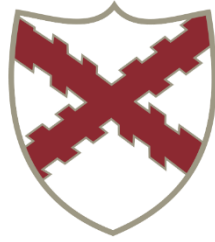


Approved 21st October 2019



St Austell Town Council

Grass Cutting Policy



Poltair Park



St Austell Town Council **Grass Cutting Policy**

Background

The Town Council is committed to maintaining and providing access to as much safe, well managed open space as possible. It has declared support for the “climate emergency” initiative and is actively working to off-set carbon emissions by planting shrubs and trees and choosing plants which will encourage pollinators.

The Council has reviewed all of the parks, open spaces in residential areas and roadside verges in its management to determine how they should be managed in the future. The individual sites and their treatments are as shown in schedule 1.

General Practices

- All operatives will have Highways accreditation and be qualified to operate ride on mowers, push mowers and brush cutters in a safe and appropriate manner.
- Grass cutting commences in March/April and continues until September or October.
- The Council has insufficient resource to maintain any open spaces to the standard of a domestic lawn.
- It is not possible for the Council to collect and remove all grass cuttings as it would require a very large storage space.
- Where practical, wildflowers will not be cut back until they have seeded and died back.
- Bulbs will not be cut back until they have died sufficiently to allow the nutrients to be absorbed back into the bulbs.

Standards

The following standards will be adopted:

Parks and Open Spaces – standard 1

- Grass to be cut every 2-3 weeks (subject to suitable weather and ground conditions).
- Grass cuttings not collected to allow nutrients to be absorbed back into the ground.

Parks and Open Spaces – standard 2

- Grass to be cut every 3-4 weeks (subject to suitable weather and ground conditions).
- Grass cuttings not collected to allow nutrients to be absorbed back into the ground.

Parks and Open Spaces – standard 3

- No regular mowing to encourage wildflowers.
- Grass to be cut back once a year and grass to be removed.

Residential Estates

- Grass to be cut regularly and opportunities for trees and pollinator friendly shrubs to be explored. Where it is practicable, orchards should be considered.
- Grass cut approximately every 3 weeks between April and September.
- Grass cuttings not collected to allow nutrients to be absorbed back into the ground.

Roadside verge – standard 1

- Grass cut approximately every 3 weeks between April and September.
- Grass cuttings not collected to allow nutrients to be absorbed back into the ground.

Roadside verge – standard 2

- A strip of grass approximately 1 metre wide to be mowed next to the highway and remainder to be allowed to grow wild until September/October.
- Wild areas to be cut once a year in September/October after seeding.
- Grass cuttings/arising to be collected where possible.

Roundabout – standard 1

- Grass cut every 2-3 weeks where formal planting adopted.

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Roundabout – standard 2

- Wildflower areas cut once a year in September/October after seeding.
- Grass cuttings/arising to be collected where possible.
- Visibility splays maintained.

Schedule 1

Gover Ward		
<u>Description</u>	<u>Maintenance Standard</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Clinton Drive	Residential Estate	
Truro Road Park	Parks and Open Spaces Standard 1	
St Mewan to Truro Road A390 (north side)	Roadside Verges standard 1	
St Mewan to Truro Road A390 (south side)	Roadside Verges standard 2	
Edgumbe Triangle	Parks and Open Spaces standard 1 Parks and Open Spaces standard 3 (areas defined for bulbs and wildflowers)	Consider adding some fruit trees and wildflowers around base of trees
A390 McDonalds/Asda side	Roadside verge standard 2	
A390 residential side	Roadside verge standard 1	
Westbourne Drive	Residential Estates	
Chy Pons	Parks and Open Spaces standard 2	Consider adding some fruit trees
Higher/Lower Woodside	Residential Estates	
Chipponds adjacent to Quarry	Parks and Open Spaces standard 2	Plant blackthorn or fruit trees on grassed area in front of the fence



Truro Road Park

Mount Charles		
<u>Description</u>	<u>Maintenance Standard</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Asda roundabout	Roundabout standard 1	
Cromwell Road	Roadside verge standard 1	
Polmear Road junction	Roadside verge standard 1	Plant magnolia trees
Mount Charles roundabout verges	Roadside verge standard 1	
Field of Hope	Parks and Open Spaces standard 2 Parks and Open Spaces standard 3	Differential mowing i.e. in circles around the bases of trees
Eastbourne Road and Tolcarne Close junction	Roadside verge standard 1	Plant fruit trees
Queens Estate	Residential Estates	
Margaret Avenue grassed area	Parks and Open Spaces standard 2	Consult residents on the possibility of planting fruit trees

