

LYTCHETT MINSTER & UPTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **AMENITIES COMMITTEE** meeting held on **TUESDAY** the **23 June 2026** in the Council Chamber, 1 Moorland Parade, Moorland Way at 6.30p.m.

PRESENT:

- Councillor M Pryor (in the Chair)
- Councillor D White (Vice-Chair)
- Councillor F H Drane
- Councillor R Wood
- Councillor K Walker
- Councillor V Whittingham
- Councillor R Griffin (ex-officio)
- Councillor S McKell (ex-officio)

Also in attendance: Town Clerk, Mrs K Osborne
Admin Officer, Mrs S Samways

Before the business of the meeting Cllr Griffin introduced the 2026 Mayor's Guide, Mia Openshaw and she was presented with the official sash to wear at Town Council events; her first official event would be Picnic in the Park on Saturday 27 June.

95/26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

No members of the public were present.

96/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

No declarations of interest were received.

97/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor C Squires (non-business).

98/26 CLERKS REPORT: AMENITIES JUNE 2026

1. **Minute 516/24 Plans community and civic events** - See Minute 100/26.
2. **Minute 192/24 To Review Future Burial Provision Within the Town and To Receive Any National Updates Regarding Policies to Address this Matter.** Independent advice currently being sought and a paper will be brought to a future Committee meeting.
3. **Minute 49/25 To Receive And Approve The Hire Agreement With Poole Town Wessex FC For Use Of The Recreation Ground Pitches And Facilities.** This has now been agreed and signed. The new agreement commences from August. It is unlikely that the Grove will be able to be utilised to service refreshments due to a lack of volunteers. An independent mobile catering van may be invited to serve refreshments on match days from the car park. The Club will ensure that the company has the required food hygiene certificate and insurance.
4. **Minute 406/25 To Review and Approve the Allotment Management Agreement with ULMAA:** As agreed at the last Committee meeting, an addendum has been included to the Allotment Management Agreement which provides more detail on maintenance responsibilities. This has been sent to ULMAA for consideration and agreement. In terms of

the current status with the works to improve the water supply infrastructure under the Wessex Water Section 75 notice issued to ULMAA, the Allotment Committee is currently obtaining quotations from appropriate contractors and will share this with the Council as soon as they have been received.

99/26 CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

100/26 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE FINAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS YEAR'S PICNIC IN THE PARK TO BE HELD ON 27 JUNE:

In the absence of the Community Projects & Support Officer (CPSO), the Clerk presented the report on the final arrangements for the 2026 Picnic in the Park. The CPSO was congratulated on the arrangements and new attractions. All stall holders, entertainers and exhibitors have been confirmed and staff are aware of their roles. All Councillors are welcome from 1pm. This will be an opportunity to promote the work of the Town Council, such as the Heritage Trail. Cllr White suggested promoting the Heritage Trail on social media, maybe 1 location per week to highlight each site of interest.

101/26 TO DISCUSS THE OUTCOME OF THE RECENT ALLOTMENT INSPECTION:

A number of councillors completed the annual Allotment Inspection prior to the meeting. It was reported that the site was looking very good and well maintained. The chickens were also happy and thriving. The upgrade to the water works was ongoing.

The Management Agreement specifies 2 inspections per year. It was therefore agreed that, going forward, the inspections should take place in July (before the Amenities meeting) and January (during daylight hours).

Cllr Whittingham reported on 2 upcoming ULMAA social events –

- 1) BBQ on 18 July at 4pm (19 July if adverse weather)
- 2) Cheese Feast on 8 August at 4pm.

102/26 TO CONSIDER THE CONCEPT OF A FREE, ACCESSIBLE COMMUNITY FOOD GARDEN (“EDIBLE CITY”):

The following concept has been brought to the Council's attention as a possible future project. The concept of an “edible city” comes from a scheme introduced in 2010 in Andernach, Germany which planted 101 varieties of tomatoes in the town centre and the community were invited to help themselves. Due to its popularity, more fruit and veg were introduced over the next few years and it is now a flourishing scheme.

Members discussed the scheme, commenting that a large number of volunteers would be required, and the need for strong community ownership of the scheme. This could be included in the Neighbourhood Plan, and the Town Council could support any scheme via an enhanced Grant Aid scheme.

103/26 TO CONSIDER OPTIONS TO PREVENT FOOTBALL BEING PLAYED IN THE REDWOOD ROAD PLAY AREA:

As reported at the last Committee, the Council had received complaints from 2 residents adjacent to Redwood Road Play Area (REDDIES). Their complaints was around older children playing football in the park, which is not permitted, this results in the ball continuously being kicked over the fences into their gardens. In the case of Richard Close, the children tend to climb over the resident's fence into their garden to retrieve the ball. To aid them they firstly climb on the small wooden fence in front of the play area to give them the initial height. Another complaint is that they kick the ball against the fence. This was a particular issue over the Easter holidays.

Members appreciated this issue, however there were few physical preventative options available. The approach will be to educate users of the play area to be aware of the neighbours of the park. The Schools will be asked to include this at a future 'safety assembly'. A notice requesting the residents brick pillar is not climbed to access their garden will be sited. The residents will be advised.

104/26 TO REVIEW AMENITIES CHAMPIONS AND RECEIVE UPDATES AS BELOW:

Allotments (Cllr Mikka Pryor):

See Minute 101/26

Recreation Ground, Pavilion & Play Areas (Cllr Stewart McKell):

The future of The Grove is in abeyance until the lease/ownership issue is resolved. Members are supportive of the current Day Club continuing their hire (Tues to Fri) and further avenues to utilise the space continue to be explored

Cemetery (Cllr Mikka Pryor):

A Cemetery Inspection date will be set once the Deputy Clerk is in position.

Warbler Park – Cllr White reported it was encouraging to see this improved community space used by local families and well looked after. The old play park is used as a football space and by families with small children, as it is secure.

105/26 TO RECEIVE COMMITTEE FINANCIAL REPORT AND RESERVES UPDATE:

Members noted the contents of the reports.

106/26 ITEMS OF REPORT AND MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS RELEVANT TO THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE:

1. Cllr Griffin reminded members of the Dorset Council Highways/Rangers meeting on Thursday 25 June at 9:30am in the Chamber.
2. Cllr McKell reported dirt and damage to the highway from construction and trades vehicles (working on Wyatts Phase II) at the junction of Watery Lane and Policeman's Lane. This will be raised at the Highways Meeting (27 June)
3. Cllr Wood asked if there has been any feedback on the 20mph restrictions implemented along Sandy Lane; 1 resident has reported it has made no difference.

Issues with vehicles parking along Sandy Lane and causing obstructions was report – this will be raised with DC Parking Enforcement.

4. The Clerk asked everyone to think about a future Agenda Item – 2026 LMUTC Christmas Event. A Christmas Tree Festival was suggested.

107/26 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING, AND CLOSE OF MEETING.

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 7 July 2026 at 6:30pm.

The meeting closed at 7:45pm.

Chair.....

Date.....