

Market Deeping Town Council – Amenities and Open Spaces Committee

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday 26th November 2025 at 1.30 pm held in the Town Hall Chambers, Market Deeping. Cllr Broughton presided over Cllr Mrs D Jones, Cllr Dick Hughes, Cllr Paul Hanson and also present was the Clerk.

37. Chairman’s Welcome and Introductions

Cllr. Broughton welcomed members to the meeting.

38. To note apologies and accept valid reason for Absence

Apologies for Absence were accepted from Cllr Jayne Reid and Cllr Jean Sked.

39. Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011

There were no Declarations of Interest.

40. Minutes of a previous AOS meeting held on the 10th September 2025

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the minutes of the meeting as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The Chairman signed the minutes.

41. Clerk’s report and update on work of the Park-Keepers

Members had received a copy of the report prior to the meeting.

Agenda Item 5

Clerk’s and Park Keeper’s report 26th November 2025

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| <p>John Eve field</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The removal of the existing ‘Tea-Cup’ and replaced with a ‘Spinning Bowl’ is scheduled for the 11th November 2025 [Date change to early December 2025]• Autumn Fair was held in October 2025• Damaged caused to the John Eve Field hooped fencing, reported to 101, assessment of the damage in hand for repairs (see agenda)• Damage caused to the John Eve/Oak Grove hooped fencing (separate incident to the one reported above) fencing is currently removed and under- going repairs• Yearly PAT testing has been conducted September 2025 |
| <p>Town Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hanging baskets and planters at the time of writing this report are still performing well• Christmas Tree is due for delivery on the 21st November, ahead of the Christmas Fayre• Christmas Lights are due to be installed in November 2025 <p>• A pre-contract inspection meeting was held on the 7th October 2025 for the installation of new play equipment and maintenance with the supplier, ahead on planned installation due on 11th November 2025 [Date change to early December 2025]</p> |
| <p>Cherry Tree Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The installation of the new play equipment is scheduled for the 11th November 2025 [Date change to early December 2025] |
| <p>Charter Avenue Children’s Play Area</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The installation of new play equipment is scheduled for 11th November 2025 [Date change to early December 2025] Repairs have been carried out on the existing children's play area |
| Charter Avenue Allotments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vandalism; a panel of the wire fence which separates the play area and allotments has been damaged, a repair of the fencing is being considered (see agenda item) |
| Welland Gardens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing new to report |
| Riverside Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Park Keepers have been preparing the area ahead of the Remembrance Services Park Keepers have replaced worn out fencing on site |

42. Correspondence to be noted and resolved upon

| Correspondence – Amenities & Open Spaces – 26 th November 2025 | | | | |
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| No. | Received from | Date Received | Subject | Committee Response |
| 1. | MDTC | 16/9/25 | In person: Request to raise a banner on the Town Hall to promote the Christmas Fayre from 10 th November to 30 th November 2025 | Approved by Clerks. |
| 2. | Charity Organiser | 17/9/25 | Email: Request to raise a banner on the Town hall to promote The Stamford Santa Fun Run from 30 th October to 10 th November 2025 As above but to raise a banner on the Joh Eve Field | Approved by Clerks (x 2). |
| Correspondence to be Acted Upon – Received up to 26 th November 2025 | | | | |
| No. | Received from | Date Received | Subject | Committee Response |
| 1. | Larry Gray | 22/10/25 | Telephone call: Request to use the John Eve Field next year. Provisional dates to be 8 th October 2026 to 11 th October 2026, or 15 th October 2026 to 18 th October 2026 | Approved: Subject to Field conditions. |
| 2. | Deeping St James Parish council | 26/11/25 | Telephone call: DSJ PC have a surplus of Silver Birch Trees which they are unable to use and are offering to MDTC | Members discussed and agreed to take a maximum of 5 trees and thanked DSJ PC for their offer |

43. Omega Reports

The Omega report had been circulated ahead of the meeting. The Chairman asked members if they had any questions, there were none.

44. You to Me swing John Eve Field Play Area – For members to consider the benefits and the costs

The Clerk presented information to members on the costs involved for a You to Me swing to be installed at the John Eve Field children's play area, which is the same design as new equipment to be installed at Cherry Tree Park and Charter Avenue children's play area. Total costs including installation and ground works are £4,594.75. Members discussed and **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the costs and instructed the Clerk to proceed.

45. Remove a large Ash tree to 1 ft below hedge height, located in Cherry Tree Park – For members to consider the benefits and the costs and agree the next steps

Members discussed the current state of the Ash tree which had been pollarded many times over the years, and stated that the overall condition of the tree is in poor health. Members unanimously **RESOLVED** and instructed the Clerk to make contact with contractors to ensure that the tree receives attention and reduce the Ash to 1 ft below hedge height.

46. Park Keepers Wagon – An independent mechanic has advised that the truck needs replacement discs – For members to consider the benefits and the costs and agree the next steps

Members were advised that estimated costs are around £300 for a full set of front or rear discs with an estimated fitting cost of £100 plus VAT. Members discussed and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Park Keepers Wagon be booked in for replacement discs.

47. Vandalism on the outer perimeter fence of the Charter Avenue Allotments, a 3m x 2m mesh panel has been damaged and need replacing, estimated costs to replace range from £184.94 to £297.64 – For members to consider the benefits and costs and agree the next steps

Members discussed and unanimously **RESOLVED** to replace the vandalised fence panel.

48. Vandalism on the outer perimeter and inside perimeter of the children's play area John Eve Field. Extensive damage caused to the hooped fencing and needs replacing, incident has been reported to 101 – For members to consider the benefits and costs and agree the next steps

Members were advised that the extent of the damage to the hooped fencing was substantial and had occurred very close to the small children's play area. Members discussed further and unanimously **RESOLVED** that replacement hooped fencing be installed as soon as possible, in order to secure the area.

49. Precept planning for 2026/7

A head of the meeting members had been given draft copies of the proposed precept costs for 2026/2027. In addition to the regular line items for budget planning were two additional budget lines, 1) Allotments – An allocation to set aside funds to enable a process to begin to organise a process and system for Allotment management and 2) Play equipment – An allocation to set aside funds to install hooped fencing around the children's play area located in Charter Avenue.

The total proposed budget is £127,638.00 for Amenities and Open Spaces 2026/2027. Members unanimously **RESOLVED** for this amount to be submitted to Full Council.

50. For members to discuss any points raised in Open session

There were none.

To consider items for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting of Amenities and Open Spaces Committee, to be held in the Town Hall Chambers on Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 7.00 pm, meet in the Town Hall Chambers, Market Deeping.

The Clerk was requested to include on the January agenda the following;

1. Consideration for a bench to be installed between the Glebe and John Eve Fields.

The Chairman thanked members for their attendance, the meeting closed at 1.45pm.

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE.....

DATE.....