

# Marlborough Town Council



4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

To: Councillors serving on the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee – Councillors Noel Barrett-Morton, Lisa Farrell (Vice Chair), Donald Heath (Chairman), Vanessa Hillier, Andrew Ross, James Sheppard, Caroline Thomas, Jo Waltham and the Town Mayor, Councillor Mark Cooper

Dear Councillor

## Amenities & Open Spaces Committee

You are **summoned** to attend the next meeting of the **Amenities and Open Spaces Committee**, which will be held on **10<sup>th</sup> January 2022** immediately following the **Planning Committee** and not before 7.30 pm.

Yours sincerely

*Richard Spencer-Williams*

Richard Spencer-Williams, PSLCC

**Town Clerk**

This meeting will be held in the Court Room at the Town Hall according to the latest Government Covid Safety Guidelines, and managed according to the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974(2) e.

There will be twenty places for members of the public to attend. If members of the public wish to attend they should notify the Town Clerk of this by noon on the Friday prior to the meeting. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Organisations and interest groups are asked to send one delegate.

**All those in attendance at the meeting will be required to wear a face mask when moving around the Town Hall unless exempt, or when seated**

If members of the public wish to attend and ask a question they should also notify the Town Clerk of this by noon on the Friday prior to the meeting and provide their question in writing at the same time. Some members of the public may not be allowed to attend if all the allocated seats are taken.

If members of the public wish to ask a question, but not attend, they can provide the question in writing to the Town Clerk by noon on the day of the meeting, and a written response will be provided.

## PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In accordance with Standing Order 3(f), members of the public may ask questions of the Amenities & Open Spaces Committee. The time allocated for this should not exceed 10 minutes and be limited to 1 question per person unless directed otherwise by the Chairman. A full response may not be possible without further research, and the Chair may direct that a written or oral response be given.

## Presentation by Val Compton – ‘Marlborough Flower Festival’

### AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest**  
To receive any declarations of interest or requests for dispensation
3. **Chairman’s Announcements**
4. **Minutes**  
To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021
5. **Action Log**  
To receive an update on the Action Log
6. **Grounds Manager’s Report**
7. **Open Space Working Party**  
To note the work progress by the Open Space’s Working Party
8. **Request to trade at Rugby Club Car Park**
9. **Cemetery Report**
  - i) To note any Grants of Exclusive Rights of Burial issued
  - ii) To note any memorials and inscriptions approved

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021:

**Marlborough Town Council  
Amenities & Open Spaces Committee**

Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the **Amenities & Open Spaces Committee**, which was held on **Monday, 22 November 2021** in the Court Room, Marlborough Town Hall at 8.15pm

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**PRESENT:** Donald Heath Chairman  
Councillor Mark Cooper Town Mayor  
Councillor Andrew Ross  
Councillor Noel Barrett-Morton  
Councillor Jo Waltham  
Councillor Caroline Thomas

**ALSO**

**PRESENT:** Richard Spencer-Williams Town Clerk  
Nigel Weatherly Grounds Manager  
Belinda Richardson Tourism Officer  
Dawn Whitehall Administrator  
Plus 1 member of the public

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**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**Richard Pitts** – congratulated the Town Council on its policy asking people to wear masks when moving around the Town Hall in order to counteract the airborne spread of Coronavirus.

Speaking on behalf of Transition Marlborough, he noted that on page 4 of the Habitat report for the Common that it recommends the additional pitch should be sited parallel to Free's Avenue in line with the other pitches if it is absolutely necessary. Also, that it recommends in the same section several habitat enhancements be undertaken to offset the loss of biodiversity. In this climate crisis we find ourselves, we ask:- Will the committee please ensure that sufficient budget be allocated, in the closed session of the meeting tonight, for this work to be undertaken? Transition Marlborough would also be willing to assist in supporting the Council in searching and applying for grants to improve biodiversity in the town. The **Chairman** confirmed that it would take account of budget requirements.

Finally, Mr Pitts asked to engage the town in assisting a citizen science study of fruit trees which was feeding information to a University of Reading study.

