

DRAFT

Market Deeping Town Council – Amenities and Open Spaces Committee

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday 9th September 2026 at 6.45 pm held in the Council Chambers, Market Deeping. Cllr Broughton presided over Cllr Debbie Jones and Cllr Jean Sked, also present was the Town & Assistant Clerks.

12. Chairman's Welcome and Introductions

Cllr. Broughton extended a very warm welcome to all to the meeting.

13. To note apologies and accept valid reason for Absence

Cllr Paul Hanson had sent his apologies ahead of the meeting and these were accepted.

14. Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011

There were none

15. Minutes of a previous AOS meeting held on the 15th July 2026

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.

16. 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 9th September 2026

John Eve field • Goal posts – Update; Chairman currently seeking alternatives • Overview of RoSPA Findings (See Agenda Item 8 and separate report) • Feeder Pillar: The electricity meter was due to be changed on the 28th August 2026 at the request of the supplier however this is now paused BMX Track • A reminder that SKDC will be hosting an event on the John Eve Fields on the 26th September 2026
Town Centre • Hanging baskets – Were installed in June 2026
Clerk's Report • Defib change of location; The search continues for a new location and a requirement of this search is that there must be an electricity supply • Lincolnshire Police – Reported vandalism in the children's play area (Cherry Tree Park & Charter Avenue children's play area, and Charter Allotments) On-going • Charity Fundraisers: Currently in the process of arranging two charity fundraisers • Two sets of annual PAT testing will be arranged for September (Town Hall and PK Shed) • Winter Works Schedule; Currently 'In Draft' Stages, with today a total of 13 additional work areas identified, the vast majority of which will be actioned by the Park-Keepers, this relates to work/tasks, in addition to daily/weekly/monthly responsibilities
Cherry Tree Park • Received from the Council Solicitors; Confirmation from the Land Registry, all legal processes now complete

• Vandalism has occurred in the park and has been reported to Lincolnshire Police • Our Volunteer will be planting winter viola's
Charter Avenue Children's Play Area • Perimeter fencing – Update, newly installed inner fence (Allotment side) has been vandalised, repairs have been made. Outer metal fencing continues to be vandalised, maintenance in hand, these matters have been reported to the Police. Assessment for additional fencing near the play equipment remains as on-going • Manhole covers have been wilfully removed with one someone has attempted to set fire to it. Acts of vandalism has been reported to the Police • The new set of swings has had further vandalism the all-inclusive swing has had further damage as well as chains and bolts being removed and tangled rendering the swing set un-useable. • All acts of vandalism are now reported to Lincolnshire Police • Park Keepers (where possible) are repairing vandalised equipment costs are being assessed for the hire of a portable welding machine to repair the vandalised metal outer perimeter fencing
Charter Avenue Allotments • Sectional Fencing – Installed in June 2026 has been vandalised, reported to Lincolnshire Police • A draft proposal that outlines an approach that MDTC might like to adopt for the general management of the Allotments has been created – See Agenda item [Note: The agenda item will not reflect this action completely as more work is required] Charter Avenue Green Space • Subject to agreeing costs our volunteer will start to landscape an area of green space, in a design that requires low maintenance for the future
Welland Gardens • New Bench – Gift from Round Table – On-Going • Land adjacent to – No further information at the time of writing this report
Riverside Park • A bench donated by a local family has received maintenance, and permission has been given for the family to have an additional bench one which is made of more durable material. Agreed with the family and Chair of AOS is to place this an item on the Winter Works Schedule, and this will be to re-locate the existing bench into Cherry Tree Park, and install the new bench on the site of the existing in Riverside Park • The out-of-date information on the noticeboard remains a work in progress as we work with other organisations to have the information updated – On-going • The Boundary hosted a charity fund-raiser on Bank Holiday Monday, and the hosts reported that they had a great day with many people in the community visiting the event
Cemetery Driveway • The Chairman has requested to meet local residents face to face • Repeated extreme heat and staff absences affected MDTC ratio for raking the driveway. Other options are currently being explored with a focus on moving away from a manual approach to a mechanical approach. Costs are being assessed.

