

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE OF
TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 31st MARCH 2026 AT 6.30 p.m.**

Present: - Councillor Bowden (Chair)
Councillors Bates, Jenkins, Knight and Lofthouse

M Isaac (Clerk)

In Attendance: Parishioner/Members of the Public – None

37. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

38. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

39. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR AS A MATTER OF URGENCY

There were no issues raised by the chair as a matter of urgency.

40. AD-HOC WORK/MAINTENANCE JOBS

The Clerk reported that following the last Committee meeting no response had been received from Fremington Parish Council. It was assumed that Fremington Parish Council was not keen on an ad-hoc arrangement.

It was agreed that no further action be taken at present.

41. TOWER VIEW RECREATION AREA

a) Provision of Solar powered lights, signs and cameras: update

The Chair reported that following the site meeting with M&E Alarms to discuss the installation/requirements of solar/battery operated CCTV cameras and lighting she had since spoken to them. They had following information received could not provide the system discussed at the site meeting as an electricity connection would be required. She had told them to put together a package that would deliver a basic system to meet the needs of the Parish Council. Information was awaited.

It was suggested that Mole Valley Farmers may be able to provide CCTV and lighting. Councillor Lofthouse agreed to check with Mole Valley Farmers.

b) RoSPA Annual Inspection Issues.
Provision of a new goal net and posts.

It was agreed to defer consideration to the next meeting for Councillor Bowden to seek advice and a price for a quality, sturdy mobile goal posts and net.

c) Fencing and Missing Bench Caps

(i) It was agreed that Councillor Knight would seek a quote for new fence posts and Councillor Lofthouse would research covering the base of the posts in tar to protect against rot.

(ii) It was agreed that the Clerk contact TK Play to ask if they could provide a couple of missing bench caps.

42. TUDOR PARK - HEDGE

Councillor Knight reported further to the last Committee meeting that the entire conifer hedge on the right hand side of the park was encroaching a residents property and required removal. The removal would require the following:

i) The digging out of the stumps on the boundary so a new fence could be installed on the property line.

ii) Provision of matting wherever possible to protect the ground from machinery as would cause damage.

iii) The Removal of all material offsite and disposal.

It was noted that the fence would be installed at the cost of the resident in the adjoining property and the clearance of the stumps and roots was vital to enable planting of new shrubs at a later date by the Parish Council.

It was agreed that a quote be sought from Lewis Evely.

43. TAWSTOCK CEMETERY

Councillor Lofthouse reported that the Cemetery was in good order and tidy. However, the bench seat on the right hand side was rotten and covered in algae. The new noticeboard did not have anything in it at present.

Discussion was held on how to deal with the headstones identified as needing attention and the families not being able to be contacted or responding to request for action.

It was agreed:

i) That Councillors Knight and Lofthouse remove the rotten bench.

ii) That Councillor Lofthouse seek a replacement bench.

iii) That Councillor Bowden prepare a notice for the noticeboard directing people how to obtain information about the Cemetery and to obtain information from Fine Memorials as to the action the Parish Council should take regarding the headstones identified needing attention on health and safety grounds and costs.

44. PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP

The Clerk reported that DCC Councillor Tyldesley had mentioned that Parish Councils could become members of the Parish Paths Partnership and obtain funding towards the cost of repairing and maintaining public rights of way.

Recommended that the Parish Council apply to become a Member of the Partnership.

45. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

It was agreed that the Grounds Maintenance Contract be discussed in early October but that in the interim Members look at the existing contract to see if any additions/amendments are required.

Chair the meeting ended at 7.15 p.m.