

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 on Monday 7 September 2026.

PRESENT:

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

In attendance: G. Hughes (Town Clerk), S. Syeda Bowen (Deputy Clerk), A. Cross (Operations Manager) and two members of the public.

012 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

26/27

Apologies were received from Cllrs. K. Head and D. Livesley (personal reasons).

The reasons for absence were APPROVED.

013 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

26/27

No declarations of interest were made in respect of items on the agenda.

014 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

26/27

It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on 13 July 2026 be APPROVED.

015 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

26/27

A member of the public enquired about earmarked reserves and the proposed use of the new land to be transferred to the Town Council. The Chair explained that the land was not yet in Council ownership, with Taylor Wimpey still required to complete clearance, fencing and survey works. It was noted that reserves would need to be built up to fund the land, which would provide a significant increase in open space for the town.

016 18-MONTH TREE INSPECTIONS

26/27

To review quotations received for undertaking the 18-month tree inspection programme and to appoint a contractor

Councillors noted that if ash die back works were required this would be at an additional cost.

It was AGREED to appoint Brynley Andrews Associates Ltd. to carry out inspections at Townsend Cemetery, Bincombe Beeches, Henhayes Recreation Ground (including boundary trees, the Lucombe Oak and Turkey Oak), and the Barn Street beech, at a cost of £2,225 + VAT.

017 WATER HYGIENE MONITORING

26/27

To receive quotations for the provision of water hygiene monitoring services and to appoint a contractor

The Clerk confirmed that all three contractors were members of the Legionella Control Association. It was AGREED to appoint Dantek Environmental Services to provide annual water hygiene monitoring at Falkland Square toilets, the George Reynolds Centre, Town Hall, Cemetery Lodge and Severall Hall, at a cost of £2,605 + VAT.

018 PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

26/27 To evaluate quotations received for the provision of routine playground inspection services and to appoint a contractor.

It was AGREED to appoint GB Sport & Leisure to carry out annual playground inspections at Henhayes, Happy Valley and Southmead Crescent playgrounds, at a cost of £1,300 + VAT.

019 REPORT FROM THE AMENITIES CHAIR

26/27 To note the updated progress matrix

Councillors discussed the following points:

- Large cracks have reappeared in the Town Hall side door following recent repairs. The contractor will return to carry out the repairs at no cost, although a replacement door may be required in the longer term.
- Councillor Maxwell thanked the Grounds Team for their efforts throughout a difficult year and commented that all sites were looking excellent.
- Whether the proposed bus stop move could be delayed until the future road layout has been decided.
- Whether a key could be provided for the initials used in the report matrix.

020 TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES

26/27

- a) Christmas Working Group: 15 January 2026
- b) Youth service Steering Group: 30 October 2025

The minutes of the Christmas Working Group held on 15 January 2026 and the Youth Service Steering Group held on 30 October 2025 were RECEIVED.

021 MATTERS OF REPORT

26/27

Councillors raised the following matters:

- The road markings on the mini roundabout outside the Town hall are faded and should be reported to Somerset Council online.
- Tractors have been reported speeding on Ashlands Road, and a request was made for a speed indicator device to be installed.

022 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

26/27

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

The meeting closed at 19.52

Signed:

Dated:

AM7SEPTEMBER2026

DRAFT