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COLLETT PARK IN SHEPTON MALLET IS RECOGNISED AS ONE OF THE UK'S VERY BEST GREEN SPACES FOR THE THIRD YEAR

Collett Park in Shepton Mallet has again been recognised by the Green Flag Award Scheme as one of the very best in the country, being among one of 2,000 parks and green spaces in the UK to receive the prestigious Green Flag - the mark of a quality park or green space.

This international award, now into its third decade, is a sign to the public that the space boasts the highest possible environmental standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent visitor facilities.

Garfield Kennedy, Chair of the Collett Park Management Committee said:

“We are delighted that for the third year running our ground-care team continues to put in the hours and devotion to make the park such a special and safe place for locals and visitors. The award continues to provide us with renewed impetus to maintain to the highest level John Kyte Collett’s gift to Shepton”

The park has had some improvements in the last few months with the additional of a water refill station on the wall of the toilet block, as well as new bike racks by the play areas.

During the pandemic the park was an essential sanctuary for relaxation and enjoyment for the many who needed to take their daily exercise in a peaceful park. Whilst the children’s play areas and the café had to be closed to comply with regulations, they reopened safely in July. A mobile hand sanitiser and signage were installed and an improved cleaning schedule in all areas to make the area safe and clean.

An ecologist was recently commissioned to undertake an ecological assessment of the habitats in the park with a view to ensuring that any future improvements made to the park support the flora and fauna. There are many opportunities for the council to explore, from additional planting to attract pollinating insects to improving the wildlife value of the pond.

Commenting on the success of Shepton Mallet Town Council, Keep Britain Tidy Chief Executive Allison Ogden-Newton OBE said “This year, more than ever, our parks and green spaces have been a lifeline and we know that millions of people have used to the relax, meet friends, exercise or simply escape for a short time. It is testament to the incredible dedication and hard work of parks staff and volunteers that, despite the challenges that went along with record number of visitors, Collett Park has achieved the highest international standard demanded by the Green Flag Award!

Until next week!

Shepton Mallet Town Council

NOTES TO EDITORS

Shepton Mallet Town Council, Town Clerk – Ms Charlotte Starkie
Shepton Mallet Town Council Chairman – Councillor Edric Hobbs