

BURNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Recreation & Amenities Committee held on 17th March 2026 at 6:30pm in Burnham Park Hall.

Committee members present:

Cllr Paul Bunce (Chair)	Cllr Graham Mummery (Vice Chair, chairing item RA2526/79)	
Cllr Judith Foster	Cllr Terry Gamble	Cllr Zoe Gardiner
Cllr Pat Bird	Cllr Marie Hammon	Cllr Carol Linton
Cllr Jane Wallis		

Officers of the Council: Adam Killeya (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public: None

RA2526/67 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Sommer (reserve member) and Carey.

RA2526/68 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Bunce declared an interest in item 13: High Street obelisk (minute RA2526/79) as a committee member of the Burnham Business Association. He left the meeting and ceded the chair for this item.

RA2526/69 Public Forum

As there were no members of the public present there was no public forum.

RA2526/70 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the committee meeting of 27th January 2026.

RA2526/71 Finance

The end of month 11 accounts for the Committee were **NOTED**.

RA2526/72 Head Groundsman's Report

The report was **NOTED**. There were multiple positive comments about how good the bulbs were looking this year.

The Clerk reported that the Head Groundsman had proposed re-grassing the muddy patch near the car park end of the hall corridor, and adding small flower beds. They advised that the Hall Manager was in agreement with the proposal, and the Clerk sought a steer from the committee as to whether they were also in agreement. The committee was happy to support the proposals. Cllrs Bunce and Mummery made a further suggestion regarding the triangle of land near this site, which the Clerk said they would raise with the Head Groundsman.

RA2526/73 Street Furniture

The Clerk reported that the new memorial bench in Burnham Park near the play area had now been installed. The offers of two benches at the pond had also been confirmed and were in progress.

The Clerk further reported that they and the Assistant Clerk had held their quarterly meeting with

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the streetlighting contractor in February, and had agreed further works in line with the Council's policy of utilising solar replacements where possible.

The Clerk finally reported that the Communications and Administration officer had taken over the updating of Council noticeboards from the Assistant Clerk, and that this was progressing well.

The reports were **NOTED**.

RA2526/74 Oak Processionary Moths

The report on Oak Processionary Moths at the Cherry Orchard was **NOTED**. It was **RESOLVED**

- a) to approve the proposed course of targeted action to assess and manage oak processionary moth (OPM) on council land, noting an estimated cost of up to £1,000 to be taken from the outside spaces budget.
- b) To update the Council's Risk Management Register to include the risks arising from OPM.

RA2526/75 Sustainability, ecology and climate emergency

The updated list of eco actions was **NOTED**.

RA2526/76 Project updates

The Clerk reported that it was hoped to start the approved lighting works for Burnham Park soon, once the final details for the perspex light protection system were confirmed.

The Clerk also reported that the Assistant Clerk and Cllr Carey had met last week to discuss next steps on The Knowledge Stream (formerly 'Project 57') including the naming competition. Cllr Gamble added that the next litter pick in May was focused on the Knowledge Stream area.

The Clerk further reported that the library box on the Village Green was still in progress and coming along well, and that it was hoped that the box would be ready for installation in May.

The Clerk additionally reported that the Memorial Tree Scheme had now been advertised and multiple expressions of interest had been received, which were being advanced by the Assistant Clerk working with the Head Groundsman.

The Clerk penultimately reported that they had received no expressions of interest regarding the 'adopt a footpath' scheme.

The Clerk finally updated the committee on progress with the pond at Lent Green Lane, in particular the recent tree and bush work, the progress with the final signature of the management agreement with Buckinghamshire Council, and the grant received from the South-East Bucks Community Board. They stated that the 'official re-opening' of the pond was provisionally scheduled for Saturday 13th June and that it was hoped that the Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire would be in attendance. The Committee recorded their thanks to all those involved for their work to bring this project to fruition.

The reports were **NOTED**.

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RA2526/77 Play areas

The Clerk reported that as part of her new role as Deputy Clerk from 1st April, the Assistant Clerk would be leading a project to consider works to the Council play areas. To help start this work they were seeking informal feedback from the Committee on the scope and priorities for this work, as well as two councillors to volunteer to help the Deputy Clerk with this work. They advised that whilst a formal working group might be appropriate at a later stage of this project, it was felt preferable to have more flexibility in the early stages. The Deputy Clerk would then bring a report to a future meeting of the committee.

The Committee felt that a play area on Grenville Close or Bayley Close could be desirable. However it was recognised that these sites are not owned by the Parish Council. The Clerk said that they would write to the respective landowners regarding their land, to ascertain whether they might be willing to pass the land to the Parish to develop a play area, and the Chair stated that he would supply a list of potentially suitable pieces of land and landowners to the Clerk. It was not felt that the Parish land at either the Fairway or Nashdom Lane were suitable for play equipment; and that the Hag Hill and Stomp Road play areas had limited room for expansion.

The Committee therefore identified their three preferred options for investigation as:

- A new play area on suitable land currently not owned by the Council, if the landowners were willing to engage.
- An extension to the Burnham Park play area to add a section for older children, potentially in a new fenced area attached to the existing area by a gate.
- The addition of new equipment at St Peter's Recreation Ground, focused on children with additional needs.

It was recognised that ultimately the project may have to focus on one of the above areas, and that the Deputy Clerk might seek a steer on this following initial investigations.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Mummery, Bunce and Gardiner would work with the new Deputy Clerk on this project.

RA2526/78 Hall Mosaic

The report regarding works to Hall Mosaic was **NOTED**.

It was **RECOMMENDED** to the Policy and Resources Committee to commission the proposed work from Jubilee Conservation, with a total project cost of up to £2,500, to come from the Capital Works Reserve.

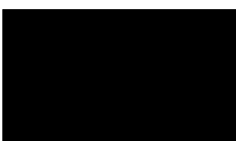
The Clerk was asked to speak with the Head Groundsman about the cracked tarmac adjacent to the mosaic.

The Committee gave a steer that where it was not possible to source exact matches for missing tesserae or pebbles, the preference of the committee was to replace missing tesserae or pebbles with the nearest available match.

RA2526/79 High Street obelisk

Cllr Bunce left the meeting and ceded the Chair. Cllr Mummery took the Chair, as Vice Chair of the

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Committee.

The Clerk reported that the Burnham Business Association had expressed an interest in taking over management of the obelisk on High Street, to cut back the bushes and provide floral arrangements. Whilst BBA intended to submit a full proposal on this to the next meeting of the committee – covering proposed works, insurance, length of agreement etc – the Clerk advised that the committee consider whether they would support the proposal in principle, subject to a satisfactory detailed proposal.

It was **RESOLVED** that the committee would support the proposal for the BBA to take over management of the obelisk in principle, subject to approval of a satisfactory detailed proposal at a future meeting of the committee which:

- a) focuses on preserving and enhancing the obelisk structure and mosaic.
- b) employs appropriate specialist contractors.
- c) considers insurance, health and safety, length of agreement, costings and all other relevant matters.

Cllr Bunce rejoined the meeting and retook the Chair.

The meeting closed at 19:42

Date of next meeting: tbc by Full Council, provisionally Tuesday 2nd June (election of Chair/Vice Chair for 2026-27)

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