



TOWN AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Town Amenities Committee meeting held in the Cowie Room, Public Hall on Tuesday 14th July 2026 commencing at 7.00pm.

- 533 PRESENT:** Cllr Gillings (Chairman), Cllr Acton, Cllr R. Gunning, Cllr Wallbridge, Cllr Dawkins, Cllr S. Gunning and Cllr Ginder; also Sara Cradock (Town Clerk), Mr Harvey (Beaminster Football Club), Mr Camps (Groundskeeper), Mr Crabb (Cricket Club) and Mrs Dower (Allotment Association).
- 534 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Corbett, Cllr Brown and Mr Alexander (Head Groundskeeper/Maintenance).
- 535 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS**
Cllr S. Gunning declared an interest in Item 546(a), Club Agreements and Annual Rent, as Treasurer of Beaminster Football Club and did not vote.
- 536 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12th May 2026**
The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2026 having previously been circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.
- 537 PROGRESS UPDATE**
Members **NOTED** the following updates:
- New flooring in Pavilion booked for 20th July
 - New signs installed on exterior of Pavilion
 - Painting of Pavilion after flooring complete – main hall to be done by Terry Field & other areas to be done by Alex & Matt over the winter.
 - Waiting on date for shutters in Pavilion to be fixed
 - Safe route to school, Playing Field – waiting for DC to come back with costs
 - Christmas lights ordered – *awaiting delivery*
- 538 MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD**
- (a) Cricket Club Canopies**
Mr Crabb acknowledged that the canopies should have been moved regularly to prevent damage to the grass. He explained that difficulties securing volunteers, together with the recent hot weather, had contributed to the situation.
- Mr Crabb would assess the affected areas in the autumn and consider whether reseedling was required.
- RESOLVED** that the matter be reviewed at the September meeting.

(b) Outdoor Gym

Members considered the proposed installation of outdoor gym equipment.

RESOLVED that residents be consulted on whether an outdoor gym was supported and, if so, what type of equipment should be provided. The Town Clerk would arrange an online survey once the new Council website was operational, with the results reported to a future meeting.

(c) Drainage Improvements - Ditch

Members discussed drainage at the far end of the Memorial Playing Field and the possible presence of an existing pipe beneath the ditch.

RESOLVED that further investigation be undertaken to establish the condition and operation of the existing drainage and whether improvements to the ditch would assist winter drainage.

539 PAVILION

(a) Pavilion Bar

Mr Crabb advised that Cricket Club members had not yet reached agreement on the installation and future management of a Pavilion bar. He apologised for the delay.

The update was **NOTED** and confirmation of the Cricket Club's intentions was awaited.

540 CEMETERY

No matters were raised.

541 PUBLIC HALL

No matters were raised.

542 FURLAND ALLOTMENTS

Mrs Dower reported that there were no current issues and that three people were on the waiting list for an allotment.

The update was **NOTED**.

543 PUBLIC TOILETS

No matters were raised.

544 THE SQUARE

(a) Proposal from Beaminster Museum regarding the advertising boards

Members considered Beaminster Museum's request to use three of the six advertising boards in Beaminster Square during the school summer holidays.

RESOLVED unanimously that Beaminster Museum be permitted to use three advertising boards to promote the Museum during the school summer holidays.

(b) Tourist Information Board

Members supported, in principle, the installation of a tourist information board in Beaminster Square.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk:

- obtain indicative quotations;
- investigate potential funding opportunities; and
- prepare a draft design for consideration at a future meeting.

545 GENERAL

(a) The Football Club

Mr Harvey was provided with three sets of keys for the Pavilion, as agreed at the previous meeting.

Mr Harvey advised that the Football Club was investigating the cost of repairing drainage beneath the football pitch. The Club might be able to contribute towards the cost of materials and asked whether the Council would consider contributing towards labour costs.

He also asked whether a secure storage area could be provided for the wheeled goals, which would remove the need to use metal securing pegs.

It was agreed that the drainage and goal-storage requests would be placed on the agenda for a future meeting.

In response to a question, the Town Clerk confirmed that the Pavilion's hot-water issue had been repaired.

546 PUBLIC BODIES (Admission to meeting) ACT 1960

To **RESOLVE** that public and press be excluded from the meeting whilst discussion takes place on the following item on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of business to be transacted in respect of consideration of quotations received, staffing and financial matters.

The Football Club, Cricket Club and Allotment Association representatives and the groundskeeper left the meeting.

(a) Club Agreements and Annual Rent

Members considered the draft licence agreements for Beaminster Football Club and Beaminster Cricket Club together with the annual rent for the use of the Memorial Playing Fields and Pavilion.

RESOLVED that:

- the annual rent payable by each club remain at £2,000;
- invoices for the current year be issued as soon as possible;
- future invoices be issued at the beginning of each financial year;
- rental charges be reviewed annually before the start of each financial year; and
- that the draft licence agreements, as presented, be approved and issued to Beaminster Football Club and Beaminster Cricket Club for signature.

(b) Pavilion Electrics Upgrade

Members considered the quotations received for the proposed installation of external 16-amp and 32-amp electrical sockets.

RESOLVED that further quotations be obtained before a decision was made.

547 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members **NOTED** the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 15th September 2026.

548 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting which started at 7.00pm closed at 8.10pm

Chairman
15th September 2026