**Val Compton** was unable to attend in person but asked through the Town Clerk: “Would the Town Council consider substituting a more inclusive “annual flower-based series of events” which residents as well as visitors could enjoy, rather than entering the Southwest in Bloom competition, as explained in Steps 1,2 and 3 of the paperwork (*of a document supplied*)?”.

Members suggested this might fit well with a working party to be created to focus on events to mark the 2022 Queen’s Jubilee.

ACTION POINT: The Town Clerk agreed to circulate the document to Members.

ACTION POINT: to invite Mrs Compton to present her ideas to a future meeting.

**292/21 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from **Councillor Hillier**.

**293/21 DECLARATIONS**

There were no declarations.

**294/21 CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**295/21 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held 31 August 2021 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman

**296/21 TOWN CLERK’S ACTION LOG**

Members noted the Action Log report. There were verbal updates to actions, and discussion points included:

- Savernake Crescent, St Margaret’s Mead, the Community Orchard and Marlborough St Mary’s were among locations suggested for the planting of trees to mark HM Elizabeth II’s Platinum Jubilee. **Councillor Thomas** agreed to make enquiries within Wiltshire Council about other suitable residential green areas.
- A price of £309.56 had been obtained following a request for a bin at Wiltshire Council’s footpath MARL1 and the junction with Manton Hollow. This would be clearly marked with the Town Council’s crest. As there was budget available within the 2021-22 it was agreed to go ahead.
- **Councillor Barrett-Morton** asked whether **Councillor Thomas** could follow up with Wiltshire Council on a request to deal with ivy which was beginning to smother mature trees in the Polly Gardens car park

**RESOLVED:** that the purchase of a waste bin at a cost of £309.56 to be placed at the junction of footpath MARL1 and Manton Hollow was approved

ACTION POINT: **Councillor Thomas** to investigate Wiltshire Council green spaces that might be suitable for planting trees to mark the Queen’s Jubilee

297/21

### **GROUND MANAGER'S REPORT**

Members noted the Ground Manager's report and there were a number of questions and comments arising:

- The lack of a seasonal worker this year had affected the team's ability to cover all areas of the town and some work was slightly behind the usual annual schedule as a result. Key areas were being prioritised leaving smaller, less central areas to be addressed as winter projects.
- The Town Clerk was regularly updated about any equipment needs for the team. Members reiterated that they wanted the team to have the best equipment possible for the job.
- One result of the break-in at the workshop had been an opportunity to replace diesel equipment with cleaner, battery powered tools where practical. This was good news in terms of meeting the Town Council's climate obligations and Members felt it should be well publicised. A future requirement might be the purchase of additional battery packs to avoid downtime.

Mr Weatherly was congratulated on an excellent report.

*The Grounds Manager left the meeting*

298/21

### **TOWN SIGNS**

Members noted the Tourism Officer's report and she provided a verbal overview. Questions, comments, and feedback included:

- Whether to incorporate AONB standard logos and lettering, perhaps with some sponsorship
- That other relevant brands would be included, e.g. Great West Way
- Whether to improve signage to open spaces, especially from the High Street
- A request for any replacement 'welcome to Marlborough' signs to include the 1204 Charter date
- Whether to delay design decisions until more work had been done to agree a 'brand Marlborough' design

**RESOLVED:** (i) that the Committee supports the Tourism Officer's approach and

**RESOLVED:** (ii) that the Tourism Officer should work with the evolving 'branding' proposals to be recommended by the Finance & Policy Committee

*The Tourism Officer left the meeting*

299/21

### **ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE PROTECTION POLICY**

Members considered the Environment and Climate Protection Policy (ECP) and how it could positively influence activities and services within the Committee's remit:

- Every decision should be made in line with the policy, for example when purchasing new equipment

- To designate **Councillor Waltham** as the Committee’s climate champion to ensure sufficient account is taken of environmental or climate impacts of any future decisions
- To include ECCP considerations in reports and recommendations

**RESOLVED:** that all decisions of the Amenities & Open Spaces Committee will take account of sustainability and environmental impact

