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 9 November 2026.

PRESENT:

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

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

023 26/27 **TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All members were present.

024 26/27 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Emmerson declared an interest in agenda item 028/2627 as a user of the tennis courts.

025 26/27 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on 7 September 2026 be APPROVED.

026 26/27 **PUBLIC OPEN FORUM**

There were no members of the public present.

027 **VICTORIA HALL**

26/27 To review quotations for internal repairs and repainting of the stairwell and lobby

Councillors noted that one contractor had not included lime plaster in their quotation and agreed that this quotation should therefore be excluded from consideration. Another contractor had identified significant woodwork repairs; however, councillors felt that the woodwork appeared to be in good condition.

It was RESOLVED to appoint Character Restorations to undertake the refurbishment works at a cost of £8,700.

It was further RESOLVED to amend the colour scheme to sage green, with a darker shade on the lower half of the walls and a paler shade on the upper half.

028 **TENNIS COURTS**

26/27 To note the annual tennis court usage and consider a review of the hire charges

Councillor Emmerson left the room.

Councillors noted that income and usage had decreased during the year, although it was suggested that the particularly hot summer may have contributed to this. The Clerk advised that the LTA had

recommended an increase in fees, as maintenance work would be required on the courts next few years.

The option of making the courts free to use was discussed, although concerns were raised that this could lead to bookings being made without people attending. It was suggested that the courts could be offered free of charge for one week at the end of the school term to encourage greater use.

It was RESOLVED to retain the existing tennis court fees of £6 per hour or £35 for an annual pass.

Councillor Emmerson returned to the room.

029 **BINCOMBE WALL**
26/27 To receive an update on the progress of the repairs

Councillors noted that the contractor is making good progress with the restoration works. It was also noted that some stone had been donated by a member of the public, with additional stone purchased by the Council.

030 **REPORT FROM THE AMENITIES CHAIR**
26/27 To note the updated progress matrix

The Clerk explained that the side door to the Town Hall had been repaired, but quotes were being sought for a replacement. The updated matrix was NOTED.

031 **TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES**
26/27

a) Christmas Working Group: 3 August 2026
b) Christmas Working Group: 9 September 2026

Councillor Best reported that he had requested police attendance at the Christmas Lights Switch-On. The large tree and smaller trees have been sourced, and new lights have been purchased for the smaller trees to ensure a consistent colour scheme. Wheelbarrows have also been sourced to assist with transporting the trees.

The minutes of the Christmas Working Group held on 3 August 2026 and 9 September 2026 were RECEIVED.

032 **MATTERS OF REPORT**
26/27

Councillors raised the following matters:

- An increase in dog fouling had been noticed throughout the town.
- A councillor relayed comments from a member of the public regarding the GRC and was advised to bring these to the attention of the GRC Manager.
- The Clerk had made enquiries about obtaining permission to enter London House to clear rubbish from the buildings. Councillors Nathan, Head and Samuel volunteered to undertake the work.

DRAFT

033 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**
26/27

Monday 11 January 2026 following the Planning & Highways Committee meeting in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Square.

The meeting closed at 19.43

Signed: ……..

Dated: ……..

AM9NOVEMBER2026

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