



PEASEDOWN ST JOHN PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Peasedown St John Parish Council Amenities and Facilities Committee held at Beacon Hall on Tuesday 27th May 2025

Public Session

There were no members of the public present, the meeting was not recorded.

A&F094 – 27/05/2025 Attendance Roll Call and Declarations of Interest

To action the attendance register and to receive any declarations of Members' Interests in any item on the agenda, which have not already been disclosed to the Monitoring Officer.

In Attendance: Cllrs Fiona Carr; Gavin Heathcote; Les Sprake; Kathy Thomas (Chair).
There were no declarations of Interest

A&F095 – 27/05/2025 Apologies for Absence

To receive and approve, if necessary, any apologies for absence.
All committee members were present

A&F096 – 27/05/2025 Minutes & Actions

- i. To consider and approve the minutes of the Amenities & Facilities Committee meeting held on Tuesday 4th March 2025.

The minutes were approved

Carried unanimously

A&F097 – 27/05/2025 Items for Urgent Report

Items which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be reported on as a matter of urgency.

The chair explained that at the first meeting of the council year then a vice chair should be appointed and an Advisory Panel appointed. This was not on the agenda but the chair asked that these appointments be made under "Items for Urgent Report"

It was resolved unanimously that the appointment of the vice chair and the Advisory Panel should be made

Carried unanimously

It was resolved to appoint Cllr Fiona Carr as Vice Chair of Amenities and Facilities Committee

Carried unanimously

It was resolved to appoint an Amenities and Facilities Advisory Panel

Carried unanimously

A&F098 – 27/05/2025

Review of Finances 2024/25

- i. To review of Finances 2025/26 – A&F Committee and make associated decisions
Noted the expenditure to date.
- ii. To review the budget for 2025/26 and consider a process for unplanned expenditure
Noted that any unplanned purchases should be agreed upon by at least one member of the committee
- iii. To resolve to purchase the items for use by caretaking team as identified by the GAMM up to £6000 as approved at full council
It was resolved to defer to a further meeting the purchase of any new tools until the list has been provided to all sitting members of the F&A Committee
Carried unanimously
- iv. To **note** the councils response to a request to fund contractors to work on the estate including the collection of bins it was agreed at Full Council that the council will contract with Richard Garrett to undertake the watering of the summer planting until further notice.

It was also agreed at council to proceed with a plan to contract with B&NES to deal with the emptying of the various bins around the estate, unfortunately B&NES are not able to take on this work.

It was **noted** that other companies had been approached, it was agreed to check that J Witts has been contacted as the company undertake bin collections.

It was **noted** that it was agreed at full council that funding is available under Contracted Amenities

- v. To consider and make recommendations for funding essential maintenance to play equipment as identified by GAMM - Awaiting quotation from Dragon Play undertake repairs on the a single point swing and install closure on the gates and bearings as recommended in the Annual Inspection 2024.
Defer to the next meeting as the quotation is not yet available.
- vi. To report on the condition of the wet pour and tarmac surface of the children's play area at the recreation ground as identified in the Annual Inspection in 2024. Awaiting quotation from Dragon Play
Defer to the next meeting as the quotation is not yet available.
- vii. To report on the insurance claim for the vandalised play equipment at the Recreation Ground, to consider the quotation from Dragon Play to replace the equipment
It was resolved to recommend to the council that committee members must be advised of insurance claims and to authorise the purchase of replacement items.
Carried unanimously
- viii. **Noted** that the essential repair work to the drains on the Recreation Ground is funded from operation funds as per quotation from Roman Rod Option 2 – Dual Patch

Discount Offer of £900 plus VAT will be undertaken on Friday the 30th of May.

A&F099 – 27/05/2025

Beacon Hall

- i. It was **noted** that the faulty windowpanes in Beacon Hall have been replaced by County Windows.
- ii. To receive an update on the kitchen equipment to include the gas cooker, dishwasher and large refrigerator, all of which are not working optimally. Trace reports that she has tested the oven temperatures at 100 150 200 and 250 and it runs typically 9 degrees less than it says. If the door is open for one minute, it takes just under 5 mins to get back up to temperature. A number of companies have been contacted none of which offer servicing.
It was resolved to get professional advice to assess the efficiency and condition of all kitchen equipment for repair/replacement.
Carried unanimously
- iii. **Noted** that the work to repair the flooring in the passageway at Beacon Hall is planned for Friday the 30th of May 2025.
- iv. It was **noted** that the regular booking by Gabrielle Stanley for Pilates classes has not been renewed leaving vacant slots.

It was resolved to instruct Trace to advertise vacancies on all social media outlets and village notice boards by 20th June.

Carried unanimously

- v. **Noted** that the council should use Beacon Hall Facebook page, it was noted that the Beacon Hall web site has been taken down.

