



WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL
 Council Offices, The Beacon, Wantage, OX12 9BX
 Town Clerk: Julia Evans 01235 763459
www.wantagetowncouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of The Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting held on
 31 March 2025 7.30pm in The Beacon, Portway, Wantage, OX12 9BX
The minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting

Committee Members Present:

Councillors J Hannaby (Chair), A Menzies, S Third & L Todd & C Walters

Substitute Committee Members Present:

Councillor K Morris

Other councillors present:

None

In Attendance:

Deputy Clerk: S Sanders

Members of the public: One Member of the public

		Action
49	Apologies for Absence Councillor P O'Leary	
50	Minutes of the meeting held 13 January 2025 It was PROPOSED by Cllr Hannaby, SECONDED by Cllr Third and RESOLVED that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were signed.	
51	Declarations of disclosable interests None	
52	Statements and questions from members of the public The secretary of the Grove Road Allotment Association thanked the deputy clerk for organising repairs to the fence at the bottom of the site and installing a new gate lock. He asked the following questions. Answers were given and shown in italic font. a) What progress had been made to encourage St Modwen to install a fence on the north and east boundaries. <i>See below item 54 c</i> b) What is the council's plan to remediate the environmental damage caused by blue plastic from one of the plots. <i>A letter had been sent to the tenant asking that the plastic be removed.</i> c) What progress has been made with the ACV? <i>The application had been submitted to the District Council but was rejected due to insufficient supporting evidence. Further work will be undertaken to strengthen the application before resubmission.</i>	Deputy Clerk

	<p>d) Can the council provide accurate information on allotment expenditure for 2023/2024. <i>It was explained that due to a new accounting system this information was not available this year. The information will be provided for the coming year.</i></p> <p>e) Can the council address the poor standard of cultivation on several plots. <i>An officer would be carrying out initial inspections across all sites in April.</i></p>	
53	<p>Income & expenditure report Members noted the report.</p>	
54	<p>Allotment Matters</p> <p>a) <u>Allotment availability</u> Members noted the allotment availability report. There were currently 39 people on the waiting list and one half plot available.</p> <p>b) <u>Planting of fruit trees at Grove Road & Stockham Park</u> Oxfordshire County Council has completed the planting of fruit trees at both locations.</p> <p>c) <u>Request from Grove Road Allotment Association for a fence to be installed by St Modwen</u> St Modwen has not agreed to the request for fence installation. However, it is believed that an existing planning agreement may include such a requirement. Cllr Third will follow up to clarify the terms.</p> <p>d) <u>Site meeting – Willow Lane</u> Cllr Hannaby and the deputy clerk had met with two countryside access officers who confirmed that Willow Lane met footpath standards. The OCC officers were to confirm their findings to the resident who had raised a concern about the surface of the footpath.</p> <p>e) <u>Request for scalpings at the Lark Hill site</u> It was PROPOSED by Cllr Hannaby, SECONDED by Cllr Walters, and RESOLVED to supply 3 x 800 kg bags of MOT Type 1 at a cost of £150. The materials will be delivered to the site and used to improve the vehicle access track for allotment holders.</p>	<p>Third</p> <p>Deputy Clerk</p>

55	<p>Town Centre Matters</p> <p>a) <u>Update on amendment to current parking order and installation of a parking meter in the market square</u></p> <p>A meeting with Oxfordshire County Council has been scheduled for 25 April 2025 to discuss how the proposed changes can be implemented.</p> <p>b) <u>Update on the draft consumer/business survey</u></p> <p>It was agreed that this item be deferred and removed from the agenda until further notice.</p> <p>c) <u>To consider a request for a bench/bus shelter to be installed on the south side of Mably Way</u></p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council has granted permission for a bus shelter to be installed opposite the one owned by Grove Parish Council on the north side. The deputy clerk will seek consent to also install a bench adjacent to the new shelter.</p> <p>It was PROPOSED by Cllr Todd, SECONDED by Cllr Walters and RESOLVED that subject to available funds and OCC approval, the deputy clerk should obtain quotes for a bus shelter (with and without a living roof) and a separate bench.</p> <p>d) <u>To consider the quotation for summer 2025 & winter-spring 2025/26 floral displays</u></p> <p>It was PROPOSED by Cllr Hannaby, SECONDED by Cllr Walters and RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Window Flowers Ltd for the floral displays.</p> <p>e) <u>To receive a report on charter market activity</u></p> <p>Members noted the report from the newly appointed market manager.</p> <p>f) <u>To agree the Christmas display arrangements for the next three years.</u></p> <p>It was PROPOSED by Cllr Walters, SECONDED by Cllr Todd and RESOLVED to continue with the current arrangements for the next three years.</p>	<p>Deputy Clerk</p> <p>Deputy Clerk</p> <p>Deputy Clerk</p>
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