

Marlborough Town Council



6 October 2026

To: Councillors serving on the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee – Councillors Nicholas Awbery (Vice-Chair), Mark Cooper, Lisa Farrell, Susannah O'Brien, Caroline Sadler, Kelvyn Shantry, Emily Trow (Chair), Kim Wakeham, and the Town Mayor Councillor Mark Luson

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 in the **Council Chamber, Marlborough Town Hall** on **Monday, 12 October 2026** at **7.00 pm**.

Yours sincerely

Richard Spencer-Williams

Richard Spencer-Williams, PSLCC

Town Clerk

If members of the public wish to attend and ask a question they should notify the Town Clerk of this by noon on the day of the meeting and provide their question in writing at the same time.

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 one question per person unless directed otherwise by the Chair. A full response may not be possible without further research, and the Chair may direct that a written or oral response be given.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of interest or requests for dispensation

3. Chair's Announcements

4. Minutes

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held 29 June 2026

5. Action Log

To receive an update on the Action Log

6. Golf Club Woodland Management Scheme

To consider the Golf Club's Woodland Management Scheme

7. Stonebridge Meadow

To receive a verbal update from Councillor O'Brien and the Town Clerk

8. Grounds Manager's Report

To note and consider the Grounds Manager's Report

9. Tree Report

To note the report on the Council's trees

10. Victorian Cemetery and Arboretum

To receive a verbal update report on the Victorian Cemetery and Arboretum from Councillor Sadler

11. Allotments

To receive a verbal update report on the Allotments

12. Finance Report Month 5 and Budget 2027 28

To consider the Committee's Finance Report for Month 5, and the budget requirements for 2027 28

13. Cemetery Report

- i. To note any Grants of Exclusive Rights of Burial issued
- ii. To note any recently approved Memorials and Inscriptions

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2026

Marlborough Town Council



Amenities and Open Spaces Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee held Monday,
29 June 2026 in the Court Room, Marlborough Town Hall at 7pm

PRESENT	Councillor Emily Trow	Chair
	Councillor Mark Luson	Town Mayor
	Councillor Mark Cooper	
	Councillor Kelvyn Shantry	
	Councillor Susannah O'Brien	
	Councillor Caroline Sadler	
	Councillor Nicholas Awbery	
	Councillor Kim Wakeham	
	Richard Spencer-Williams	Town Clerk
	Dawn Whitehall	Corporate Services Officer

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present and no questions had been submitted in writing.

80/26 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from **Councillor Farrell** and the **Grounds Manager, Nigel Weatherly**.

81/26 DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations of interest.

82/26 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair thanked **Councillor Cooper** for his hard work and dedication to this committee during his time as its Chair.

83/26 MINUTES

RESOLVED: that minutes of the meeting held 16 March 2026 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair

84/26

ACTION LOG

#250 had been outstanding since 2024, and **Councillor Sheppard** was no longer a member of this Committee. Members agreed several steps to seek clarification to aid decision making:

ACTION (i) ask the residents association whether the request to plant trees next to four benches at College Fields and Barton Park was still required

ACTION (ii) seek advice from Wiltshire Council about whether the request can be granted with Wiltshire Council continuing to manage and mow the green spaces

85/26

STONEBRIDGE MEADOW

Councillors Shantry and **O'Brien** had attended the Stonebridge Meadow Management Committee meeting held 26 June, and provided an update of discussions with Action for the River Kennet:

- Continuing issues with dog fouling and dogs not being kept on leads
- Sinuous paths had been mown through the meadow
- The sheep would be returning to Cooper's Meadow soon
- An open day was being planned for 29 August at Stonebridge Wild River Reserve offering guided tours of the reserve, and an opportunity to appeal to dog owners to keep their dogs on leads

86/26

GROUND'S MANAGER'S REPORT

Members noted the Grounds Manager's Report and commended his team on the work carried out.

87/26

TREE REPORT

Members noted the report on the Council's trees.

Every 4-5 years the Council's trees are inspected by an arboriculturist, and this was due during the current year. It was likely that the list of tree works would increase following the inspection.

88/26

VICTORIAN CEMETERY AND ARBORETUM

Councillors Sadler and **Wakeham** had attended a meeting with the Friends group on 20 May, and provided a verbal update:

- There were issues with dog fouling and dogs being let off leads
- Acknowledging the good work of the Grounds Team
- The draft Charitable Incorporated Organisation forms had been signed and submitted
- **Councillor Wakeham** was preparing a historical report
- Discussions about a provisional open morning to be held on 12 September
- The next meeting will take place on 17 July

89/26 CEMETERY EXTENSION

Members noted the Town Clerk's update report. The Town Council's solicitor had been instructed to prepare to transfer the ownership of Hawthorn Meadow to the Town Council, after which the DEFRA application could be submitted, beginning the process and statutory consultation to deregister the land at Marlborough Common at the proposed cemetery extension site.

90/26 ALLOTMENTS

Stonebridge Allotments site had been included in the recent Marlborough Open Gardens and had received about 20 visitors. It had really highlighted the strong return after the devastating floods in 2024, with hard work put in by the allotmenters and in particular thanks were conveyed to the Grounds team for all their help with signage, materials, a new bench, maintenance and provision of compost.

91/26 BUDGET REPORT

Members noted the budget position at month 2. There had been a significant increase in fuel costs.

92/26 PROJECT REQUEST

Members noted the Town Clerk's report, and that the remaining project budget figure had been incorrectly stated – it should read £6,089. The condition of the entrance onto the Common opposite the Rugby Clubhouse was also discussed.