A&F100 – 27/05/2025

Beacon Field & Jubilee Garden

- i. To consider preparing a specification for replacing the pathways on Beacon Field and to improve the entrance to the Dog Exercise Area in anticipation of funding being available

Update it was **agreed** to plan the project for spring 2026, to place the invitation to tender in early autumn 2025

It was resolved to thank all the volunteers at the next village meeting for their work in the Jubilee Garden and other outside area and to present them with a small gift

Carried unanimously

A&F101 – 27/05/2025

Braysdown Allotments

- i. **Noted** that J M Tree Services have completed the work to close the second gateway at Braysdown Allotments
- ii. To receive a report following the allotment inspection held in April 2025

It was noted that there are unfilled plots at Braysdown Allotments. Unfortunately, it was not possible at the meeting to open the spreadsheet which should give the details of the outcome of the inspections.

It was resolved to instruct Debbie to advertise vacant plots on all social media outlets and village notice boards by 20th June.

Carried unanimously

- iii. To consider management of the land during the next six months. Awaiting dates from Cllrs Kidd and Larcombe with a view to interviewing a potential candidate for a full time post as caretaker for the council to fill the part time vacancy. If this is not productive then alternative management plan for the allotments will need to be in place and options considered at this meeting.

Noted it was discussed to have a chat within TEAMS for the committee members

A&F102 – 27/05/2025 Ecewiche Green

- i. To receive update on the wildlife pond project and planting of trees on Beacon Field. It was **noted** that the planning application is now “live” on the B&NES Planning website: <https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/webforms/planning/details.html?refval=25%2F01918%2FFUL>
- ii. To report on the proposed fencing along the boundary between Ecewiche Green and Faulkland View as it is too shaded for planting In the opinion of Simon Freear we should fence it with posts and stock fencing for which we need quotes and approval for funding. It was **agreed** that the committee members would meet for a site visit on Saturday 7th June at 1130am

A&F103 – 27/05/2025 Persimmon Land, Village Greens, PROW, Roundabouts

- i. To receive an update on the sponsorship of the roundabouts. It was **noted** that the application had been approved
- ii. It was resolved that invitations are issued to Arborists to quote for remedial work based on the tree survey undertaken in March 2025 by Scott Watson of Wildwood and to include additional work at the boundary between the bund from Orchard Way to the Mercedes Roundabout.

Carried unanimously

It was **noted** that the terms of the lease for Braysdown Allotments includes the boundary hedges. GAMM has contacted three companies for quotations to undertake the work detailed in the Tree survey and additionally to quote for the thinning of the trees behind Westbury View. BANES, West Country Tree Services and The Roots Company all have responded expressing interest.

A&F104 – 27/05/2025 Recreation Ground

- I. To consider maintenance work on the pitch and on buildings and to note that the caretaking staff are unlikely to have space in their schedule to undertake the work so it is suggested that quotations are obtained from builders. **Report from Simon Freear:** I feel that this would be unlikely to be achieved by my team currently so will look at getting a quote from a painter or builder.
- II. To **note** that the GAMM will obtain quotations for work on the goal mouths and Vertidrain at the football ground

Noted the report from Simon Freear: I feel like little needs doing to the goal mouths, nor can be done given the current ground conditions. To be able to Vertidrain properly we'd need an awful lot of rain between now and the start of the season.

- III. **Noted** that the general maintenance of hedges and grounds is being monitored by GAMM who reported that particular attention to where hedges and gateways border public areas including Church Road is ongoing.

A&F105 – 27/05/2025 Ashgrove Cemetery

- i. It was resolved that for a trial period of three months from 19th July the main gates to remain locked at Ashgrove Cemetery other than for funerals and council purposes as long as the cemetery is accessible, which will be confirmed by Cllr F Carr.
Carried Unanimously
- ii. It was **agreed** that the toilet at Ashgrove Cemetery is to be accessed by council staff, volunteers and members of the public attending internments and for no other purpose. At all other times it remains locked.
- iii. It was **noted** that the gardens are being maintained by volunteers
- iv. To note that the GAMM considers that the roof space in the cemetery building could be utilized
Defer
- v. Clearing of debris from the lower car park
It was noted that Simon Freear has contacted Richard Garrett who will take a look and see if he can help take the majority of the debris away.
Defer

F&A106 – 27/05/2025

Review of the rubbish and winter salt storage bins

To consider the necessity of the various storage and rubbish bins around the estate. Simon Freear reports that the bin on Orchard Way continues to be a problem. Household waste is dumped into this one twice a week. Simon suggests that we remove this bin entirely?

Defer

F&A107 – 27/05/2025

Date and Time of Next Meeting & Future Agenda Items

The next meeting of the Amenities & Facilities Committee Tuesday 22nd July 2025

Dates of Amenities and Facilities Advisory Panel Meetings for:

- 1. Allotments TBA
- 2. The progress on outstanding quotes, in particular the tree works TBA