

Minutes of the meeting of the **Amenities Committee** held at the **Shire Hall** on **Wednesday 1st April 2026** at **7pm**.

Councillors:

Present: D Adelson, S Bale, S Miller, E O’Nolan, D Pegg, S Sadler, R Sanders and M Wilks.

Apologies: E Beck.

In Attendance: Deputy Town Clerk (Mrs B Lloyd) and one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were approved for Cllr. E Beck.

2. Request for declarations of interest.

No members made any declarations of interests in relation to items on the agenda

3. Request for dispensations.

No members made any requests for a dispensation in relation to items on the agenda.

4. Public Question Time.

Eddie Bathgate, Chair of Suffolk Bird Group and Lead volunteer of SOS swifts spoke about item 11 on the agenda.

5. To agree and approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 4th March 2026.

The minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held 4th March 2026 were approved as a true record.

6. To noted quote received to install a path at Kingston Playing Field.

The Committee noted the quotation received for the installation of a path at Kingston Playing Field. Members requested that officers obtain three quotations for a path running from Jetty Lane to the Pavilion. The Committee also asked that the SCC Councillor and Highways be approached to explore potential financial support for the project, as the path is considered necessary to improve safety for

users of Jetty Lane. Currently, no footpath is provided, requiring pedestrians to walk in the road, which is unsafe and has long been a concern for both residents and councillors.

The Committee agreed to allocate up to £500 from expenditure code 4135/120 for the removal of the cricket strip and its replacement with turf.

The Chair and Deputy Town Clerk will arrange a meeting with the Tennis Club and Cricket Club to discuss how the Committee can support both the proposed pickleball provision and cricket facilities at Kingston Playing Field.

7. To receive an email from tenants of the Pavillion at Kingston Playing Field.

The Committee noted the email and would like to thank Longfield's Café for the update. Members would like the Property Working party to consider the lease for the Pavillion once the current lease comes to and end.

8. To consider a request from the Estates Manager regarding the ongoing management of locks on the Council's public toilets.

Members asked the Deputy Town Clerk to work with the Estates Manager to bring a more detailed report to a future Amenities Committee meeting outlining the available options. This should include obtaining a quotation and service offer from East Suffolk Council for future maintenance, as well as information on how the locks are currently managed and the costs associated with this arrangement.

The Committee also requested that toilet opening times be set in a way that avoids disruption when the clocks change in spring and autumn. E.g. 08.30 – 16.30 Summer and 7.30 – 15.30 Winter. Appropriate signage should also be installed to clearly display the opening times for users.

9. To consider a recommendation from the Woodbridge Youth Council regarding the Queen Victoria statue in the War Memorial.

The Committee thanked the Youth Council for their recommendation and agreed that they would be happy for that group to organise and fund the cleaning and re-enamelling of the Queen Victoria statue, but are less concerned about the work required to the War Memorial Cross.

10. To consider the required repairs to the High Street projecting clock

The Committee agreed not to proceed with backlighting the High Street projecting clock.

11. To consider the request from Cllr. Adelson to install swift boxes on the Shire Hall.

The Committee agreed not to pursue the installation of swift boxes as part of the works currently being undertaken on the Shire Hall but recommend that the incorporation of swift bricks and other measures to support nesting/ roosting wildlife be incorporated into the wider redevelopment proposals for the building.

12. To note the outcome of the auction sale of land at Brock Lane.

The Committee agreed not to pursue any further interest in the land at Brock Lane.

13. Closure

The meeting was closed at 8.31pm.

Councillor Miller
Chair