgan

Sent from my iPad

Tracey Davidson <bluntishamclerk@gmail.com>12:32 (18
hours ago)

to John, margaret.lumb

Good Afternoon

I am sorry to say that there has been a delay with the hedge cutting this year due to personal circumstances with the contractor. Hedges are still being cut but at a slower rate than originally promised. If you can advise when you are getting the works done to your fence I will try to ensure the area is clear at this time.

Many thanks and Best regards

Tracey Davidson
Bluntisham Parish Clerk
01487 841977
07725 308115
bluntishamclerk@gmail.com

John Morgan

13:37 (17
hours ago)

to me, margaret.lumb

Dear Mrs Davidson

Thank you for your reply.

Our work will be beginning at the end of September and I am currently preparing the garden to take the new fencing.

It is disappointing to hear that the contractor has apparently come up with similar excuses to those he used last year and continues to get away with giving the Council the run around; what's the betting he has more lucrative work elsewhere and just uses the guaranteed PC contract as a useful fill-in.

Why is it that the Parish Council is totally unable to manage simple contracts such as hedge cutting, and continues to waste public money on this particular contractor.

Please can you inform me who is responsible for managing this basic maintenance of the village?

Let's hope that the major vanity projects currently underway will be managed more proficiently.

Regards
John Morgan'

acey Davidson <bluntishamclerk@gmail.com>

15:28 (15
hours ago)

to Alan, Cynthia, Gary, Ian, Kathy, Mark, Martin, Martin, philyhope, Robert, Robert, John, margaret.lumb

Good Afternoon

Thank you for your comments, which are noted.

The parish council signed a 3 year contract with the current provider so there was the potential for wasting public money to switch. However, the contract is up for renewal after this year and past performance will be taken into account should the current contractor seek to tender for the work when the process is started again in due course. We will also ensure that future contracts contain clauses relating to performance, which would ensure we do not find ourselves in a similar position again.

Many thanks and Best regards
Margaret Lumb
Chairman - Bluntisham Parish Council
01487 841977

bluntishamclerk@gmail.com

 John Morgan

16:44 (14
hours ago)

to me, margaret.lumb, Alan, Cynthia, Gary, Ian, Kathy, Mark, Martin, Martin, philyhope, Robert, Robert

Good Afternoon

Thank you for your reply.

Producing a more exacting contract in future is all well and good but any contractor will still need to be managed to ensure that the relevant clauses are met. The current contractor's performance is due to a lack of management and an ambivalent acceptance by whoever is overseeing this contract on behalf of the council. As you have not answered my question am I to assume that nobody manages this contract?

Regards

John Morgan
Robert Gore

19:15 (12
hours ago)

to John, me, margaret.lumb, Alan, Cynthia, Gary, Ian, Kathy, Mark, Martin, Martin, philyhope, Robert

Dear John,

Your comments are, as ever, welcome and the full council is aware of them. However, we are not obliged to continually respond to questions on the same subject especially where we believe the responses provided have been sufficient. If you are unhappy with any of the responses you receive, you are aware of the complaints process and the procedures you can go through to make your dissatisfaction known. You are aware that part of that process is that you are able to request to meet with two of the councillors, which we remain happy to do.

The council is not obliged to divulge details of all of its correspondence with contractors or service providers, suffice to say, I can assure you that the whole council is entirely happy with the amount of "management" that has been expended on this particular contractor. We have chosen to be compassionate and measured in our response rather than overbearing in an already difficult situation for an individual. We would like to think that the majority, if not all, parishioners would either feel the same or wish to be treated the same in similar circumstances.

The councillors are aware of the responsibilities placed on the council to maintain its land and environs. We will continue to monitor the position, and take action accordingly, in line with the stance we have chosen.

We will not enter into further correspondence on the matter as this regularly causes additional issues. If you are unhappy with that, may I respectfully suggest that you enter into the complaints process referenced above, of which you are already aware. However, should you require a further copy, please let me know and I will arrange for you to receive it shortly.

with best regards

Rob Gore
John Morgan

20:36 (10
hours ago)

to Robert, me, margaret.lumb, Alan, Cynthia, Gary, Ian, Kathy, Mark, Martin, Martin, philyhope, Robert


Thank you for your email. I do not wish to correspond further on this issue, if the council is content with the drift of contracts there is nothing to be gained from discussing this further.

As I stated below, my fences are due to be replaced at the end of this month and the contractor will require access to the rear of my property. If it is not possible to cut the hedge before end-Sept please let me know as soon as possible.

In line with Council policy, please can I request that my original email request is included on the agenda for the next PC meeting, and the complete correspondence below appended to the subsequent minutes.

Regards
John Morgan

12:32 (18
hours ago)

 Sent from my iPad

13:37 (17
hours ago)

To: [faded]

Dear [faded]

Thank you for [faded]

[faded]

[faded]

[faded]

[faded]

[faded]

Regards

John Morgan