MINUTES OF MEETING OF AMENITIES COMMITTEE
15 September 2025
10:00, Woolton Hill Church Hall

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

1. **Welcome and apologies**
   Cllr Blakeway and Cllr Roots sent their apologies.

2. **Declarations of Interest**
   None.

3. **To Agree Minutes of Previous Meeting**
   The Minutes of the meeting held on 04 August 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- no update.
   Action: Clerk to ask Kevin Tooze of Town and Country Fencing to fill in the hole in the recreation ground with soil. Actioned.
   Action: Clerk to accept the quote from Town and Country Fencing to replace the wood on the gate in the WH car park. Actioned and gate has been mended.
   Action: Clerk to purchase more wildflower seeds. Actioned.
   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 but yet to have a response.
   Action: Spectrum: Cllr Rand will write an article on the parish field. Actioned, and a separate article was published on the cancellation of the no7/7A bus service.

5. **Drone Footage**
   Cllr Blakeway has recently purchased a drone, which might be another consideration for footage for social media. This will remain a standing item.

6. **Footpaths**
   No update on footpath issues as Cllr Blakeway was absent.
   There are 2 broken boards on the old part of the boardwalk (Trade St end).
   Action: Clerk will ask the lengthsman to repair the two broken boards on the boardwalk (October).

7. **Recreation Grounds**

Woolton Hill: The Clerk noted that the boules court still needs material added, which Kevin Tooze of Town and Country Fencing is organising; this was approved by the committee via email in August and confirmed via these Minutes. The Clerk will liaise with Kevin regarding payment directly to Rivar.

Heath End: Cllr Hurst has spoken to a few community groups and attended a few fetes over the summer. Feedback on the use of the recreation ground positively favours making the back area of the ground into open communal area. *It was agreed to move forward on the use of the Scribbens reserve (£5000) for clearing /opening up of the back of Heath End recreation ground.*

Action: Clerk to bring decision for use of Scribbens reserve in Heath End recreation round to full council for agreement (with clearer plans).

8. **Parish Field and biodiversity update**

Cllr Roots has sent in a grant application to CPRE for hedging for the field. There is no update on this as yet.

The wildflower seeds purchased by the Clerk will be scattered in the parish field along the lines of the recent pipe installation where there is bare earth, on 18 September.

Bulbs: There is an offer from the North Wessex Downs Landscape Trust to apply for bee-friendly bulbs. The committee discussed contacting the local schools and church to see if they are interested in a joint application.

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.

Pipes: The four drainage pipes are now installed by the path. Until there is more rain, it is too early to see how effective they will be.

Action: The Clerk will chase for the invoice from RJ Lampards.

Fallen oak branch: Highclere Tree works and Greentips have been contacted for a quote for: Approx 20% crown reduction of Oak, cut and remove fallen oak branch from field, make good tear in oak trunk.

Once both quotes are received, the committee will make a decision and advise full council of the decision at the subsequent meeting.

9. **Spectrum**

Action: Cllr Rand will write an article to include the positive work our litter warden does to keep the parish clean. Cllr Hurst will write about the Local Plan Update.

Action: Clerk to contact litter warden regarding article in Spectrum for November.

10. **ASB on EWPC property**

None reported.

11. **General Maintenance**

Path spraying and hedging (recreation grounds) are both outstanding items requiring completion on annual maintenance schedule for this time of year.

Action: Clerk to chase Scofell regarding outstanding actions on annual maintenance agreement schedule.

12. **Items to take to next meeting:**
    Ongoing maintenance and care of new boardwalk (include in footpaths), drone footage

Next meeting: Tuesday 14th October 2025, 10am.

Actions from September meeting

Action: Cllr Blakeway to follow up with Susan Simmonds from Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust who have contacted EWPC on grants available (from August meeting)
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 but yet to have a response (from August meeting)
Action: Clerk will ask the lengthsman to repair the two broken boards on the boardwalk (October).
Action: Clerk to bring decision for use of Scribbens reserve in Heath End recreation round to full council for agreement (with clearer plans).
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.
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Action: Clerk to contact litter warden regarding article in Spectrum for November.
Action: Clerk to chase Scofell regarding outstanding actions on annual maintenance agreement schedule.