It was noted that the entrance to be resurfaced crosses a scheduled monument, so appropriate permissions would be required.

RESOLVED: to resurface the entrance to the Common at Jackson's Corner (the top of Kingsbury Street) at an estimated cost of £3,736

93/26 CEMETERY REPORT

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

The meeting closed at 7.33 pm

ITEM 5

ACTION LOG

To receive an update on the Action Log

Action	Min. No	Status	Meeting date	Notes
Ask the residents association whether the request to plant trees next to four benches at College Fields and Barton Park was still required	84/26	Complete	29/6/26	Email enquiry sent 30 6 26. No response.

ITEM 6

GOLF CLUB WOODLAND MANAGEMENT SCHEME

To consider the Golf Club's Woodland Management Scheme

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to brief the Committee on the:

- Golf Club's woodland-management proposals
- relevance of the tree covenant in the lease dated 17 May 1985 and
- the need for a retrospective application for consent under section 38 of the Commons Act 2006.

Background

Marlborough Golf Club has been undertaking a programme intended to improve woodland condition and biodiversity, including removal of diseased trees and new planting. The publicly reported Woodland Management Plan was developed with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust's Trees for Climate team and was expected to run initially between November 2024 and March 2025, with a 15-year maintenance grant. The programme also included removal of identified diseased trees, including ash affected by ash dieback.

Status

Woodland management plan

The Golf Club's Woodland Management Plan includes:

- **Scope and baseline:** identifying the lease area, common-land boundary, woodland compartments, individual trees or groups, condition, constraints and photographic baseline.
- **Objectives:** stating measurable outcomes for public safety, woodland resilience, biodiversity, landscape character, recreation and golf-course management.

- **Operations:** providing a schedule of felling, pruning, coppicing, scrub control, planting, fencing, surfacing and access works, with timing and responsible parties.
- **Public access:** explaining temporary and permanent effects on paths and access across the common, including mitigation and reinstatement.
- **Monitoring:** including survival targets, replacement of failed planting, inspection intervals, progress reports and a review mechanism over the funded maintenance period.

Lease and consent

Through the course of various liaisons between the Golf Club and the Town Clerk on this matter it was highlighted that the Golf Club lease requires the council's consent for tree works, the lease, dated 17 May 1985, states:

Clause (11): "Not without the lessor's previous written consent to cut down or injure trees plants bushes or hedges..."

This clause covenant requires the Golf Club, as lessee, to obtain the lessor's written consent before the relevant cutting or injury occurs.

Retrospective consent under section 38 of the Commons Act 2006 / Marlborough Common Driving Range Hedgerow

Also, through the course of liaisons with the Golf Club (and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust) on this matter it was highlighted that an application for consent under section 38 of the Commons Act was overlooked, for which the Town Clerk had advised should be carried out. Consequently, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, on behalf of the Golf Club, are applying to the Planning Inspectorate retrospectively. The Committee is asked to note the following communication from Neil Pullen:

'Councillors are asked to note a retrospective application for Section 38 consent under the Commons Act 2006 for the establishment of a native, species-rich hedgerow around the perimeter of the driving range at Marlborough Golf Club.

The scheme was designed to improve public safety by helping to guide movement through the active practice area while maintaining public access through a series of wide, deliberately retained gaps.

The proposal also delivers biodiversity and landscape benefits, enhancing habitat connectivity and reinforcing the character of the Common.

During the development of the scheme, including its design, funding and delivery arrangements, it was regrettably overlooked that Section 38 consent was required prior to implementation. The retrospective application seeks to regularise the position and ensure that the works are properly authorised.

The gappy hedgerow would create habitat for birds, bats, pollinators and other wildlife, while strengthening habitat connectivity across the Common. The proposal is considered the least intrusive option available: it reflects the landscape character of Marlborough Common, supports

the long-established recreational use of the golf course, and avoids the need for permanent fencing or excessive signage.

Overall, the scheme offers a balanced approach that improves safety, enhances the environment and preserves public enjoyment of the Common.'

Neil Pullen

Conservation Lead (Swindon)

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust

Commons Act 2006, Section 38

- Section 38 controls “restricted works” on registered common land.
- Restricted works include works that prevent or impede access to or over the land and works involving new solid surfacing.
- Fencing, buildings, structures, ditches, trenches and embankments may fall within the control where their effect is to impede access.
- Vegetation cutting or burning may not itself constitute works for section 38 purposes, but associated fencing, banks, surfacing or other structures may do so.
- The classification of each operation is a matter of fact and degree.
- Planning Inspectorate guidance permits a retrospective application for works already carried out only where they were undertaken after 1 October 2007.
- The application should identify each completed restricted work, its location and dimensions, the date of construction, purpose, ownership and rights affected.
- It should explain why prior consent was not obtained.
- It should assess effects on access, commoners, recreation, landscape, nature conservation and archaeology.
- It should report consultation and set out mitigation, removal or restoration options.
- The application is determined on behalf of the Secretary of State and should be assessed against the published common-land consents policy.

Proposal

The Committee is asked to:

1. Consider support for tree works carried out as part of the Golf Club’s woodland management plan, with recommendation that the Committee requests Marlborough Golf Club provides:
 - copies of all relevant permissions
 - a schedule distinguishing works already completed from works proposed, with periodic updates as relevant.
2. Note the retrospective application under section 38 of the Commons Act, with the requirements that the Golf Club keeps Marlborough Town Council informed of the outcome.