Members discussed the Clerk's and Park Keeper's report with a specific interest in the levels of vandalism and anti-social behaviour that has occurred on Council owned land or assets. Members discussed the possibility of installing CCTV and agreed to explore this as a possible option further, the outcomes of which will be recorded in due course.

17. Correspondence to be noted and resolved upon

Correspondence – Amenities & Open Spaces – 9 th September 2026 Agenda item 6				
No.	Received from	Date Received	Subject	Committee Response
1.	The Deepings Lions	22/7/26	Email: Request to raise a banner on the J.E Field promoting the Duck Race, charity fund raiser for Cardia Ris in the Young & Parkinson's UK	Approved by Clerks
2.	SKDC	22/7/26	Email: Request to raise a banner on the J.E Field promoting a BMX Skillz event	Approved by Clerks
3.	Judy Stevens	13/8/26	Email: Request to raise a banner on the J.E Field promoting a Pre-Loved Art Sale in support of St James Signal Box	Approved by Clerks
4.	Sue Ryder	27/8/26	Email and Face to Face: Request to raise a banner on the J.E Field promoting Star Light Hike Your Way	Approved by Clerks
Correspondence to be Acted Upon – Received up to 9 th September 2026				
No.	Received from	Date Received	Subject	Committee Response
1.	Lincolnshire Police	23/7/26	Email: Email response to crimes (vandalism / ASB) that has occurred in the Council's Children's Play Area's, in Charter Avenue and Cherry Tree Park. Police Occurrence Numbers have been issued	Committee Response: Members noted the email response and it is expected that a meeting will be held with Lincolnshire Police in due course

18. Omega Reports (year to date)

The Omega reports had been distributed ahead of the meeting to members. The Clerk presented the information detailed in the reports. The Chairman asked if there were any questions, there were none.

19. RoSPA – Overview of findings from August assessment and next steps

The Chairman asked the Clerk to present information to the committee members. The Clerk shared the following;

A total of 98 areas were assessed by RoSPA for the annual checks and these occurred in;

John Eve Field
BMX Track
Cherry Tree Park
Charter Avenue Play Area

Areas assessed as;

- 14% Very Low Risk
- 64% Low Risk
- 20% Medium Risk
- 1% High Risk

Overall, this was a good RoSPA Assessment. The High-Risk item. Which relates to a see-saw in Charter Avenue Children's Play area has been removed, and the Chairman is working with a local charity in Bourne who is kindly giving their skills and time to help restore the see-saw with additional work being carried out on the see-saw by the Chairman and Park Keepers in the near future, before returning to Charter Avenue Children's Play Area.

The remainder Mediums and Low Risk areas will be incorporated into the Winter Work Schedule 2026/27. Where possible these tasks will be completed by our Park-Keepers.

20. 5-Year Plan for AOS to include objectives the Committee wishes to achieve in the next 5 Years and will need to include a replacement works Wagon.

The Clerk presented a 'draft' report which has been circulated ahead of the meeting. Members debated and discussed their objectives for the next 5 Years and agreed on the following to be included in their plans for the next 5 Years;

- Purchase of a new Truck. It is expected that the existing truck will need to be replaced in the next 5 years, the year yet to be determined, but to be replaced whilst the present truck would still have some part exchange value. Anticipated costs between 20k – 30k.
- Replacement Tractor. It is expected that the existing tractor will need to be replaced in the next 5 years, the year yet to be determined, but to be replaced whilst the present tractor would still have some part exchange value. Anticipated costs between 10k – 15k.

Asset Acquisition.

- Greensland. To explore the possibility of taking over this area of green space. It is expected that tentative discussions are likely to be held within the next 12 to 18 months.
- Tattershall Drive (Green space areas either side of Tattershall Drive toward Towngate West). To explore the possibility of taking over this area of green space. It is expected that tentative discussions are likely to be held within the next 12 to 18 months.

Additional Areas.

