



Mrs J Nolan  
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**Minutes of Village Amenities Committee held on  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025 @ 6PM**

**Attendance**

Cllr Martin Roberts – Chair  
Cllr Suzy Sherratt  
Cllr Nathan Bland  
Cllr Sarah Balfour

Clerk J Nolan

0 Members of the public in attendance

**1. To elect a Chair of this Committee**

1.1 Cllr Bell was nominated by Cllr Balfour and seconded by Cllr Bland. All in Favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Bell was **ELECTED** as Chair of this committee under the Council's delegated authority.

**2. To elect a Vice Chair of this Committee**

2.2 Cllr Roberts was nominated by Cllr Balfour and seconded by Cllr Bland. All in Favour.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Roberts was **ELECTED** as Vice Chair of this committee under the Council's delegated authority.

**3. Apologies**

- 3.1 To receive apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting
- 3.2 To consider the approval of reasons given for absence

3.1 Apologies were **RECEIVED** in respect of Cllrs Bell & Maiden.

3.2 The committee had considered and **APPROVED** the reason given by Cllrs Bell & Maiden.

**4. Declarations of Interests and Dispensations**

- 4.1 To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on items on the agenda
- 4.2 To receive, consider and decide upon any written applications for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interest
- 4.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

4.1/4.2/4.3 None to **RECEIVE**.

<p><b>5. To note the minutes for the Village Amenities Committee meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025.</b></p>
<p><b>5.1</b> The minutes had previously been circulated. The committee <b>NOTED</b> the meeting minutes.</p>
<p><b>6. Annual Membership Review of the Community Centres Working Group</b></p> <p><b>6.1</b> To elect 6 members to the Community Centres Working Group</p> <p><b>6.2</b> To elect a Chair and Vice Chair of the Community Centres Working Group</p>
<p><b>6.1</b> The following Cllrs were <b>ELECTED</b> to the Community Centres Working Group – Cllrs Maiden, Bell, A Sherratt, Bland, Moore and Richmond.</p> <p><b>6.2</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> Cllr Bell was <b>ELECTED</b> as Chair and Cllr Maiden was <b>ELECTED</b> as Vice Chair under the Committee's delegated authority.</p>
<p><b>7. Community Centres &amp; Public Open Space</b></p> <p><b>7.1</b> To review and make recommendation on maintenance required to the Brackenhill Community Centre</p> <p><b>7.2</b> To consider exploration of pitch marking changes to Low Ackworth Playing Field to increase usage hire</p> <p><b>7.3</b> To receive an invitation from Ackworth Juniors to attend a 'Sports Club' meeting to explore opportunities to best develop sport in Ackworth and maximise facilities</p>
<p><b>7.1</b> It was <b>RECOMMENDED</b> that a viability and SWOT analysis report was completed by the Clerk and added to the next meeting of this committee.</p> <p><b>7.2</b> It was <b>RECOMMENDED</b> to explore reducing the size of the current pitch and potentially rotatating to increase usability of the playing field.</p> <p><b>7.3</b> It was <b>RECOMMENDED</b> to create 'Ackworth Sports Clubs' as a council outside body and elect representatives to attend meetings when invited.</p>
<p><b>8. Cemetery</b></p> <p><b>8.1</b> To receive an update on the third-party insurance claim regarding the cemetery wall</p> <p><b>8.2</b> To receive indicative quotes for cemetery lay-by changes</p> <p><b>8.3</b> To note attempted break-in at the cemetery building on 18/06/2025 and make recommendation to council</p> <p><b>8.4</b> For this committee to review a proposal to lease part of the land at the cemetery to the neighbouring business, complete a site visit in advance of the meeting and make recommendation to council on viability.</p>
<p><b>8.1</b> The Clerk provided an update in relation to the ongoing cemetery claim which advised that the third-party insurance company dealing with the claim were also dealing with a third-party 'agency driver' insurance company who were non-responsive causing the delay. The Clerk advised that a complaint had been lodged with the company's insurance to take on the case and reimburse Ackworth Parish Council. The update was <b>RECEIVED</b> by the committee.</p> <p><b>8.2</b> The Clerk provided an update in relation to future preventative measures at the cemetery to reduce potential vehicle accidents which included an overhead barrier and lay-by layout changes. It was <b>RECOMMENDED</b> that lay-by layout changes was the most viable preventative measure, the committee requests for 3 quotes to be gained.</p> <p><b>8.3</b> The glass in the building toilet window was broken during the attempted break in and a noticeboard was vandalised. It was <b>RECOMMENDED</b> that the noticeboard was replaced and that quotes are gain for both glass and brick window replacements.</p> <p><b>8.4</b> Under the Councils instruction, members of this committee had completed a site visit. The following <b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b> were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That more land is offered to square the proposed section of land to provide more parking space.</li> <li>• That the land requested is unusable by the parish council for the purpose of the cemetery</li> <li>• That the lease is <b>APPROVED</b> by Council</li> </ul>

## 9. Allotments

- 9.1 To note the minutes of the Allotments Subcommittee meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025
- 9.2 To receive an update on ongoing pest control for 25/26
- 9.3 To receive an update on the waiting list and new lets
- 9.4 To receive a report from Brackenhill Allotment Association
- 9.5 To discuss the renewal of the role of tenant representative and make recommendation to council
- 9.6 To receive correspondence regarding the changeover in land management agent for Brackenhill Allotments Wakefield Road

- 9.1 The minutes had previously been circulated. The committee **NOTED** the meeting minutes.
- 9.2 The Clerk advised that some tenants had advised dissatisfaction at emptying individual plot pest control traps, it was also advised that after recent training pest control was the overall responsibility of the landowner. The Clerk advised that further review was in progress. The update was **RECEIVED**.
- 9.3 The committee **RECEIVED** the update that there were 7 new lets, 1 offered vacant plot and 14 on the waiting list.
- 9.4 None to **RECEIVE** - Brackenhill Allotment Association
- 9.5 It was **RECOMMENDED** to contact the tenant representatives to review the renewal of the role.
- 9.6 The correspondence was **RECEIVED** which stated the land management ownership had been changed from Stephenson Rural to Carter Jonas.

## 10. TO CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL THAT THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING ON THE GROUNDS THAT PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED ON THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETING ACT 1960)

- 10.1 It was **AGREED** to move to the private section of the meeting.

## 11. Allotments – Confidential Items

- 11.1 To receive a report following the monthly plot inspections and number of letters sent

- 11.1 The report was **RECEIVED** on the following actions taken following plot inspections carried out on the 30<sup>th</sup> April and 4<sup>th</sup> June.

Letters Sent	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Notice to Quit	Plots being Monitored
19	6	6	0	0	7

Information on repeat offenders was requested by this committee for future updates.

Time Closed: 19:10