Town Clerk 29 9 26

References

- [Commons Act 2006, section 38.](#)
- [Planning Inspectorate, Common land guidance sheet 1a](#) (updated 3 April 2025).
- [GOV.UK, Carrying out works on common land.](#)
- [Secretary of State's Common Land consents policy.](#)
- [Forestry Commission guidance on woodland management plans](#)

ITEM 7

STONEBRIDGE MEADOW

To receive a verbal update from Councillor O'Brien and the Town Clerk

The Committee is asked to receive a verbal update report from Councillors O'Brien and the Town Clerk and to consider any matters arising.

Members are asked to instruct the Town Clerk accordingly.

Town Clerk 27 9 26

ITEM 8

GROUNDS MANAGER'S REPORT

To note and consider the Grounds Manager's Report

General Workload

The long hot summer seriously reduced the need for us to mow the grass. This gave us the opportunity to get on with some of the maintenance tasks we generally do later in the year. During the dry summer, we spent a considerable amount of time watering and deadheading our floral displays twice a week during the hottest periods. We have had a few burials and ashes internments. We have also been doing some work at Rabley Wood to get the play area ready for inspection.

Bedding Displays

The bedding displays have again looked great this year with numerous compliments from members of the public. A regular watering, feeding, and dead heading routine has helped keep the planters looking good. The winter bedding order has been placed and should be delivered in the next couple of weeks. This year's summer bedding will be removed after the two Mop Fairs.

Play Equipment

The play areas continue to be well used around the town with monthly health and safety inspections recorded.

Football

We have set out and marked 2 football pitches that will require weekly cuts and line marking. I delayed the start of the football season on our pitches due to the lack of grass growth. Both pitches have now been Verti-Drained to help root development through the winter months.

Machinery

We have had a good season with very little machinery issues. The Husqvarna P524 had an issue with the digital dashboard which has now been dealt with. The McConnel hedge cutter had had new flails installed on it ready for this season's hedge cutting session. I also request the council to consider the purchase of a replacement mower for use at Swindon Road bank, the Victorian Cemetery, The Common, Stonebridge Meadow and Hawthorn Meadow.

Site Specific

Salisbury Road Recreation Ground

This area was well used throughout the summer. The skate park is almost in constant use between the cyclists and skaters. The play equipment is well used. Litter over this summer has been a slight issue; three bin runs each week and daily checks.

St Mary's Churchyard

Unfortunately, dog fouling is a slight issue in this area. Although most dog walkers do clear up after their dogs there are still a few that don't. We have had a request from St Mary's church to ask if we would include the churchyard as part of no mow May. After a discussion with the Town Clerk, we decided against this for the front section due to the dog fouling issue, but we have offered to leave the back of the churchyard as part of no mow May next year.

The Green

The Epicormic growth on the base of the Lime trees across the Green was trimmed back and this will be done again in the next couple of months. The trees closest to the traffic lights have had regular checks to prevent the traffic light heads from being covered by new growth. The posts around the edge of the Green have been sanded and reinstalled. The dry summer has left an area on the western lower side of the Green looking brown: this will be reseeded in the next month. The lime trees will be pollarded this month ahead of the Christmas lights being installed for this year.

War Memorials

The Wiltshire Regiment memorial has done very well this year. The planting scheme that was planted a couple of years ago has stood up well even through this very dry summer. We will have to order a few plants that have died but the majority of them have survived. The two memorials will be cut and tidied before the Remembrance Day events.

The Cemetery

Summer has made the ground dry and hard, and this has been a challenge when it comes to digging graves. We have made regular visits to the cemetery through the summer months and have cut the grass as and when necessary. The bins have been checked and emptied every other day.

Victorian Cemetery

Grass cuts as and when needed have helped to keep the cemetery going. Regular visits from the friends of the Victorian cemetery who meet at least once a month have made vast improvements to the cemetery. A joint effort between the town council grounds team and the friends of the Victorian cemetery group helped to cut and remove the long vegetation. Weed control on invasive weeds will be carried out on the re-growth after everything has been cut and cleared away. The Japanese knot weed control is working and we had no new signs of any regrowth of knot weed showing this year.

Priory Gardens

The Priory has been well used through the summer months. Regular maintenance has been carried out to dead-head the bedding and roses. Bins and litter in this area have been done daily. The pathways are due to have some work done on them in the coming months.

Coopers Meadow

This area again has been well used over the summer months. The sheep have added to the appeal to visit the meadow. Unfortunately, the sheep have now gone back home for the winter, but I am hoping that they will return again next year. Regular grass cutting and strimming has been carried out throughout the summer. We have reduced some of the longer vegetation along the southern side of the meadow to open the footpath up better to prevent the stinging nettles over growing onto the footpath. Some of the litter bins in Coopers Meadow are made of metal and are starting to rust away; we have several bins from Amberol around our open spaces which are made of strong plastic. We are requesting funds next year to replace these.

The Common

The Common has been used steadily over the summer months with a various range of sporting and leisure events. The training area is finally getting used. It dried out considerably during the hot months and went totally brown, but this has now recovered. The recent rain will help the grass to grow and for the roots to develop over the winter months. The posts and barriers along the side of Frees Avenue have been re-painted.

Manton - Jubilee Field

Grass cutting and strimming has been done as and when necessary. Hedge cutting is due to be done in the coming months. The play area fence has had some damage; the old chain-link fencing has been removed and replaced with a new wire mesh fence.

