



AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting on Wednesday 5th November 2025

Present: Cllrs Rathbone (TR) - Chairman, Morgan (PM) – Vice Chairman, Fagan (PF), Harvey (SH), Lisgo (SL)

In Attendance: E Bambrook, Clerk

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. Freeman.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** No declarations of interest were made.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting on 22nd October 2025:**

***Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting on 22nd October 2025 were accepted as a true and accurate record.*

4. **Tree Report:** The contents of the report were noted and the following responses made:
25/3838/TPO – Members of the committee had viewed the document and had noted that the reason given for felling was fungus at the base of the tree, therefore no objection is necessary.
24/287T – The committee considered that there was still sufficient time for the homeowner to comply with the planning conditions and that a watching brief should be kept on this for the time being.
Holly Bank Farm – It was noted that the removal of the hedgerow had been reported and an acknowledgement received. This is as expected and means that CEC is aware of the issue and will investigate.
5. **Budget Review and Monitoring:** The budget monitoring documents were reviewed and no concerns were raised.
6. **Annual Plan:** Progress against the Annual Plan was reviewed and no changes or updates were required.
7. **Environmental Hedge:** The Clerk was asked to contact Northwich Town Council to request a cost, with a view to the work to replace the dead plants to take place as soon as possible.
8. **Village Gates:** The committee agreed, following the Road Safety meeting, that the installation of village gates would not achieve the aim of acting as a deterrent to speeding motorists and that funds would be better spent on the replacement of the existing SIDs. This will be added to the Strategic Plan for approval by council.
9. **Village Improvement Plan Survey:** Cllrs. Morgan and Lisgo are going to redraft the Booth Bed Lane Play Area question, in light of recent activity on this project. They will advise the Clerk as soon as possible.
10. **Events:** The following updates were received:
 - a) **Christmas Lights Switch On Event:** The Clerk reported that one of the uplighters on the beech trees has failed and that she will try to get this repaired or replaced in time for the event. The remaining uplighter, pea lights and tree decoration are currently in working order. All electrical safety checks have taken place and no issues have been found. CEC inspected the trees on The Bogbean on 9th July as part of their annual inspection programme and no actions were considered necessary. It was confirmed that there were sufficient volunteers to act as stewards, including on the route from the church to the event site. Cllr. Fagan was asked to organise a short meeting to confirm remaining actions and timings so that the Clerk can produce a timetable to be shared with the volunteers.

- b) Seniors' Christmas Lunch:** Tickets have been on sale since 3rd November and so far 28 tickets have been sold. The event has been advertised in the Parish Magazine, the newsletter, on the council website, in council noticeboards and in the Village Hall. Cllr. Lisgo offered to post the information on Goostrey Matters, the Clerk will send the poster. The Clerk was also asked to ask St. Luke's to advertise the event. The Clerk will also ask The Trading Post and Pastimes café to put up a poster.

11. Goostrey Playground Community Project: There have been no significant updates since the last meeting although Cllr. Morgan confirmed he would follow up with CEC Parks and Development Officer. The Clerk clarified that any councillors who also volunteer with this group, must ensure that if they take part in any community fundraising, that they do so as a volunteer rather than in their capacity as a parish councillor.

12. Correspondence:

- A resident had contacted the Clerk about very tall trees (not TPO trees) in a neighbouring garden and concerns that they could cause damage to property if they fell. The Clerk will confirm with the resident that the first course of action would be to ask the owner to take action. CEC may take action but this will only happen if the trees present an imminent risk to people or property, and the tree owner has not taken action.
- Cllr. Morgan received a complaint about the work carried out in the summer to tidy the green space at Primrose Chase. The complaint was that the build up of ivy, branches and associated debris provided a habitat for wildlife. The committee considers that there are a variety of green spaces in and around the village, some of which are maintained and some which are left in a more natural state and that this provides a balance with which residents are generally content.

13. Minor items and matters for the next meeting:

- Christmas Event debrief.

14. Date of the next Amenities Committee Meeting: Wednesday 7th January 2025.

Meeting closed at 8.20pm