**300/21**

**WYE HOUSE GARDENS PLAY AREA**

Members considered the update report and likely costs to upgrade the toddlers play equipment with similar equipment. Matters arising included:

- Whether a play area was required at all
- That a recent meeting of an open spaces working party had proposed or recommended:
  - the area to be designated as a ‘quiet area’ with more trees and seating
  - the designation of different areas within the town for the use of specific groups
  - to conduct a survey and explore ideas
- That this was the only play area specifically for very young children
- That prior to the Covid-19 pandemic local nurseries had routinely brought children to Wye House Gardens to play. This had stopped partly due to the pandemic, and partly due to the poor state of the equipment
- Whether other play areas, e.g., that to be developed at Rabley Wood, or existing sites at Coopers Meadow, Cherry Orchard or the Trim Trail would be suitable alternatives for previous users
- It was believed that the design for Rabley Wood would not take account of the needs of children with disabilities or autism
- Whether to consult nurseries about whether they would use an updated toddlers play area
- Whether the amount of use would justify the estimated £50,000 cost of replacing equipment and upgrading the surface
- That Wye House Gardens is a beautiful area and generally very quiet and whether an additional quiet space was needed in the same location
- Agreement about adding more benches to the gardens generally
- Whether the needs of young children could be met more creatively, and at a lower cost, avoiding plastic and without providing a like-for-like replacement
- Whether to create a multi-use space with more benches and sensory equipment for children designed to be as accessible as possible for all groups and abilities

**RESOLVED:** to instruct the Working Party to investigate options to replace the play area at Wye House Gardens with equipment that would be accessible to young children, possibly with a sensory aspect as well as providing additional areas of seating. This proposal should form the basis for consultation with local residents, nursery groups and Marlborough St Mary’s parents

**Councillor Thomas** had taken an action at a previous meeting about the play area at St Johns Park and confirmed that it was being regularly inspected and maintained.

**301/21**

### **DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS**

Members considered the outcomes of the Development Planning Workshops and whether to adopt thematic aims to develop into actions or projects, as well as budget implications which would be discussed in detail later in the agenda.

Those items the Committee felt would fall within its remit were:

- Climate emergency
- Maximising Marlborough's assets
- Eco-tourism
- Devolution of services
- The Common
- Maintain the existing

**RESOLVED:** to instruct the Open Spaces Working Party to investigate the financial implications of potential new that could be linked to the development workshops

**302/21**

### **ASH TREES ON THE COMMON**

Members noted the Grounds Manager's report about trees at Marlborough Common affected by Ash Die Back Disease (*Hymenoscyphus Fraxinus*) and his proposed options to manage them, as well as the financial implications. In particular Members noted the tree surgeon's advice that, if size and condition of the tree allowed, pollarding rather than felling the tree provided an opportunity for it to regenerate so that mature trees would not be lost to felling immediately.

**RESOLVED:** that the Committee supports the proposed approach for the management of diseased Ash trees at Marlborough Common, with a first preference to pollard trees showing signs of disease where this would not be a danger to the public

**ACTION POINT:** the Town Clerk to check with the Grounds Manager which trees at the Recreation Ground were included in upcoming tree works

**303/21**

### **MEMORIAL BENCH REQUEST**

Members considered a request for a memorial bench at Coopers Meadow. Matters arising included:

- Whether to earmark spaces to allocate for benches to meet future requests
- Whether existing benches could be swapped or converted into memorial benches

**RESOLVED:** that a request for a Memorial Bench at Coopers Meadow is approved if it can be placed in line with existing benches

**304/21**

### **CEMETERY REPORT**

Members noted recent Grants of Exclusive Rights of Burial issued and approved Memorials and Inscriptions.