Wye House Gardens & Play Area

Regular maintenance visits have raised the standards in the garden at Wye House. The herbaceous plants that we divided and moved earlier this year have been successful. This garden has improved considerably over the last few years.

Elcot Rec

This area is used by dog walkers and for sporting events. The football pitch has been Verti drained and set out and marked out this will require over marking weekly. I have approached one of our

contractors to quote for a replacement fence between Elcot Lane village green and the football club as the boundary fence is in very bad repair.

Stonebridge Meadow

The grass cutting this year has been as and when needed. The footpath along the side of the river needs a cut and encroaching brambles cut back. Bins and litter are checked regularly. The mowing of the old amenity area was done for the ARK EelFest held in September.

Tin Pit

The fence at the land at Tin Pit which runs alongside the Hawthorn Meadow boundary, and along the western boundary adjacent to the house are both in need to replacement. This will reinforce the impact and rationale of the Hawthorn Meadow/Tin Pit / Bay Meadows conservation corridor.

Allotments

Stonebridge Allotments site is doing well. The boundary fence with Stonebridge Meadow needs replacing as the post are rotting.

Hawthorn Meadow

This is a new area to us it is being transferred from Green Square Accord in the coming month. The play area finally has ROSPA approval. We watered the newly installed turf for the first few weeks which has helped the roots to develop. There are a few small areas that could do with some grass seeding. We have done some regular maintenance work to keep the play area tidy this area should hopefully be handed over to us soon.

Grounds Manager 28 9 26

To note and consider the report on the Council's trees

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to appraise the Committee of what tree works have been progressed or are needed within the Council's estate, and in an advisory priority order.

Status

The table below outlines the key tree work required:

Priority	Location	Tree	Status	Implementation	Cost
1	Stonebridge meadow	Black poplar	Fell	Done	£3,400
2	The Victorian Cemetery	1 x Ash	Fell and grind out stump Booked 17 March	Done	Fell £1,100+vat Grind stump £100+vat
3	The Cemetery	1 x ornamental cherry	Winter 2026 MTC staff	Pending	
4	The Priory Gardens	1 x ornamental cherry	Winter 2026 MTC staff Wiltshire tree officer needs to approve this following advice from tree surgeon	Pending	
5	The Common	1 x lime tree	Waiting for tree survey due soon		

Proposal

Members are asked to note the above.

Grounds Manager 28 9 26

To receive a verbal update report on the Victorian Cemetery and Arboretum from Councillor Sadler

To receive a verbal update report on the Allotments from the Town Clerk

ITEM 12

FINANCE REPORT MONTH 5 AND BUDGET 2027-28

To consider the Committee's Finance Report for Month 5, and the budget requirements for 2027-28

Finance Report for Month 5

(Please refer to Appendix 2 for budget overview)

To consider the Committee's priorities and budget requirements for 2026-27

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an overview of its current priorities and projects as agreed to date, in order for the Committee to review its priorities and projects for 2027-28 and to consider the budget requirements for 2027-28. (Please refer to Appendix 2 for budget overview)

Priorities and Projects / Status

The agreed priorities for 2026 27 were:

1. **Cemetery extension** (2022-27) – consultation and feasibility assessment (to be funded from Cemetery EMR and possible contribution from precept. Main project costs to be funded by Public Works Loan.) **Ongoing**
2. **Biodiversity Management** - over the council's estate (£1k from AOS Projects budget). **To Do**
3. **Land at Rabley Wood View (Hawthorn Meadow)/land at Tin Pit** - Implement land management plan and install type one connecting path from Rabley Wood View to Bay Meadows. **To Do**
4. **Priory Gardens Paths.** **To Do**
5. **'Orec' Bank Mower** - full service and repair of 'Orec' bank mower. A request for an additional £1500 to workshop maintenance budget with the aim to do a comprehensive overhaul of existing mower carried out by a specialist mower mechanic. It was suggested this is then reviewed as part of the 2027-28 budget consideration.
6. **Victorian Cemetery and Arboretum** - ongoing project development
7. **Grounds works vehicle replacement** - **Complete**

Proposed Priorities 2027-28 and Budget Considerations

It is proposed that the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee agrees the following as its list of priorities for budgeting purposes for 2027-28:

1. **Cemetery extension** (2022-27) – consultation and feasibility assessment (to be funded from Cemetery EMR. Main project costs to be funded by Public Works Loan.)

2. **Land at Rabley Wood View (Hawthorn Meadow)/land at Tin Pit** - Implement land management plan and install type one connecting path from Hawthorn Meadow to Bay Meadows. (£8k allocated in 2026-27 budget from GreenSquareAccord commuted sum)
3. **Rabley Wood View Play Area** – reinstate integrity of new play area and landscaping (due to hot weather damage and s106 agreement requirements; funds to be taken from GreenSquareAccord commuted sum)
4. **Priory Gardens Paths To Do** (£12k allocated in 2026-27 budget from GreenSquareAccord commuted sum)
5. **Marlborough Common** – Frees Avenue entrance tarmacking (cost circa £3,500; can be paid for out of ‘AOS projects’)
6. **Biodiversity Management** - over the council’s estate depending on weather conditions – £1k from AOS Projects budget).
7. **Replacement Bank Mower** – despite full service the ‘Orec’ bank mower needs replacing. Proposed purchase of a ‘Bluebird FM24/70 remote control mower. £5,400 funded by precept (see Appendix 3)
8. **Red Diesel tank £5,100 / or increase diesel budget £1,500** funded by precept (see Appendix 4) NB Subject to insurance assessment / response pending.
9. **Coopers Meadow bins £2,550** (see Appendix 5 for report)
10. **Fencing – the following all need replacing.**
 - o Priority 1 Hawthorn Meadow (parallel / adjacent to new type 1 path) £1,650
 - o Priority 2 Tin Pits £4,000
 - o Priority 3 Elcot playing fields £1,150 (materials only)
 - o Priority 4 Stonebridge Allotments £3,270

