Meeting of Amenities and Environment Committee Minutes

A meeting of the Amenities and Environment Committee took place on Tuesday 10th February 2025 19.00 in the Meeting Room, Tiptree Community Centre, 1A Caxton Close, Tiptree CO5 0AH.

Councillors Present:

Cllr Diana Webb - ***Chairman*** Cllr Anthony Peck - ***Vice Chairman***

Cllr Jonathan Greenwood Cllr Barbara Wood

Also in attendance: Clerk to the Council the Head groundsman and three members of the public.

138/25 Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for absence from Cllr Kitley was proposed, seconded, and unanimously accepted as he was unwell

139/25 Declarations of interest:

No Declaration of Interest were made.

140/25 Chair's Announcements:

The Chairman informed the meeting that:

- She was attending a Greener Space for stronger Communities course on the 23rd of February at Colchester Zoo.
- That she and the Clerk had had a meeting with Micheal Padmore to review the work TCV had conducted on TPC land and plan the future work with TCV for the rest of the year.
- Tomorrow morning at 11.30 there was a site meeting with Wicksteed at Caxton Close, to discuss the instillation of the new equipment.

141/25 Minutes of Meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held on the 9th December 2025 were proposed, seconded, and unanimously Resolved as an accurate record and duly signed.

142/25 Public questions:

There were three questions from the public.

Resident one: asked about potential land for Torquespeed FC, at Warriors' Rest, as the club (with around 186 young people as members) does not have a permanent home for the team to play on and potential pitches continuously block booked by other football clubs including several based outside Tiptree.
Resident two: asked about the soil survey that was conducted at the Nine Acres allotments site, and if there was an update from the meeting between Cllr Dundas and Colchester City's Council's planning department.

Resident three: Informed the council that Birch wood had for sale signs up around it and asked if the council would be interested in supporting the purchase of the wood as a public amenity

143/25 The Clerks report and Head groundsman updated the committee on the following points:

- The grounds team have been re purposing some old plywood for two new memorial Tommie silhouettes.
- There is an electrical problem at Grove Road Playing Field that should be sorted by the end of the week.
- Park Lane – a tree which fell during the Christmas season was made safe in January.
- The reed work had been completed in January at Grove Lake.
- The Windmill Green notice board has arrived and is in the workshop awaiting a decision as to its location on the Green

144/25 Financial Overview:

The Committee received the financial overview from the Clerk.

145/25 Woodland survey review:

Park Lane:

After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that the Park Lane's woodland management plan would be accepted, except for tree planting in the area marked as G001. The Clerk would also ask the following question to the inspector:

- How can the council improve the circular route of the site.

Grove Road Playing Field:

After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that the Grove Road woodland management plan would be accepted. The Clerk would also ask the following question of the inspector:

- What is the recommendations for managing the overhanging trees adjacent to neighbouring properties.
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Grove Lake: After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that Grove Lake's woodland management plan would be accepted.

After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that the woodland management plan for Park Lane would be sent to TCV.

146/25 Consideration of Quote for ditch work at Park lane:

After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that the quote from KJR Contractors Ltd of £1,650.00 was approved.

147/25 Consideration of Quote of ditch work at Warriors rest Woodland:

After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that the quote from KJR Contractors Ltd of £10,940.00 was approved.

148/25 Consideration of artwork and quote for Warriors rest Woodland signage:
After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that after amendments are made, the Quote from Signs base limited of £2,989.68 was approved.

149/25 Warriors' Rest Woodland update:
The committee received an update from the Clerk of the progress to date of agreed work to be carried out at the site, including what has been completed and what has been scheduled.

150/25 Consideration of training course that future councillors would benefit this committee:
After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that the following courses would be recommended to the policy and finance committee:

- Allotments
- Cemetery and burial land
- Health and safety
- The advanced councillors training
- Project management

151/25 Consideration of Park Lane's new potential map:
After discussion it was **resolved** unanimously that no further action for the time would be taken regarding a new map.

152/25 Consideration of requesting Colchester City council for allotment asset transfer:
After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that the Clerk has permission to request the transfer of the allotment site at Florence Field from the Colchester City Council to Tiptree Parish Council.

153/25 Clerks report from the Essex association of Allotments:
The committee received the Clerks report on the National Allotments Society meeting.

154/25 Consideration of Terms of reference for a Subcommittee for the Nine acres allotments: After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that the new Terms of reference for the Allotments Subcommittee were referred for approval by full council.

155/25 Consideration of dates for a site visit for Grove road playing fields car park extension: After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously

resolved that the Clerk will circulate dates and times to the committee members to agree a specific time.

156/25 Consideration of the Clerk investigating the feasibility of purchasing Birchwood:

After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that the Council would not take the lead in the investigation of the purchase of Birchwood but they would let that be undertaken by public groups and would support the local groups.

157/25 Consideration of delegated powers for Grove Lake banners.

After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that the Office staff have the delegated powers to approved banners on Grove Lakes' railings if they conform with the Colchester City Councils Planning standards. Priority for village organisations was agreed with referral to the Committee regarding suitability

158/25 Consideration for topic areas for question on the Tiptree survey:

After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that Cllr Webb would work on the topic questions then send them to Cllr Greenwood.

159/25 Recommendation to full council S106 project list for CCC:

After discussion It was proposed, seconded and unanimously **resolved** that Cllr Webb would complete the agreed changes to the document then send it to the Clerk.

160/25 Chair closed the meeting at 21.47.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 10th March at 19.00.

Signed ……. **Date** 10th March 2025