**305/21**

**EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:** that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

**306/21**

**COMMITTEE BUDGET 2022-23**

Members considered the budget requirements for 2022-23. Two changes to the draft were agreed:

- To increase the A&OS projects budget by £5,000 to allow for biodiversity enhancement/mitigation
- To budget for an additional 0.5 FTE resource to the grounds team

**RESOLVED:** that the A&OS Committee Budget 2022-23 is approved with two amendments for recommendation to the Finance & Policy Committee

The meeting closed at 8.04 pm

Signed: ..... Date: .....  
Chairman

	Description	Minute Number	Source	Owner	Status	Meeting or Start Date	Due Date	Notes
5	Clarify developer funding for Rabley Wood		A&OS Committee	Town Clerk	Complete	27.7.21		<p>£32,000 coming from GreenSquare Group as part of the agreement - with 80% (£25,600) due to be transferred to MTC along with the ownership of land area 'A' (Play area). The remaining 20% due to be transferred to MTC along with ownership of land area 'B' (field to rear by the river).</p> <p>Additionally, there are three CIL payments due linked to the housing development. Received the first payment for £13,993. The other two are unspecified amounts at this stage, but I am advised by WC we should receive £16,326 per tranche, unless they amend the planning application during this period. The payments are due 7th February 2022 and the final tranche on 5th of October 2022.</p>

6	<b>Churchill Court Trees</b> To ensure good general tree management in respect of safety and the trees' health		A&OS Committee	Town Clerk	In Progress	6.7.21		Town Clerk and Grounds Manager visited Churchill Court. Assessed trees, engaged, and spoke with three residents. Agreed systematic tree husbandry programme of works of x1 day per month - pruning, removing dead/diseased branches, obvious overhangs. Also, to commission tree surgeon if any obvious dangerous branches. Resident very positive.
11	A&OS working party to consider request re: Priory Gardens gate		A&OS Committee	A&OS Working Party	In Progress			A&OS Open Space Working Party agreed. OSWP work under way, TORs agreed to scope all open spaces and agree rationale for need and use. Met on 16.11.21. and agreed subject to Staffing Committee consideration in January (see agenda item 7)
12	Provide an updated inventory list	<a href="#">177/21</a>	A&OS Committee	Grounds Manager	In Progress	31/08/2021	15/11/2021	
13	Tree Planting for Queens Jubilee: The Grounds Manager to draw up a proposal for suitable locations for planting trees to	<a href="#">178/21</a>	A&OS Committee	Grounds Manager	In Progress	31/08/2021	15/11/2021	Grounds manager, Town Clerk and Chair of A&OS met 14.10.21 to discuss. Location at Common agreed for proposal. Pending FC Platinum Jubilee WP and

	commemorate the Queens Platinum Jubilee							MTC Plan to feed into. At the A&OS meeting held 24/11/2021 further locations were suggested.
14	Request for dog waste bin at Manton Hollow: Grounds Manager to prepare a costing for the placement of a bin at MARL1/Manton Hollow	<a href="#">179/21</a>	A&OS Committee	Grounds Manager	In Progress	31/08/2021	15/11/2021	Costing received 2.11.21. Verbal report at meeting can be given.  24/11/2021 - agreed to purchase the bin at a cost of £309.56
15	Town Clerk/Grounds Manager to purchase new tools		A&OS Committee	Town Clerk & Grounds Manager	Complete	31/08/2021		Electric tool purchased; awaiting strimmers, plus x1 chainsaw, other tools delivered.

January 2022

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## General

Last year was one of the most challenging years we have had for several years. Not helped with the workshop being broken into and the two tractors breaking down.

### Workload

We are well into winter maintenance throughout the town and are making good progress. At this time of year where we get the opportunity we carry out repairs to machinery and do seasonal works such as fence and gate, and bench maintenance and installations, as well as cleaning the litter bins.

### Bedding displays

We have planted out our winter bedding plants. They have been replanted with a mixture of Cheiranthus/Pansies Bellis/Primrose/Polyanthus. Although these plants do not trail, they will give a splash of colour to our open spaces. The order for next summer's bedding plants has been placed.

### Play Areas

The play areas are being well used around the town. I have now received two quotes for the refurbishment of Wye house play area. The safety surface in Coopers' meadow has been repaired where it had worn away beneath the basket swing. We are continuing to 'over mark' the 5 football pitches and repair any worn area. The goal posts on the Common have been repaired where they had sunk on one side.