Total = £10,700

There is an EMR ‘Walls and Fences’ of £16,133. A decision will need to be made about whether to use some or all of the EMR and also precept to replenish the EMR or fund each fence job over 1-3 years in priority order?
11. **Victorian Cemetery and Arboretum** - ongoing project development

General considerations

- Assumed **3.5% inflation oncost** where applicable on **provided services**.
- **4% added** onto **hire costs** of open spaces?

Recommendation

Members are asked to consider and agree the Committee’s priorities and budget requirements for 2027-28 and instruct the Town Clerk accordingly.

Town Clerk 26 5 26

ITEM 13**CEMETERY REPORT**

To note Grants of Exclusive Rights of Burial issued and recently approved Memorials and Inscriptions between 29 May and 1 October 2026.

i) Exclusive Right of Burial/Notice of Interment/Purchase

Name of deceased	Grave No.	Cemetery Section	Type of Burial	Funeral Director
Norman David Charles Jennings	7	D	New Double	FW Jones & Son
Joyce Isabel Chapman	33	G	Reopen Burial	Dianne Mackinder
Peter William Hole	121	FCR	Reopen Ashes	N/A
Ronald Victor Crame	60	J	New Ashes	Claridge

ii) Memorial Applications – Inscriptions and Additional Inscriptions

Name of deceased	Stone	Grave No.	Section	Inscription to read -
Rosemary A Newman	Additional Inscription	02	H	ROSEMARY A NEWMAN (Rose) A LOVING MUM & Nan 17.05.1936 – 29.10.2025
Annie Evans & Martin Charles William Evans	Light Grey Polished Granite	59	J	Annie Evans 13.1.1905 – 17.11.2000 Martin Charles William Evans 31.8.1942 – 16.3.2026
Norman David Charles Jennings	Dark Grey Polished Granite	7	D	IN LOVING MEMORY OF N.D.C. JENNINGS (DAVID) 20.09.1939 - 21.05.2026
George Albert McGowan	Mid Grey Granite – Polished	11	EE	In loving memory of George Albert McGowan Born sleeping 19.09.2013 <i>A moment in our arms, a lifetime in our hearts</i>
Robin Notton	Additional Inscription	86	H	ROBIN Notton 7 July 1944 – 19 October 2025 Mayor of Marlborough 1992-1993 A good man at rest

Name of deceased	Stone	Grave No.	Section	Inscription to read -
Mandy Jane Gulliver	Blue Pearl	98	H	In Loving Memory of MANDY JANE GULLIVER 18.01.1963 – 24.09.2025 A much loved Mum to Barry & Sarah Sadly missed Daughter, Sister, Auntie & Nan “We had joy, we had fun, we had seasons in the sun, But the hills that we climbed Were just seasons out of time.” Forever in our hearts
Pam Clements	Additional Inscription	328	D	PAM CLEMENTS 1940-2026 DEVOTED WIFE MUM & NANNY TOGETHER AGAIN
John Chapman	Black granite	56	J	In Loving Memory of JOHN CHAPMAN Devoted Husband. Dad & Grandad 12.04.1953 16.08.2025 Loved beyond words Missed beyond measure
William Charles Amor	Additional Inscription	84	H	WILLIAM CHARLES AMOR 9.2.1930 – 24.2.2026 CHARLIE & IVY TOGETHER FOREVER

AMENITIES AND OPEN SPACES - MONTH 5				
	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Budget	Funds Available	% Spent Transfer EMR
AMENITIES AND OPEN SPACES				
INCOME				
INCOME-CEMETERY	5,165	17,468		29.6%
INCOME-ALLOTMENTS	89	825		10.8%
INCOME-GOLF CLUB				
INCOME OPEN SPACES	2,467	10,980		22.5%
INCOME - SHOWMENS GUILD	-	2,300		0.0%
INCOME - RUGBY CLUB				
EXPENDITURE				
CEMETERY AND ALLOTMENTS				
OLD CEMETERY	-	515	515	0.0%
ST JOHNS TRUST	300	325	25	92.3%
WORKSHOP				
INTRUDER ALARM	525	2,250	1,725	23.3%
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT	29	1,035	1,006	2.8%
PICK-UP LEASE	461	5,000	4,539	9.2%
VEHICLE TAX/INS.	-	438	438	0.0%
VEHICLE PETROL/DERV	4,581	9,640	5,059	47.5%
WORKSHOP TOOLS ETC	944	3,105	2,161	30.4%
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	9,841	12,854	3,013	76.6%
WORKSHOP MISC	597	6,417	5,820	9.3%
TIPPER TRUCK	-	5,000	5,000	0.0%
REFUSE COLLECTION	2,701	4,284	1,583	63.0%
MOWER	1,280	4,200	2,920	30.5%
WESSEX MOWER LEASE	2,756	7,000	4,244	39.4%
ISEKI TRACTOR LEASE 2023	4,366	10,000	5,634	43.7%
OPEN SPACES				
MAINTENANCE	2,767	10,500	7,733	26.4%
OPEN SPACES PLANTS	3,448	5,485	2,037	62.9%
PLAY EQUIP/MAINT/REPLACEMENT	314	3,622	3,308	8.7%
AOS PROJECTS	4,572	10,350	5,778	44.2%
TREE SURVEY & WORKS	695	18,112	17,417	3.8%
RTV/Husqvana	1,640	3,500	1,860	46.9%
ISEKI TRACTOR TG6490	2,065	7,000	4,935	29.5%
MULTI PURPOSE MOWER	780	3,100	2,320	25.2%
FRONT LOADER/BACK HOE LEASE	1,310	3,200	1,890	40.9%
TREE PLANTING	-	1,000	1,000	0.0%
SKATE PARK LIGHTING	-	500	500	0.0%
ISEKI RIDE-ON MOWER	2,047	3,000	953	68.2%
KAWASAKI MULE 24	2,235	5,360	3,125	41.7%
TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT	-	1,500	1,500	0.0%
Income	19,592	61,451	41,859	31.9%
Expenditure	50,252	148,292	98,040	33.9%

