

Minutes of a meeting of the AMENITIES COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Square, Crewkerne, following a meeting of the Planning and Highways Committee and the Policy and Resources Committee on Monday 12th January 2026.

PRESENT:

Councillors M. Best (Chair), N. Draycott, D. Livesley, P. Maxwell, J. Nathan, C. Rawe, A. Samuel and A. Stuart

In attendance: G. Hughes (Town Clerk) and S. Syeda Bowen (Deputy Clerk)

014 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

25/26

Apologies were received from Cllrs. S. Ashton, K. Head, J. Morris, (personal), and S. Woodland (unwell).

015 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

25/26

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

016 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

25/26

It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on 10 November 2025 be APPROVED.

017 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

25/26

No members of the public were in attendance.

018 YOUTH PROVISION

25/26 To consider a quotation and to award the contract

Councillor Best advised that three quotes had been sought; however, due to workload pressures, two contractors declined to submit a quotation. Councillors noted that there was minimal financial difference between the option providing free delivery and the option where young people would be required to pay a small fee. It was further noted that, as this would be a different provider, there may be increased interest. The Clerk confirmed that the provider currently delivers youth provision in a number of local areas.

It was AGREED to award the contract, with the provision being free on delivery.

019 LAND AT EASTHAMS LANE

25/26 To receive a verbal update from the Town Clerk

The clearance works, installation of fencing, and the dormouse survey remain outstanding. These matters were followed up with Taylor Wimpey last week. It was advised that the fencing works are programmed to be undertaken first, with the dormouse survey to be carried out at the appropriate time later in the year. The commuted sum has been agreed and will be transferred at the relevant stage in the process.

020 BINCOMBE EVENT

25/26 To consider a proposal and a date

Councillors noted the proposal and AGREED to hold the event on Saturday 25th July 2026.

021 TOWN HALL EXTERIOR WOODWORK

25/26 To consider quotations for the works

It was AGREED to appoint contractor C to carry out the works for £9,230 and appoint the Operations Manager to make the necessary arrangements.

022 TELEPHONE BOX CONSULTATION

25/26 To receive the results and determine the next steps

Councillors agreed that a book swap was a positive initiative and noted that any issues arising could be reviewed in the future. It was further noted that Councillor Head had volunteered to ensure the telephone box was kept tidy.

It was AGREED to convert the telephone kiosk into a book swap.

023 REPORT FROM THE AMENITIES CHAIR

25/26 To note the updated progress matrix

The updated progress matrix was noted. Councillor Nathan queried whether the ash dieback works at Bincombe had been completed and raised concerns regarding a small bike track that had been created. Councillors discussed associated litter issues and potential health and safety concerns.

024 MATTERS OF REPORT

25/26

Councillors discussed the following points:

- The Operations Manager will be leaving at the end of March. A review of the job specification will be undertaken by the Staffing Sub-Committee at its next meeting.
- The GRC Manager has now commenced in post. Councillors were encouraged to visit the centre and meet her, if they have not already done so.
- The cleanliness of the Aqua Centre was discussed. Councillor Best advised that the cleaning schedules are currently under review.
- It was noted that Somerset Council will be opening a consultation on the provision of sports facilities in due course.

025 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

25/26

Monday 9 March 2026 following the Planning & Highways Committee meeting in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Square.

The meeting closed at 20.01.

Signed:

Dated:

AM12JANUARY2026