### Machinery

Following the break in at the workshop we have now received all of the replacement equipment to replace what was stolen. Most of our new equipment is now battery operated except for the chainsaws. The Iseki TG6490 Tractor which had the broken shaft in the gear box has now been repaired. We are still waiting for the Iseki TG5470 to be returned but I have been told that the last of the parts have now been received so should be back with us soon.

The smaller ride on mowers and pedestrian mowers will be serviced in house over the next couple of months

### Demonstration

I have arranged for a company to come and demonstrate a small electric vehicle that we may consider in the future as part of our climate emergency plan to reduce our carbon footprint

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## Site Specific

### **Salisbury Road Recreation Ground.**

This area is well used recently, although we have had a few issues with graffiti on litter bins, play equipment and the skate park which we will clean off as part of our winter maintenance. The skate park is almost in constant use with the new lights being well used. We continue to litter pick and empty the bin three times a week in this area.

The 9-a- side football pitch for Marlborough youth football is starting to show signs of wear. I have spoken with the youth football manger and requested that they reduce the training on the pitch and only use it for matches now as this pitch has several games played on it each weekend. There is a section of privet hedging that has got quite large and the youths have started to climb up through it which has broken branches off and made it go out of shape. We are going to cut this back in the next month to re-shape it. There is also a dead standing tree at the top of the bank near Priorsfield that will need to be removed this can be done by the grounds team.

### **St Mary's Church**

St Marys churchyard continues to be a popular meeting place for the young people of Marlborough.

We check this area daily for any litter and check the litter bins. We will order some turf in the early spring to repair the worn area around the bench in the churchyard

### **The Green**

The benches will be removed and cleaned over the next month before being re oiled and returned.

### **War Memorials**

I have made an enquiry into getting some nicely rotted manure to feed the roses.

### **The Cemetery**

We have had a run of burials recently. This has caused a few issues the ground getting cut up and worn through the equipment that we use to excavate the graves. We try to protect the graves and ground as much as possible it is not always possible to cover everything. We are going to do some maintenance work of the road/pathways on the cemetery to remove the weeds and fill in the holes that have appeared over the year

### **Old Cemetery**

The front hedge has been strimmed back for this year. We will continue with the hedge cutting and will also remove some more of the dead wood from the Yew hedge at the rear of the cemetery to encourage the new shoots to develop. We also aim to clear the few remaining brambles where they are growing through the hedge line.

### **The Priory**

The Priory continues to be well used. The sign down near the Figgins Lane gate has been damaged twice in the last couple of months and has been retrieved from the river this has now been re repaired and put back in the garden. Regular maintenance visits are carried out to keep the weeds under control and do daily litter picks and check the bins.

### **Coopers Meadow**

The play equipment continues to be highly popular in the meadow. We have had a couple of reports of damage to the picnic benches boards being removed and graffiti on the benches, which we are going to repair in the new year. The stock fencing around the meadow needs being replaced. Most of the posts are rotten which is understandable seeing as Coopers meadow is a water meadow. I have approached two companies to quote for this work; I have received one quote and I am waiting for the second quote

### **The Common**

The Common has been well used all year. Marlborough Rugby Club have regular fixtures. The Park Run is back on the Common holding a weekly 5 kilometre run every Saturday. Marlborough Youth Football Club is using the Common for training and playing games. I have met with our preferred tree surgeon, and we have looked at the possible health and safety risk regarding the ash trees on the Common that are suffering from ash dieback. He has recommended pollarding the trees and has scheduled this for the spring 2022.

### **Manton - Jubilee field**

The new play equipment is being very well used. The hedges will be cut over the next couple of months. We have re edged the path making it wider.

### **Wye House Gardens**

The garden at Wye House continues to improve each year. Again, this year we will continue to lift dividing more of the herbaceous plants to fill in any gaps. Regular checks for litter and general condition of plants will continue throughout the winter months. The bridge over the pond will undergo some maintenance work through the winter months

### **Elcot Recreation Ground**

This area is used by dog walkers and for sporting events. Weekly checks are carried out for litter and to check the site for any problems. The fence line along the side of the allotments site will require some re staining work this will be done over the winter months.