- BMX Track. Very popular and much used community asset which does require regular maintenance, however, the track will require periodically substantial work in order to keep this asset in good working order, so included in the 5year plan specifically for major overhaul work which is likely to be required. Anticipated costs between 15k and 20k.
- The Millfield. Requested to be included in the 5-year plan, at this stage, with a view to at some point in the future exploring the possibility of taking over this land, no tentative discussions are in the immediate plans.
- Cherry Tree Park. Specifically, the concrete area, with a view to alter this area to tarmac with a children's design on the ground (painted) for small children to follow a path/route. Costs are expected to be substantial; costs will need to be obtained and then to be included into the 5-year plan

21. Precept Planning – First stages; for members to discuss and agree outline areas to enable precept planning for AOS

Members discussed including the following into their precept for next year.

John Eve Children's Play Park; Priority to replace the old and worn Eco bubble with green matting, a site assessment is required to decide which area to be replaced next year, as well as obtaining costs for this work (action Clerks).

Goal Posts/Goal Mouth; Old goal posts have rotten and need replacing, estimated costs are circa 1K, the goal mouth needs maintenance of the ground area. Estimated total costs 1.6K.

No new purchase of play equipment is expected for the John Eve Children's Play Area next year due to new equipment has been purchased and installed over the past 3 years.

BMX Track; Yearly maintenance is required for this well used and popular track and is anticipated to include repairs, ground works and maintenance of the Bund. Costs for this work to be obtained (action Clerks).

Cherry Tree Park; No purchase of play equipment required for next year due to new play equipment being installed this year. An allocation of funding is required for planting to maintain this area. Expected costs to be circa £500.

Welland Gardens; An assessment will be made of the existing iron fencing, to understand if any sections need replacing, if so, these costs will be included into the precept of next year (action Clerks).

Riverside Park; As assessment will be made of the existing area to understand the extent of the rat holes, and if necessary, any corrective actions with costs that maybe required (action Clerks).

Costings will be obtained for the next meeting so that these can be incorporated into the precept requirements for AOS.

22. Maintenance work required on the John Eve/Glebe Fields with the filling of deep rivets and holes, in order to maintain the areas Park Keepers need to hire equipment to complete these tasks. For members to discuss and agree costs for the hire of equipment at £351.00

Members discussed and unanimously **RESOLVED** to agree the costs of £351.00 to hire the equipment.

23. Riverside: For members to discuss and agree the next steps for a Tablet to be installed alongside the tree planting to celebrate the Accession of King Charles, costs expected to be £1,000 assigned from EMR333 or EMR332 (Omega)

Members discussed and unanimously **RESOLVED** to agree the costs of £1000 for the Tablet with inscription.

[7.15pm Cllr Dick Hughes arrived]

24. Charter Avenue Play Area; For members to discuss and agree next steps for the following;

- A) Goal Posts – Estimated at £1,000 for two goal posts

Due to the anticipated level of work that will be going ahead on this area over the next 12 months, this item will be 'parked' and will be reviewed at a later date.

- B) See-saw has been highlighted by the RoSPA report and further investigations are continuing

The See-saw was identified as a High Priority in the latest RoSPA report and was removed from site. See also Agenda item 5.

Charter Avenue Green Space Area;

- C) Landscaping the Green Space Area located in Charter Avenue work will be carried out voluntarily and a concept has been prepared by our volunteer for members to consider in principle, estimated overall project costs are 15K

Four possible design features had been circulated ahead of the meeting to give some ideas as to what could be installed in the green space area. Members expressed their gratitude for the ideas and commented on the creativity of the individual who had created the documents. Members discussed further and decided that the best way to move design concepts forward is to meet up with the volunteer, along with the Chairman to discuss further.

Charter Avenue Allotments;

- D) For members to consider the concept of forming a Residents Association to facilitate the day to day running and management of the Allotments

Members considered the concept of forming a Residents Association to facilitate the day to day running and management of Allotments. Members discussed and unanimously **RESOLVED** to forming a Residents Association for the Allotments.

The Chairman stated that he is willing to be the Chairman for a period of six months, until the newly formed Residents Association has “found its feet”.

The Clerk will arrange a separate meeting, specifically relating to the Allotments to progress this work further.

25. For members to consider and discuss any points raised in the Open Session

There were none.

26. 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 11th November 2026 at 6.45pm meet in the Council Chambers, Town Hall, Market Deeping

Meeting Closed: 7.20pm

CHAIRMAN’S SIGNATURE.....

DATE.....