Woodland Road Park	Parks and Open Spaces standard 1	In the bottom corner by the children's centre add more trees
Eliot Road verges	Roadside verge standard 1	
Eliot Road and Bramley Close junction	Roadside verge standard 1	
Bird sanctuary estate	Residential Estates	
Mitchell Road	Residential Estates	Plant fruit trees
Woodland Close Park	Parks and Open Spaces standard 2 Parks and Open Spaces standard 3	Play area – cut short Park boundary – Fruit trees/wildflowers



Woodland Road Park

Woodland Close Park



St Austell Bay		
<u>Description</u>	<u>Maintenance Standard</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Penmere Open Space	Parks and Open Spaces standard 2 Parks and Open Spaces standard 3	Plant more trees e.g. Birch, Sycamore, Maple. Keep the banks long.



Penmere Road Park

Poltair		
<u>Description</u>	<u>Maintenance Standard</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Prince Charles Park	Parks and Open Spaces standard 1	Wildflowers under the trees. Plant more trees.
Prince Charles Estate	Residential Estate	Estate entrance – plant daffodils

Lostwood Garden	Parks and Open Spaces standard 2	Kept as a community garden
Poltair Avenue/Lostwood junction	Residential Estate	
Area adjacent to community garden	Residential Estate	Residents' survey/speak to Poltair residents association
Poltair Park	Parks and Open Spaces standard 1 Parks and Open Spaces standard 3	Wildflower areas (rye grass check type). Plant trees and wildflowers along the north edge
Library Garden	Parks and Open Spaces standard 1	SALSA
Library Front Garden	Parks and Open Spaces standard 1	Plant trees/wildflowers
Cemetery Park	Parks and Open Spaces standard 1 Parks and Open Spaces standard 3	Cut strips of grass in front of gravestones for easy access Plant pockets of wildflowers. Differential mowing throughout the park.

Sycamore Avenue	Residential Estate	
Sycamore Avenue Large grass area	Residential Estate	Leave as it is for the present time. Consult residents to find out what they would like for the area. (Possible strips of wildflowers)
Thornpark Road	Parks and Open Spaces standard 2	Pocket park funding project
Ropehaven Road	Residential Estate	
Polmarth Close	Parks and Open Spaces standard 2 Parks and Open Spaces standard 3	Plant wildflower meadow on sloping area
Phernyssick Road	Roadside verge standard 1	Plant daffodils



Thornpark Road Park

Bethel Ward		
<u>Description</u>	<u>Maintenance Standard</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Landrew Road verges	Roadside verge standard 1	
Landrew Road Park	Parks and Open Spaces standard 2	
Longpark Way	Residential Estate	Consult residents to find out what they would like to see in the area. Possible planting of fruit trees in the squares
Sandy Hill Park	Parks and Open Spaces standard 2	Plant wildflowers and cherry trees
Sandy Hill (inside fence)	Parks and Open Spaces standard 3	
Killyvarder Way	Residential Estate	Potential to plant cherry trees. Perhaps a theme of cherry trees
Boldventure	Residential Estate	Potential to plant trees on grass area where the stones are. Consult residents to find out what they would like for the area.
Chapel Field Estate	Residential Estate	
Chapel Field Park	Parks and Open Spaces standard 2	

Bethel Park	Parks and Open Spaces standard 1	In need of an upgrade – bland area. Potential for trees on the corner of Trenowah Road (Highways approval). Grass – cut into a maze?
Bucklers Lane	Residential Estate	Plant more trees/fruit trees. Wildflower planting. Wildflower planting on land next to the church.
Lyons Road	Residential Estate	Plant wildflowers
Daniels Lane	Roadside verge standard 1	Keep wildflower area (by the telephone box)
Jubilee Meadow	Residential Estate	Potential to plant more trees (possibly sweet chestnut). Southern end of Jubilee Meadows plant more trees.
Manfield Way	Parks and Open Spaces standard 3	Keep path clear
The Meadows	Parks and Open Spaces standard 1 Parks and Open Spaces standard 2 Parks and Open Spaces standard 3	Keep existing wild area. Potential to plant more trees on the Retallick Meadows boundary.

Parkway/Manor Close/Meadway	Residential Estate	Manor Close/Parkway junction – potential to plant more trees



Chapel Field Park

Bethel Park

