

## Parish Council Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> November

### Item 13, Appendix 9

#### Urban Grass Cutting options

Following the last parish council meeting the clerk has investigated the options available to the PC.

The suggestion of less cuts was made by several parishioner at the last parish council meeting and would be worth exploring, however the decision must be submitted to ESCC by early December to allow scheduling.

ESCC Highways have confirmed they cannot accommodate individual parish cutting schedules and will not remove the cuttings. This is because they must organise cutting schedules across the County.

If the PC were to choose to deliver the verge cutting the contractor must comply with ESCC criteria and sign a contract confirming the criteria is met. Self-delivery will be more costly in comparison. The current contractor has confirmed they can provide this service and remove the cuttings as requested however the cost for two cuts per year will be £1200. If KPC decide to self-deliver ESCC will contribute £439 towards the costs leaving KPC to fund £761 for the two cuts.

Although this has been suggested by some parishioners and does sit well with the council's bio-diversity initiatives I suggest the whole parish is surveyed to gauge opinion.

#### Reminder of ESCC Options

**Option 1 - Standard:** Two cuts over the course of a year to be carried out by ESCC at no cost to the Parish Council. Urban grass will be managed for safety purposes only.

**Option 2 – Extra cuts:** Parish Councils may fund an additional four cuts to be carried out by ESCC, totalling six cuts (two standard and four extra) over the course of the year. This would cost the Parish Council a total of £879 for the year.

**Option 3 – Self delivery:** Parish Councils take on responsibility to deliver all urban grass cutting in their area. This must include a minimum of two cuts over the course of the year. ESCC will not carry out any urban grass cutting in the area. ESCC would pay the Parish Council the sum of £439 to do this.