MINUTES OF MEETING OF AMENITIES COMMITTEE
14 October 2025
10:00, East Woodhay Village Hall

Chairman:	**Cllr Rand (Chair)**
Present:	**Cllr Hurst, Cllr Blakeway, Cllr Roots**
Clerk:	**Amy White**

1. **Welcome and apologies**
   Cllr Cooper sent her apologies.

2. **Declarations of Interest**
   None.

3. **To Agree Minutes of Previous Meeting**
   The Minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2025 were agreed and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Rand.

4. **To update on actions from previous meeting of 04 August 2025**
   - **Action**: Cllr Blakeway to follow up with Susan Simmonds from Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust who have contacted EWPC on grants available- Actioned- Susan has advised that a specific request is submitted for a grant to be considered; e.g making the boardwalk area a wildlife conservation area. Cllr Hurst noted that Woolton Hill junior school is interested in creating a nature pond; Cllr Blakeway advised Cllr Hurst to suggest to the school that they should contact him, and he will seek advice from Susan, but that it is important to remember that the focus should be on wildlife conservation. The committee agreed to approach Susan with options for grants for the boardwalk area, parish field and the nature pond at the junior school. It was hoped that Susan might be able to lead a session with the schools. For the future, it might be possible for the parish council to help lead nature walks etc. Cllr Blakeway will continue to seek advice from Susan as appropriate for advice on wildlife conservation, options for grants and wildlife sessions along the boardwalk.
   - **Action**: Cllr Roots/Clerk will contact Rachel Remnant, Winchester-based ecologist to ask whether she might come to the parish field to give some advice. Actioned and chased; yet to have a response (from September meeting).
   - **Action**: Clerk will ask the lengthsman to repair the two broken boards on the boardwalk (October). Actioned- now in November.
   - **Action**: Clerk to bring decision for use of Scribbens reserve in Heath End recreation round to full council for agreement (with clearer plans). Actioned- see September 23rd full council Minutes.

- **Action**: Clerk to contact schools and church (Chris Vane) and East End (via Peter Brunsden) regarding free bee-friendly bulb offerings from North Wessex Downs. Actioned. Awaiting bulb delivery.
- **Action**: The Clerk will chase for the invoice from RJ Lampards- Actioned and paid.
- **Action**: Clerk to contact litter warden regarding article in Spectrum for November- Actioned.
- **Action**: Clerk to chase Scofell regarding outstanding actions on annual maintenance agreement schedule- Actioned.

5. **Drone Footage**

Cllr Rand has spoken to a local resident who provided the picture footage on the most recent Spectrum magazine. Cllr Rand will speak to him regarding possible further work/video footage for the parish and the appropriate licencing requirements. Cllr Blakeway is unable to use his personal drone as was previously hoped.

Action: Cllr Rand to contact Henry Midwinter regarding his drone for possible collaboration.

6. **Footpaths**

It was discussed how to manage the new boardwalk with the inevitable leaf foliage droppage in autumn/winter.

Action: Clerk to ask Scofell whether they can do leaf blowing as part of the ongoing contract.

Action: Clerk to buy some warning tape for the broken boards whilst are waiting for repair.

7. **Recreation Grounds**

The Clerk has met with Kevin Hoare, BDBC play area inspector, to discuss outstanding issues on play equipment requiring attention. Small issues identified can be completed by a handyman, but some items will require our usual play area contractors, Dick Randall Services.

Heath End: Inspector advised that the equipment in the trim trail is at end of life and starting to rot. Advice received was to remove all equipment rather than repair.

Action: Clerk to request a quote from Kevin Tooze and Dick Randall Services for minor repairs in WH recreation ground and playground.

Action: Clerk to request a quote from Kevin Tooze and Premier Grounds for the removal of the trim trail equipment in Heath End.

8. **Parish Field and biodiversity update**

A request had been made from a parishioner for the council to examine the beech and hazel trees overhanging their property with a view to having some foliage cut back. Greentips has checked the requested area with Cllr Rand and advised on areas that require attention.

It was agreed in principle to complete the work on the advice of Greentips, but a formal quote will be requested before a decision is made.

Action: Clerk to write back to parishioner that a survey has been completed and some work has been advised.

Action: Clerk to request quote from Greentips for tree work identified in Brownies Corner.

Seeds: The Clerk has purchased more seeds for adding to the recently installed pipeline soil areas in the parish field.
Action: Cllr Rand to lead strimming, raking and seed sowing in the parish field on 21 October.

9. **Spectrum**
Action: Cllr Rand to write an article on both play areas, life span of equipment, BDBC inspections and the need for ongoing maintenance.

10. **ASB on EWPC property**
None reported.

11. **General Maintenance**
Two posts have been knocked down at the East End triangle.
Action: The Clerk to request a quote from Kevin Tooze to complete repairs to East End triangle (prior to Remembrance service).

12. **Items to take to next meeting:**
Usual items.

Next meeting: Tuesday 11th November 2025, 10am.

Actions from October meeting

Action: Cllr Rand to contact Henry Midwinter regarding his drone for possible collaboration.
Action: Clerk to ask Scofell whether they can do leaf blowing as part of the ongoing contract.
Action: Clerk to buy some warning tape for the broken boards whilst are waiting for repair.
Action: Clerk to request a quote from Kevin Tooze and Dick Randall Services for minor repairs in WH recreation ground and playground.
Action: Clerk to request a quote from Kevin Tooze and Premier Grounds for the removal of the trim trail equipment in Heath End.
Action: Clerk to write back to parishioner that a survey has been completed and some work has been advised.
Action: Clerk to request quote from Greentips for tree work identified in Brownies Corner.
Action: Cllr Rand to lead strimming, raking and seed sowing in the parish field on 21 October.
Action: Cllr Rand to write an article on both play areas, life span of equipment, BDBC inspections and the need for ongoing maintenance.
Action: The Clerk to request a quote from Kevin Tooze to complete repairs to East End triangle (prior to Remembrance service).