Report on Mower Options: Scag SWZ36F, Ferris FW45 and Bluebird FM24-70

We have had demonstrations of all three of these machines

This report summarises two quoted machines currently under consideration and adds an overview of the Bluebird FM24-70 for comparison. It is intended to support an equipment purchasing decision by reviewing specification, quoted or indicative pricing, and likely suitability for council grounds maintenance work.

Machine	Type	Key specification	Price position	Main strength
Scag SWZ36F-15FSE	Pedestrian flail mower	36 inch flail deck, Kawasaki electric start engine, hydro drive walk behind	Quoted at £11,866.46 plus VAT	Capable flail option, but more physically demanding for operators on rough and uneven ground
Ferris FW45	Pedestrian rotary mower	26hp Briggs and Stratton Vanguard engine, 48 inch triple ICD rear discharge and mulch deck, hydrostatic transmission	Quoted at £12,346.00 less 7-day discount to £10,803.00 plus VAT	Productive rotary mower, but still operator-led on rough terrain and slopes
Bluebird FM24-70	Remote control tracked rough-cut mower	452cc Loncin engine, hybrid drive, 685mm cutting disc, remote range up to 200m	Indicative market pricing around £4,495.50 to £5,295.00 plus VAT	Excellent solution for safer mowing on banks, slopes and uneven rough ground

1. Scag SWZ36F pedestrian flail mower

The quotation received for the Scag SWZ36F-15FSE is for a new pedestrian flail mower supplied with a Kawasaki electric-start engine, hydro-drive walk-behind system, 36-inch flail deck, Trac Grip tyres, twin-wheel kit and hand protectors. The quoted purchase price is £11,866.46 plus VAT, with a two-year manufacturer's warranty. The quotation is valid for 14 days.

This machine appears well suited to heavier grass, rougher areas and locations where flail action is preferred for improved control of coarse growth. Its narrower 36 inch width may make it more manoeuvrable in constrained areas, but as a pedestrian machine it would still place more physical demand on the operator when working across uneven ground, rough surfaces and sloping areas.

2. Ferris FW45 pedestrian 48 inch rotary mower

The Ferris FW45 quotation is for a new pedestrian rotary mower fitted with a 26 hp Briggs and Stratton Vanguard petrol engine, a 48-inch triple ICD rear-discharge and mulch-cutting deck, an hour meter, hydrostatic transmission, flat-free solid front castors, pneumatic rear Fast Trax tyres, adjustable handlebars, Moben hardened-steel mulch blades, electric start and a service stand. The list price is £12,346.00 plus VAT, reduced to £10,803.00 plus VAT if paid within seven days of invoicing. It includes a two-year manufacturer's warranty.

The Ferris offers a wider cutting width than the Scag and appears particularly suitable for larger grassed areas where productivity and finish are important. The rear discharge and mulch deck configuration should provide flexibility across regular grounds maintenance tasks. However, as with any pedestrian machine, work on rough, uneven ground and slopes is more physically demanding for the operator, which may reduce its practicality in more difficult terrain.

3. Bluebird FM24-70 remote-control mower

The Bluebird FM24-70 is a hybrid remote-control tracked mower designed for steep banks, rough ground and dense vegetation. Published specifications indicate a 452 cc Loncin engine paired with two 1,200 W brushless electric drive motors, a 685 mm cutting disc with two floating blades, cutting-height adjustment from 30 mm to 120 mm, an operating speed of 47 m per minute and a remote-control working distance of up to 200 metres. It is built for challenging terrain and includes anti-tip protection that activates at 45 degrees. Market pricing identified online places the machine broadly in the region of £4,495.50 to £5,295.00 plus VAT, depending on the supplier.

The Bluebird FM24-70 stands out as a particularly strong option for rough, uneven ground and sloping terrain because it removes much of the physical strain associated with pedestrian mowing. Its remote-control operation allows the operator to work from a safer and more stable position while still maintaining control over the machine in challenging areas. This makes it especially well suited to steep embankments, rough verges, overgrown banks and other difficult-to-access spaces where operator safety, reduced fatigue and consistent performance are key considerations.

