

MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting
held in The Council Chamber, The Town Hall, Milborne Port.

Tuesday 28th April 2026 @ 7:00pm

Present:

Parish Councillors: Chris Phillips (Chairperson) Alison Flynn
David Grant John Price (Vice-Chair)
Paul Scrivener

In Attendance:

Parish Clerk & Burials Officer: Simon Pritchard
Deputy Parish Clerk & Allotments Officer: Nathalie Hetherington

Public Questions / Comment:

- o There were no members of the public present.

Agenda Number:	Agenda Item:
45	<u>Apologies for Absence:</u> Cllrs: Margaret Capon, Tim Carty, Rob Lockey, Robert Tizzard, Ted Watts.
46	<u>Declarations of Interests & Dispensations to Participate:</u> A. To receive any Declarations of Interests from Members: None. B. To resolve on any Dispensations to Participate applications: None.
47	<u>Adoption of Last Committee Meeting Minutes:</u> The minutes had been circulated to members ahead of the meeting. Cllr. Price proposed the adoption of the minutes of Tuesday 27th January 2026, seconded by Cllr. Scrivener and resolved by 4 votes with 1 abstention due to absence from that meeting.
48	<u>The Cemetery (Wheathill Lane):</u> <u>Cemetery Grass Cutting</u> Cllrs. Phillips, Watts and Flynn observed the cutting of the grass in cemetery in March and provided their observations: it is not an easy job, is quite fiddly particularly around the cremation plots, care is taken, and that manoeuvring the ride-on mower around the graves is quite a challenge for the contractors; members are yet to observe the

	strimming process. There was a discussion about the strimming of the triangular area with trees. The Parish Clerk will contact the contractor to find out when he will next be doing the strimming so that observers can attend. <u>Cemetery Rules Review</u> The cemetery rules were reviewed and there was a debate about the wording of proposed changes. Cllr. Price proposed that two additions be made: (1) Any items placed on or around graves are and will remain at the owner's risk. (2) No person shall bring any materials or leave any rubbish in the cemetery. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Grant and resolved unanimously.
49	<u>Gainsborough Play Park – Water Tap:</u> No update was available at this time regarding the vandal-proof water tap which was vandalised within the first week of installation in January. The Projects Officer has been trying to liaise with the supplier. Cllr. Flynn was happy to liaise with the Projects Officer and contact the supplier directly if appropriate, with a view to procuring a replacement or refund.
50	<u>Parish Council's Trees – Tree Risk Assessment Report:</u> The report had been circulated and was received. One tree (448) at Springfield has been identified as high priority. It is believed that the tree in question is in the Smith ransom strip or on the Redcliffe site. The new Chair of the Playing Fields Committee, has been provided with a copy of the report as technically the maintenance of the trees is the responsibility of the PFC. It was agreed that the author of report is asked to correct a boundary delineation on his map in order that it is an entirely accurate representation, and that the landowners in questions are then contacted and provided with a copy of the amended map, in order to establish ownership of, and therefore responsibility for the tree before any further action is discussed. The Parish Clerk will ask the lengthsman to work on the low priorities identified in the report.
51	<u>Toilets at Play Parks:</u> <u>A. Temporary Toilets at Gainsborough:</u> The Parish Clerk reported that only one company has responded to enquiries, but it was agreed that their options for compostable toilets was not appropriate. Other options were discussed. Cllr. Flynn proposed that Parish Council approach the landlady of The Gainsborough Arms with a proposal that visitors to the playpark can use the toilets there during a trial period of three months this Summer with payment of up to £50 per week; at the same time further research into the cost of renting a portaloo will be obtained. Seconded by Cllr. Grant and resolved unanimously.

	It was agreed that Cllr. Flynn will draft a proposal and liaise with the Parish Clerk, before approaching the landlady. <u>B. Condition of Open Toilet at Springfield:</u> The condition of the toilet was discussed, and in particular how to deal with the graffiti. Cllr. Phillips proposed that the toilets be redecorated, looking at the option anti-graffiti paint if research shows that it is worth the investment; seconded by Cllr. Scrivener and resolved unanimously.
52	<u>MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: Regular Business:</u> <u>A. Committee Finance:</u> The budget lines were received and reviewed. <u>B. Committee Action List - Priorities:</u> The current committee projects and actions were shared by the Committee Officer. <u>C. Play Parks – Quarterly Inspection Reports:</u> The March 2026 professional inspection reports were received and discussed: • Springfield: Two medium risks at have been addressed; the third, a bit of a rut by the fenceline will be dealt with by our lengthsmen. • Gainsborough: The picnic bench issue has been sorted out. The bird droppings issue was discussed; will investigate hiring power-washing equipment to address this issue.
53	<u>Verbal Updates:</u> a) The Chairperson: Nothing further. Cllr. Flynn reported that the litter caused by the use of non-biodegradable silver plastic strips by Wyatt Homes to prevent birds from nesting in the hedge on Wheathill Lane has been addressed by the Deputy Clerk, as well as the issue of the broken gate at the end of the footpath; a contact at Wyatt Homes has assured the Deputy Clerk that the required work will be carried out so this will need to be checked soon and progress reported back. b) The Parish Clerk: The MUGA has been painted bright blue and looks great. However, the Projects Officer has reported that children are using roller blades and riding bikes in the area, and riding bikes on the tennis court. It was agreed that appropriate signage will be organised to inform the public that the areas are for ball sports only.
	Meeting Closed: 8:19 pm