### **Stonebridge Meadow**

The meadow is another of our open spaces that gets very well used. There has been an increase in graffiti along the Stonebridge Lane wall which we are monitoring. Regular checks for litter and twice weekly litter bin checks

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## **For Councillors to consider**

At the last Stonebridge management committee meeting there was a request from ARK to change our mowing routine through Stonebridge meadow: they would like to seriously reduce the amount of grass that we maintain in the amenity area: please see the Appendix.

Although I agree that we need to do our best as far as providing habitats for wildlife and improving biodiversity I would like to ask the Councillors for their thoughts on this.

I ask you to consider that the greater percentage of Stonebridge meadow is already left to nature to manage for itself is it really necessary to reduce the small amenity area to incorporate more of

the same when the amenity area is used by the public especially in the summer months for families having picnics and enjoying the open space.

**ITEM 7** **OPEN SPACES WORKING PARTY**

1. The Open Spaces Working Party (OSWP) last met on the 16.11.21 when it scoped all the main Open Spaces and Play areas to consider their current status and how they are best suited to meeting the needs of the community. The table below outlines the consensus view agreed in each area.
2. There are now five key areas of work for the OSWP to conduct, specifically:
  - The Common - Explore ‘youth shelter’ /seating/ outdoor gym equipment or arrangement relevant to needs of 12-17yrs. This needs principal agreement to proceed from the Committee.
  - Salisbury Recreation Ground - whole site develop plan
  - Stonebridge Meadow - Safe Space Management Plan
  - Priory Gardens - Safe Space Management Plan
  - Wye House Gardens - Survey of area and ‘vision’ for area.
3. There is work in progress on the Priory Gardens due to the timeline and seasonal factor that affects this situation and the potential for a positive outcome. Also, the Priory Gardens situation and response stands to inform the response to the scenario at Stonebridge Meadow, which also has been experiencing continued anti-social behaviour. This matter will also be considered by the Staffing Sub Committee on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022, and then Full Council on the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 in support of the timeline on this matter (i.e., if action is to be taken on this matter this will need some preparatory time in February in time for spring).

Town Clerk 16.12.21

LOCATION	PRIMARY NEED (USE)	PROBLEMS/ISSUES	SOLUTIONS	ACTIONS
<b>THE COMMON swings area</b>	Under 10yrs  Location more suited to 12-17yrs due to large space	Swings dated, wet pour surfacing broken (hazard). Bin with dog waste near bench, so not used	Remove swings and surfacing; or replace surfacing  Possible site for provision aimed at 12-17yrs  Move bin	Seek principal agreement for target age group  Explore ‘youth shelter’ /seating/ outdoor gym equipment or arrangement relevant to needs of 12-17yrs  Move bin once clear plan to suit

				Check CIL status
<b>'RUGBY CLUB TRIM TRAIL</b>	Under 7yrs mobility	None.	Leave as is	No further action. In good order
<b>COOPERS MEADOW</b>	Family recreation	Occasional ASB in summer/ litter	Leave as is	No further action. In good order and relatively new equipment
<b>ORCHARD ROAD</b>	Under 10yrs.	Gates hung wrong way, need replacing.  Use may grow along with housing development nearby	New gates  Monitor usage and need	MTC Grounds team to replace /fix
<b>SALISBURY REC</b>	Destination site for all demographic groups; play area/ skatepark/ playing field/ Community and Youth Centre. Sports, dog walkers, casual leisure	ASB / possible drug dealing & inappropriate use of C&YC car park  Hard standing area next to C&YC used for recreational alcohol use/ litter & glass can be threat to users and dogs  Undefined area to east of site  Play equipment generally ok but needs monitoring & maintaining as usage is high	Car Park barrier / staffing  Additional CCTV camera attached to C&YC  Metal cage over hard standing area to create outdoor space with seats  Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) ( MUGGA agreed subject to CIL funds)	Needs whole site develop plan / or dedicated WP to progress
<b>ELCOT LANE</b>	Sport and recreation/ boxing club	Has Village Green Status – protects space	Leave as is	No further action Boxing Club; confirm building upkeep responsibility.
<b>STONEBRIDGE MEADOW</b>	Conservation & scenic planting area	Can conflict with allotments. ASB causes people to avoid use. Vandalism to benches, litter/bottles in river	Needs plan to ensure to protect integrity of space	<b>Safe Space Management Plan</b>  Reassess the “Bridge” project/Boardwalk.
<b>THE GREEN</b>	Quiet relaxation/ use of benches	None	Leave as is	No further action