4. Conclusion

In summary, the Scag SWZ36F and Ferris FW45 both offer useful pedestrian mowing solutions, with the Scag better suited to flail work and the Ferris offering a wider and potentially more productive rotary option for regular maintenance areas. However, both machines are more physically demanding for operators when working on rough, uneven ground and slopes. In that respect, the Bluebird FM24-70 offers a clear advantage, as its remote-control tracked design is far better suited to steep, hazardous and difficult terrain while improving operator safety and reducing fatigue. If the council's priority is managing banks, slopes, rough verges and uneven ground more safely and efficiently, the Bluebird FM24-70 should be viewed as a very strong option rather than simply a supplementary machine.

Red Diesel Storage Tank and Associated Equipment

Purpose of Report

This report seeks approval in principle for the installation of a compliant above-ground red diesel storage and dispensing tank at the Grounds Workshop. The proposal is intended to improve operational efficiency for grounds maintenance activities, reduce travel and purchasing costs, strengthen fuel management controls, and ensure that fuel storage is managed safely and in line with current environmental and health and safety expectations.

Background and Status

The Grounds Team currently relies on off-site fuel purchasing or smaller-scale storage arrangements for plant and machinery. Installing a dedicated bunded red diesel tank would allow fuel to be stored securely at the workshop and dispensed directly into eligible grounds-maintenance equipment.

Proposal Overview

Following a site visit and inspection by a supplier, this proposal sets out the recommended supply of a fully bunded metal automated red diesel storage tank and dispenser for the Marlborough Grounds Depot. The proposed installation is intended to provide secure, compliant and convenient on-site fuel storage and dispensing for depot operations.

2. Proposed Tank - Specification and terms



Tank manufacturer

KD tanks supplies LTD, Smithfield's Yard, Ogbourne St. George, Marlborough SN8 1SX

The proposed tank is a mild-steel, fully bunded red diesel storage tank with a main storage chamber and full end cabinet. The tank measures approximately 2000mm long x 1000mm wide x 1850mm overall height, including the cabinet. It has a brim-full capacity of 1468 litres and a safe working capacity of 1394 litres.

The bunded tank is supplied with a 5-year manufacturer's warranty. The pump and fuel-delivery equipment are supplied with a limited 12-month warranty. As the tank is a bespoke order, payment is required in advance to secure the tank build with the manufacturer. The expected lead time is approximately 8 weeks from receipt of payment.

Cost £5100

3. Dispensing and Ancillary Equipment

The lockable steel cabinet will house the fuel dispensing equipment, including a 70 litres-per-minute 230v electric fuel pump, 10m retractable hose reel, flowmeter, filter, automatic delivery nozzle and float contents gauge. The cabinet door can be mounted on either side to suit the preferred site layout and operational access.

4. Compliance and Safety Considerations

The tank is proposed as a fully bunded unit to assist with oil-storage compliance for a business premises storing more than 201 litres of diesel or fuel oil. The bunded design provides secondary containment and should be positioned on a suitable, level, impermeable base, away from drains, watercourses and other sensitive receptors.

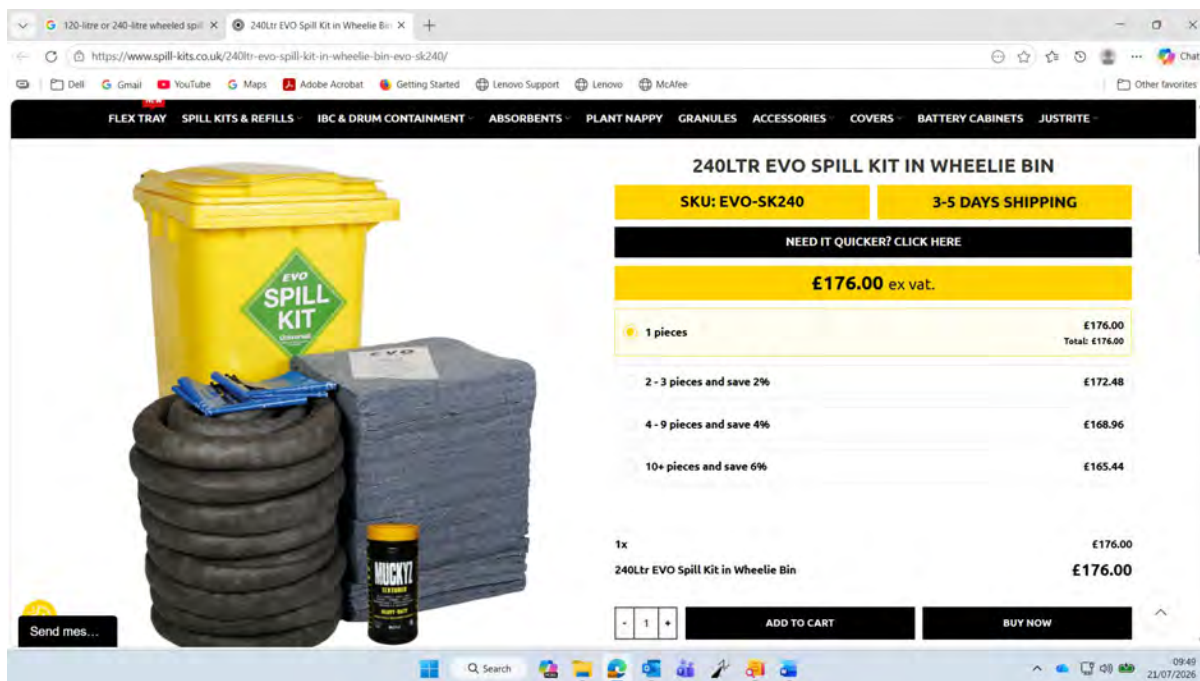
5. Location

Rear of workshop is the proposed location



6. Spill Response and Environmental Protection

A dedicated spill-response kit is recommended to support safe fuel handling and environmental protection.



