



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

Minutes of The Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting held on  
15 September 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), S Cunningham, A Menzies, P O'leary, S Third, L Todd & C Walters

Other councillors present:

Councillor K Morris (Substitute member for Cllr A Arnold )

In Attendance:

Deputy Clerk: S Sanders

Members of the public:

One member of the public (part)

		Action
22	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Cllr A Arnold	
23	<b>Declarations of disclosable interests</b> None	
24	<b>Minutes of the meeting held 30 June 2025</b>  PROPOSED: Cllr Menzies SECONDED: Cllr Third RESOLVED: That the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were signed.	
25	<b>Co-option of Cllr Arnold to the committee</b>  PROPOSED: Cllr Walters SECONDED: Cllr Third RESOLVED: That Cllr Arnold be co-opted as a member of the committee.	
26	<b>Statements and questions from members of the public</b> None	
27	<b>Income &amp; expenditure report</b> Members had not received the report. It was to be circulated to all members following the meeting.	Deputy Clerk

28	<p><b>Draft Budget 26/27</b></p> <p>The first draft had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. Members noted the draft proposal. Cllr Hannaby was to meet with the clerk to look at the figures and members of the committee were to inform the deputy clerk of any suggested amendments/additions to the proposal prior to next committee meeting on 27 October 2025.</p>	ALL
29	<p><b>Allotment Matters</b></p> <p>a) Members had received a quotation for a native mixed hedge, planted as 60-90cm specimens with rabbit guards and canes to be planted at the eastern and western end of the Grove Road allotment site. The quotation included the clearance required prior to planting and all labour and materials.</p> <p>It was noted that the land is not owned by Wantage Town Council and permission would need to be sought for any planting.</p> <p>PROPOSED: Cllr Walters  SECONDED: Cllr Menzies  RESOLVED: Subject to permission from the landowner and consultation with the allotment tenant of plot 32 the planting of both the eastern and western end would proceed.</p> <p>b) The allotment holders' annual meeting was to be held prior to the next L&amp;A committee meeting @ 6.30pm in the bar area at the beacon.</p>	Deputy Clerk
30	<p><b>Town Matters</b></p> <p>a) <u>Alfred's Well improvements</u>  Members had received suggestions with indicative costings from White Horse Horticulture regarding potential improvements to Alfred's Well to make it a more attractive and accessible area with enhanced natural habitat.</p> <p>PROPOSED: Cllr Walters  SECONDED: Cllr Hannaby  RESOLVED: That the suggestions be agreed, and that a budget of £4,400–£5,950 be allocated for implementation of the project on a phased basis. Clerk to confirm funds available from current year.</p>	Clerk

	<p>b) <u>Request from Columbia Coffee, 17–19 Market Place</u></p> <p>Members had received the proposal prior to the meeting.</p> <p>(i) Permission to place tables and chairs on the VC Forecourt</p> <p>PROPOSED: Cllr Cunningham  SECONDED: Cllr Todd  RESOLVED: That permission not be granted for the placement of tables and chairs on the VC Forecourt. The proposed area is a walkway providing level access to PO Square and The Bear Hotel. It was suggested that the applicant apply to the district council for a pavement licence to place tables and chairs in the western end pedestrianised area</p> <p>(ii) Request to install a ramp from the VC Forecourt to the entrance of the building to provide wheelchair and mobility access</p> <p>PROPOSED: Cllr Cunningham  SECONDED: Cllr Todd  RESOLVED: That permission not be granted for the installation of kerb ramps. The proposed ramps are not appropriate for this location and do not meet the required standards for disability access.</p> <p>c) <u>Installation of a bus shelter and bench at Mably Way</u></p> <p>Primesite Media Ltd is working with OCC to collect S106 funds to install a bus shelter, which will be maintained by Primesite. It was noted that, subject to sufficient space on the hardstanding, the Town Council hopes to install a bench alongside the shelter at this location.</p> <p>d) <u>Proposal from PC Oldroyd (TVP) for a mentoring scheme.</u></p> <p>Members noted the proposal that had been circulated prior to the meeting. The initiative was received positively, with members expressing support. It was also noted that no request for financial support had been made.</p>	
31	<p><b>Charter Markets</b></p> <p>a) <u>Report on recent market activity</u></p> <p>A report from the market manager had been circulated prior to the meeting. Members noted the report.</p>	
32.	<p><b>Cemetery Matters</b></p> <p>a) <u>Cemetery Expansion</u></p> <p>The Cemetery Design Group (CDS) are working on updating the plan, taking into account the areas reserved for the graves of the Smith family and the loss of the leylandii trees. Once agreed by the council, they will be applying for a certificate of lawful development.</p>	
33	<p><b>Proposed Items for the next agenda</b></p> <p>None</p>	

34.	<b>Date of the next meeting</b> 27 October 2025 @7.30pm (allotment holders meeting @ 6.30pm)	

The meeting closed at 8.53pm

Signed -----

Date -----