<p><b>PRIORY GARDENS</b></p>	<p>Relaxation, contemplation, ornate garden</p>	<p>ASB evening until late / ongoing issue</p> <p>Damage to plants</p> <p>Boundaries and messaging not clear or consistent</p> <p>Police have requested gate to be locked to support engagement</p> <p>Path/ Figgins Lane wall not in good order</p>	<p>Needs plan to ensure to protect integrity of space</p> <p>Possibly including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locking of gate at agreed times</li> <li>• New clear signs</li> <li>• Consult and support Ground staff as relevant</li> <li>• Partners to support implementation as relevant and appropriate ( Police, School, residents)</li> <li>• Resources</li> <li>• Clear communication of plan to partners and stakeholders</li> <li>• Body cams for Ground Staff?</li> <li>• CCTV ? ( costly)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Safe Space Management Plan (SSMP)</b></p> <p>Contact Police</p> <p>Staff Committee to consider staff safety conditions of service to support implementation</p> <p>Full Council to consider /agree SSMP and supporting policy position re; locking of gate</p> <p><b>NEEDS IMPLEMENTATION BY MARCH 2022</b></p> <p>Resurface path/ maintenance works to Figgins Lane wall</p>
<p><b>WYE HOUSE GARDENS</b></p>	<p>Young children, and elderly residents</p>	<p>Equipment worn and dated. Surfacing worn and need replacing. Fencing dated and tired.</p>	<p>Needs new investment , but with thought both users cohorts. Could benefit from a more ‘lateral creative approach’ to create a ‘sensory’ environment.</p>	<p>Survey this area to determine what is best for this area. I.e., Children’s play area or better suited as a rest area with seating “a quiet place” ?</p>

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## Recommendation

Members are asked to note the progress of the Open Spaces Working Party.

## ITEM 8 PIZZA REVOLUTION - REQUEST TO TRADE AT RUGBY CLUB CAR PARK

### Background

On the 23.11.21 Mr Tom Will (Pizza Revolution) contacted Marlborough Rugby Football Club (MRFC) to request permission to trade from the car park at the MRFC. They serviced a private event which hired the MRFC clubhouse, and it reportedly went very well. MRFC have no objection to this request, however referred it onto us for 'landlord' consideration.

### Considerations

Mr Will seeks to trade either every other Thursday or Saturday (Never both), between the hours of 16:30 - 20:30pm. They serve wood fired pizzas, cookies, and dips only. They run the service using a customer pager facility to notify when orders are ready, so customers do not unnecessarily need to wait around.

Mr Will has supplied the following:

- Fire Extinguisher certificate (29.2.21)
- WC Food Hygiene Inspection Certificate (1.10.21, rating score 5)
- Health and Safety Policy (25.2.21)
- Fire Safety Risk Assessment (25.1.21)
- Food Safety Risk Assessment (25.1.21)
- Health and Safety Risk Assessment (25.1.21)
- Insurance certificate (9.3.21, £10,000,000 public liability).



### Recommendation

Members are asked to consider the request and instruct the Town Clerk accordingly.