Health and Safety Considerations

- Fuel storage must be covered by an updated risk assessment and safe operating procedure before use.
- The tank should be integrally bunded, lockable, clearly labelled and sited away from ignition sources, drains, watercourses, vulnerable boundaries and vehicle collision risks.
- The installation should include spill response equipment, suitable fire extinguisher provision, warning signage and a no-smoking/no-naked-flames control.
- Only trained and authorised staff should refuel equipment, receive deliveries or inspect the tank.
- Daily use checks and periodic formal inspections should cover leaks, damage, hose/nozzle condition, bund integrity, security, signage and spill-kit availability.
- Fuel deliveries should be supervised where practicable, with overfill risk managed through appropriate tank equipment and delivery controls.

Emergency arrangements should include spill response, isolation, evacuation if required, reporting, clean-up arrangements and notification to relevant authorities where pollution may occur.

5. Indicative Costs and projected savings

Deisel is currently purchased via a filling station. If a tank were purchase an alternative supplier could be used. The table below illustrates the cost comparison of the two. (NB prices as of August 2026).

Item	Current Supplier / Cost	Alternative Supplier / Cost	Saving
Price per litre	£1.39 per litre	£0.889 per litre	£0.501 per litre
Estimated annual red diesel usage	4,356.72 litres	4,356.72 litres	
Annual red diesel cost	£6,055.84	£3,873.62	£2,182.22 per year
Estimated saving over 3 year period			£6,546.66
Estimated six-year impact	£36,335.04	£23,241.72	£13,093.32

Insurance

NB Our insurance company, Zurich, are in the process of assessing this matter and yet to confirm they will cover this, and if so at what cost.

Budget

The above projection is sensitive to annual consumption, delivered fuel price, tank size and eligibility for red diesel use. With the predicted saving the grounds fuel budget could be reduce each year to match the saving.

The upfront cost of purchasing the tank could be paid for out of the AOS Projects budget.

Proposal

The committee is asked to consider the proposal, and instruct the Town Clerk accordingly.

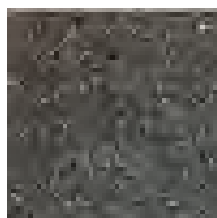
Report: Purchase of an Amberol Guernsey Granite Tapered Top Litter Bin

Executive Summary

This report evaluates the purchase of an **Amberol Guernsey Granite Tapered Top Litter Bin** for use in public areas within Marlborough. The bin offers a traditional appearance suitable for historic town centres, parks, cemeteries, and public open spaces while providing a durable, vandal-resistant waste collection solution.

Based on current market pricing for comparable Amberol heritage-style litter bins, the expected purchase cost is approximately **£420 to £550 plus VAT**, depending on specification, liner type, colour finish, fixing requirements, and optional accessories. [\[amberol.co.uk\]](https://www.amberol.co.uk), [\[roadware.co.uk\]](https://www.roadware.co.uk)

Product Description



The Amberol Guernsey Granite Tapered Top Litter Bin is designed to complement heritage and conservation areas. The granite-effect finish provides the appearance of stone while benefiting from the durability and lower maintenance requirements of moulded polyethylene construction.

Typical features include:

- Heritage-style tapered top design

- Attractive Guernsey Granite textured finish
- Durable UV-stabilized polyethylene construction
- Vandal-resistant double-wall structure
- Lockable access door
- Internal removable liner
- Suitable for parks, town centres, churchyards and public spaces

Amberol bins are manufactured in Britain and are designed for long-term outdoor use with minimal maintenance requirements. [\[amberol.co.uk\]](https://amberol.co.uk), [\[amberol.co.uk\]](https://amberol.co.uk)

Estimated Costs

Item	Estimated Cost (Ex VAT)
Amberol Guernsey Granite Tapered Top Litter Bin	£420
Optional galvanized steel liner	£70
Ground fixing kit	£50
Total Estimated Cost	£510
Total cost	£2550

Benefits

Aesthetic Appearance

The granite-effect finish is particularly appropriate for Marlborough's historic streetscape and conservation areas, helping the bin blend into its surroundings.

Durability

Amberol bins are constructed using robust polyethylene and double-skinned panels that resist corrosion, denting, and weather damage. [\[amberol.co.uk\]](https://amberol.co.uk), [\[roadware.co.uk\]](https://roadware.co.uk)

Low Maintenance

The material does not require painting and is easy to clean, reducing ongoing maintenance costs. [\[roadware.co.uk\]](https://roadware.co.uk)

Security

Lockable access and optional ground fixing deter vandalism and unauthorised access.

[\[roadware.co.uk\]](http://roadware.co.uk)

Environmental Benefits

The provision of additional litter facilities encourages proper waste disposal and can improve the cleanliness of public spaces. [\[amberol.co.uk\]](http://amberol.co.uk), [\[amberol.co.uk\]](http://amberol.co.uk)

Recommendation

It is recommended that Marlborough Town Council purchase **five Amberol Guernsey Granite Tapered Top Litter Bin** at a cost of **£2550 plus VAT, including installation and fixing**.

The bin provides:

- A high-quality heritage appearance.
- Excellent durability and vandal resistance.
- Low life-cycle maintenance costs.
- A design appropriate for Marlborough's historic environment.

The purchase represents good value for money and would contribute positively to the cleanliness and appearance of the town.

Prepared for: Marlborough Town Council

Date: 24 September 2026