MINUTES OF MEETING OF AMENITIES COMMITTEE
09 February 2026
14:30, Woolton Hill Church Hall

Chairman:	**Cllr Rand (Chair)**
Present:	**Cllr Hurst, Cllr Cooper, Cllr Roots, Cllr Blakeway**
In attendance:	**Andy Midwinter**
Clerk:	**Amy White**

1. **Welcome and apologies**
   None.

2. **Declarations of Interest**
   None.

3. **To Agree Minutes of Previous Meeting**
   The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2025 were agreed and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Rand.

4. **To update on actions from previous meeting of 11 November 2025**
   Action: Cllr Hurst to write back to the school to thank them for the offer of the equipment but that EWPC will decline- Actioned.
   Action: Clerk to follow up on trim trail removal quotes- in action with Kevin Tooze.
   Action: Clerk to follow up with Dick Randall Services for playground repairs- in action (still chasing for reply).
   Action: Cllr Hurst to write up the consultation regarding the HE recreation ground- Actioned.
   Action: Cllrs will walk both HE and WH grounds to confirm boundaries as part of the voluntary registration process- Actioned.
   Action: Clerk to accept quote from Greentips for tree work at Brownies Corner- Actioned. Trees were cut in December.
   Action: Cllr Rand to reply positively to the offer of the elm trees- Actioned.
   Action: Cllr Rand to write an article on our Annual Maintenance Agreement with Scofell (Deadline 07 December for January edition) - Actioned.
   Action: Clerk to add all Spectrum articles for 2025 onto the EWPC website- Actioned.

5. **Drone Footage**
   Andy Midwinter, whose drone footage the council has been really grateful for, attended the meeting. He explained about his licence (EWPC has a copy), restrictions and privacy (regarding private properties etc). The committee discussed how having an overview of the HE recreation ground would be really useful for the potential project (see item 7). Cllr

Hurst asked whether Andy could take further drone footage of the Watermill Bridge development (prior to starting), Oakley Farm (currently identified in the BDBC Local Plan update) and the parish field with the elm trees that have been recently planted.
Action: Andy Midwinter to take extra drone footage of the parish field, Watermill Bridge and Oakley Farm areas for EWPC.

6. **Footpaths**

Cllr Blakeway reported that footpaths are in a reasonable state considering the current very wet weather.
There are two trees down on the footpath at the Chalkpit on the steps. However, it is navigable, and there is no urgency for removal at this point.

The new Hampshire Ranger, Alison Hellyer, will meet with Cllr Blakeway and the Clerk in April. One project Cllr Blakeway will discuss with Alison is whether EWP might be able to apply for grant funding to improve Footpath 10/1 (Fullers Lane to Heath End).
Cllr Blakeway will also write an article on the boardwalk to send to Henry Oliver of NWDNL.
Action: Cllr Blakeway to write an article on the boardwalk to send to Henry Oliver of NWDNL.

The committee discussed whether and how to improve the now outdated walking pamphlet for East Woodhay, especially how to promote the local walks. Drone footage/pictures would be used to place on Spectrum/website etc. The discussion led to a consideration of working with Highclere Parish Council.
Action: Clerk to discuss working with Highclere Parish Council on footpath promotion at their meeting on 10 February.

7. **Recreation Grounds**

Kevin Tooze is yet to complete some repairs on the WH playground. The Clerk is liaising with him. Other repairs will require Dick Randall Services- the Clerk has been chasing them for a reply but has not heard back.
The Clerk has received a quote from Scofell for pressure washing both recreation ground equipment and playground equipment to remove algae/dirt. The quote received was £764 excl VAT. It was agreed to go ahead with this in the Spring.
Action: Clerk to approve quote from Scofell for jetwashing play equipment in both recreation grounds.
Action: Clerk to ask Kevin Tooze to quote to repair scramble net in WH playground identified by the BDBC play inspector.

HE Recreation ground:
Cllr Hurst had previously reported on the feedback received from the Scouts and other community members on the future use of the HE recreation ground.
Currently, the boundary between the ground and the land at the back of the village hall is very overgrown. Cllr Titcomb will walk the boundary from the village hall side to work out where the best place for an entrance would be to join both areas of land. Then the hedging/overgrowth can be reduced to help clear the area and get a better understanding of the land available for a new landscaping project. The CIL earmarked reserve would be used for the digging and removal of the trim trail, old fencing etc. The Scribbens Reserve would be used for the planting/benches etc.

Cllr Hurst is happy to lead this project, with support from Cllr Rand and Cllr Roots.
Action: Cllrs Rand and Hurst to ask to meet Kevin Tooze on site at HE recreation ground to discuss the fencing/hedging.

As per the full council minutes of 26 January, the elm trees and approx. 90m of hedging that Cllr Rand received grant funding for from the Hampshire Hedging Partnership, have been planted in the parish field. The NWN published an article on the day.
Action: Clerk to ask Kevin Tooze to plant stakes to protect the elm trees in the parish field.

BT Building- the committee is yet to find someone to discuss the planting of hedging to around the building. Cllr Hurst spoke about linking this hedging opportunity to creating a hedging/wildlife corridor in WH and a wonderful way to promote nature.
Action: Clerk to place a notice on the door of the BT building on Mount Road to ask the next person there to contact EWPC.

8. **Parish Field and biodiversity update**
The field is incredibly wet after 6 weeks of rain. Cllr Rand asked the committee to consider how the path can best be kept dry during periods of heavy rain. The current drainage pipes appear to be working well to take the water away from the path. Adding further drainage pipes will be investigated.
Action: Clerk to work with Cllr Rand to obtain further quotes from Lampards for more drainage pipes in the parish field.

Lectern: This idea had been discussed a few years ago, with one placed at the entrance at Brownies Corner. Now that there is much more activity in the field, Cllr Rand will create some wording and the Clerk will contact the company previously used for the Boules court lectern to obtain a quote.
Action: Cllr Rand and Clerk to work on wording/quote for lectern in parish field.

9. **Spectrum**
Cllr Rand has written two articles for Spectrum, one on the precept and one on the elm tree planting.
A decision for the April edition will be confirmed at a later date.

10. **ASB on EWPC property**
There is a small amount of graffiti on the wooden play equipment, but not bad enough to do anything about until the equipment is sprayed in the spring.

11. **General Maintenance**
Nothing else reported.

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

Next meeting: Tuesday 17 March 2026, 9:30am.

Actions from February meeting

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