- i. To note any Grants of Exclusive Rights of Burial issued
- ii. To note any memorials and inscriptions approved

### CEMETERY INFORMATION

16.11.2021 – 07.01.2022

#### Exclusive Right of Burial/Notice of Interment/Purchase

Name of Deceased	Grave Number	Cemetery Section	Type of Burial
Ms Pamela Mavis Lovelock	331	D	Re-open
Mrs Margaret Killick	45	H	Re-open
Mr Gordon Heath	14	J (CR)	Cremation
Mr Michael Victor Debonnair Haggard	15	J (CR)	Cremation
Mrs Susan Maureen Hewitt	65	H	New Double
Mrs Jane Angela McMackin	352	D	New Double (Previously Purchased)
Garrick Bowyer & Margaret Bowyer	13	J	Double Cremation



It has become common knowledge that insects are in huge decline (41% face extinction)

Two significant reasons are:

- Mowing/stripping away habitat (most humans have an inbuilt urge to tidy)
- Use of pesticides

Insects need insect friendly habitats to feed, breed and thrive. These habitats can co-exist with the community and can be usable areas of beauty that are valued.

Image From Kew Gardens Instagram

Daisies allowed to thrive and the site can still be fully enjoyed for picnicking and walking on.





2,073 likes  
 countrylifemagazine The new wildflower meadow at King's College, Cambridge. Look carefully and you'll spot head gardener Steve Coghill tending this wonderful and inspiring sight. For 300 years this was the Back Lawn, kept pristine thanks to 'Keep off the grass' signs. Now, the signs are gone and students, residents and tourists alike have been bowled over by this beautiful sight, that's 'already humming with bees', according to Steve. ---  
 📸 by Joe Giddens via PA ---  
 #wildflowermeadows #kingscollegecambridge #countrylifemagazine  
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## Many individuals, businesses, groups, charities, universities and councils are embracing starting on a journey to:

1. Make a public commitment that insects are important
2. Get informed on their own impacts and how to take action to reduce these
3. Plan and target approaches for the future, with objectives to reduce pesticide use and increase insect friendly habitats

This is a measured step by step approach and does not mean 6ft high 'mess'.

Flowers and insects improve health, wealth and happiness.

The many months of 'lockdown' have demonstrated how important nature and high-quality green and blue spaces are to community wellbeing.

Less mowing = less cost.



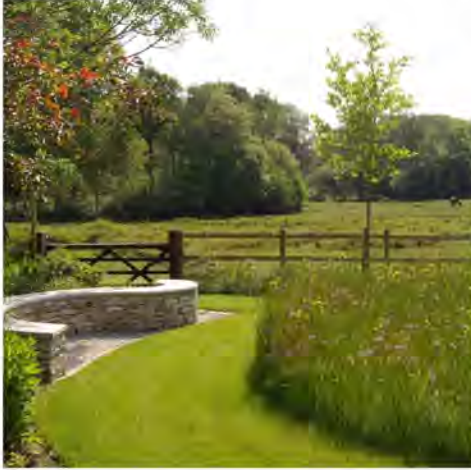


Wildflower Turf

4 h · 🌐

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It really is a misconception that wildflowers in gardens look like a field. Native wildflowers can grow amid and enhance the most slick and contemporary of garden designs. They have a natural beauty about them! Nourishing to the soul, wildlife seems to prefer them too.



A positive move towards embracing a more sustainable management of the mown area at Stonebridge would be later and less frequent cuts to allow flowers to fulfil their cycle with insects.

Crisp sinuous mown paths would demonstrate the area (pictured left) was cared for and would show off the site. The community would not have to stick to the paths.

*Amenity - any feature that provides comfort, convenience, or pleasure.*

This more holistic approach would bring wider benefits, increasing habitat for other wildlife and be more aesthetically appealing to visitors.

### Examples of councils forming green strategies

PAN (Pesticide Action Network UK) have worked with councils Bristol, Brighton, Lewes and Hammersmith & Fulham to develop a policy framework for a transition to non-chemical alternatives to pesticides. Whilst other councils are looking at reducing grass cuts in their public spaces and taking on pollinator friendly strategies, such as increasing use of native flowers.



bbowt



Liked by hollye64 and others

bbowt It's great to see more councils letting plants grow on verges 🐝🦋🐛🐜 ... more

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2 days ago



Left: example of sign by Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead Council.

