



NOTES OF THE AMENITIES SITE MEETINGS OF THE MARDEN PARISH COUNCIL ON THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER AND FRIDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2025

THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER

PRESENT

Cllrs Dobinson, Rabot and Tippen. The Deputy Clerk was also in attendance.

Apologies: The Cemetery Groundsman and Cllrs Boswell, Goda and Summersgill all gave their apologies.

CEMETERY - 9.30AM

Issues raised by Caretaker

As the Cemetery Groundsman was absent, he had raised an issue with the tree with the circular bench around it and that vehicles were unable to pass underneath. Cllrs viewed the tree and Cllr Tippen recommended a local contractor looks at the tree with the Cemetery Caretaker to see if it needs work. Cllrs wanted to express their thanks to the Cemetery Groundsman for all his hard work in keeping the cemetery looking wonderful.

Monitor Soil Waste

Cllrs viewed the soil waste area following recent burials. Cllrs requested that the Clerks keep an eye on the area making sure that it does not get too big and is taken away regularly.

New Section (Section 4)

Graves (Headstone only)

There had been a recent funeral but there were no new issues to report on this area.

Other

Benches

The Deputy Clerk informed Cllrs that there were some issues with the benches in the Cemetery. Cllrs requested that the Clerks conduct a Bench Audit to check the safety, current state and responsibility of each bench.

Cllrs also requested that the Cemetery Groundsman tidies up the Scattering of Ashes area and remove a Cherry Tree sucker from the rose section.

The Cemetery meeting finished at 9.55am.

SOUTHONS FIELD - 10.00AM

Issues raised by Caretaker

As the Cemetery Groundsman was absent, he had raised an issue with the lower limbs of the maple oak tree close to Cllr Boswell's property that may be preventing the gang mower from getting close to the area. Cllrs reviewed the tree and agreed that that they would prefer not to remove the limbs.

Review of the Field and Trees

Cllrs viewed the field and trees. Cllr Boswell had raised an issue with the Black Bean tree over near a resident's property with the branches hanging over. Whilst there had been no

complaints received from the resident, Cllrs recommended that either the Cemetery Groundsman/local contractor take a look to see whether work was needed as removing the branches would make the tree very uneven.

Review of Pavilion and Sheds

The pavilion was acceptable and no issues were reported. The security shed, although did not look secure, any items that needed security could be put in the secure area locked inside. Cllrs agreed that the future of the security shed should be put onto the next Amenities agenda for discussion.

Play Equipment

There were various poles of the wooden play trail that were loose and would need tightening up (Photos 1 and 2). The Deputy Clerk would look into getting the right tool for the Caretaker to make the poles safe.

Other

The Cllrs reviewed the picnic benches and agreed that some were loose. The Deputy Clerk would ask the Caretaker to look at the benches and tighten where needed.

The Southons Field meeting finished at 10.27am

FRIDAY 3RD OCTOBER

PRESENT

Cllrs Rabot and Tippen. The Deputy Clerk and the Village Caretaker were also in attendance.

Apologies: Cllrs Boswell, Goda and Summersgill all gave their apologies.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES - 9.30AM

Issues raised by Caretaker

The Caretaker joined Cllrs and the Deputy Clerk along with the Cleaning Contractor. The Caretaker had no issues to report. The Cleaning Contractor requested that a new soap dispenser be ordered as the one in the Gents toilet had been vandalised (see Photo 3).

Cleaning

Both the Ladies and Gents toilets continue to be cleaned to a high standard.

Building inspection (internal and external)

Cllrs checked the building internally and externally. There were no issues to report.

CAR PARK

There were no issues to report in the car park.

The Public Conveniences meeting finished at 9.45am

FRIDAY 3RD OCTOBER - PLAYING FIELD – 10.00AM

Issues raised by Caretaker

The Caretaker joined Cllrs at the Playing Field but raised no issues.

Changing Room

There were no issues to discuss regarding the Changing Room.

Playing Field Play Area

At the time of this site meeting the Contractor still had not carried out the works on the multi-play equipment steps and platform. The Deputy Clerk would chase. The Cllrs discussed with

the Caretaker his work on cutting back the grass that was encroaching onto the concrete of the Sports Wall and pathway around the field. The Deputy Clerk would discuss with the Clerk getting the Caretaker the right equipment to make the job easier and quicker (e.g. side strimmer). There were some low hanging branches around the Chestnut area that would need cutting back. These would be added to the Caretaker's To Do List.

Napoleon Drive Play Area and Open Space

Cllrs commented on the paint on railings at the Napoleon Drive Play Area and gateway which had again begun to peel. The Clerks had tried to put some hi viz tape on the gateway but the surface was not smooth enough. Cllrs requested that the Community Payback team come back to rub down and paint the railings and gateway to make it look tidier.

Trees

The conifers near the Sutton Court side of the Playing Field had begun to encroach on the pathway. The Deputy Clerk would discuss with the Clerk to look at cutting them back (see Photo 4).

Boundary and General Playing Field Open Space

There was a trunk that had been cut down and left at the boundary (see Photo 5). The Deputy Clerk would discuss with the Clerk what to do, whether it be left to nature or removed.

Youth Shelter

No new issues to report. The Caretaker would continue his work on cleaning the roof.

Rookery Path

Cllr Tippen reported that the left hand side gate and fencing (when facing the entrance to Rookery Court) would need the same concrete bollards as the right. The Clerks would look to contact the maintenance company to make the request. The Caretaker would continue to cut back along Rookery Path and let the Clerks know if he needed assistance.

The Playing Field meeting ended at 10.35am.



Photo 1.



Photo 2.



Photo 3.



Photo 4.



Photo 5.