BURNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Recreation & Amenities Committee held on 7th July 2026 at 6:30pm in Burnham Park Hall.

Committee members present:

Cllr Paul Bunce (Chair)	Cllr Graham Mummery (Vice Chair)	Cllr John Carey
Cllr Judith Foster	Cllr Zoe Gardiner (part of meeting)	Cllr Pat Bird
Cllr Marie Hammon	Cllr Carol Linton	Cllr Terry Gamble
Cllr Jane Wallis (part of meeting)		

Officers of the Council: Adam Killeya (Parish Clerk)
Laiba Malik (Deputy Clerk)

Members of the public: None

RA2627/18 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received for late arrival from Cllr Wallis, and for early departure from Cllr Gardiner.

RA2627/19 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Wallis declared an interest at time of item in item 12, Correspondence - Heartstopper (minute RA2627/29), as a member of the Burnham Pride Committee.

RA2627/20 Public Forum

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

RA2627/21 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the committee meeting of 2nd June 2026.

RA2627/22 Finance

The draft end of month 1 accounts for the committee were **NOTED**. The Clerk stated that the end of month 2 accounts would be available for the Policy and Resources Committee meeting; and the end of 1st quarter accounts and budget monitoring report would be circulated by email when available and before the summer meeting break.

Cllr Wallis joined the meeting during this item.

RA2627/23 Head Groundsman's Report

The report was **NOTED.** The Clerk noted that the Grounds Team had been an integral part of several recent additional projects - including the pond, additional streetlighting, the library box, the padel courts etc - and stated that their hard work and expertise was very much appreciated.

The Clerk further reported that they and the Head Groundsman were building links with Burnham Beeches Hotel, and there was the potential for working together with professional football teams who were staying at the hotel hiring the GPMG pitches for training as had been done in the past.

RA2627/24 Street Furniture

The Clerk reported that a new memorial bench near the trim trail in Burnham Park had been

installed as part of the Trim Trail, and a new bench for Truham Row was in progress. A sponsor had now also been secured for the second bench at the Pond.

The Clerk further reported that they and the Deputy Clerk were continuing to progress streetlighting and MVAS matters. They update the committee that streetlight 326 had been moved a short distance at the request of a resident to accommodate his widened drive. The resident had fully funded the costs of the move which would provide a new column and solar light.

Finally, the Clerk reported the installation of two additional dog bins, at the Cherry Orchard and at the end of the high street by the bus shelter, generously funded by Claire's Comfy Canines.

The reports were **NOTED**.

RA2627/25 Sustainability, ecology and climate emergency
The updated list of eco actions was **NOTED.**

RA2627/26 War memorial
The report and appendices regarding the question for an additional name to be added to the War Memorial were **NOTED**. The Clerk confirmed that they had written to the Burnham Branch of the Royal British Legion requesting their formal view, which would be considered on 26th July ahead of Full Council on 27th July. They reported that the quote for adding a name was £620 which they advised was not relevant to the principle, only to the question of how it would be funded.

It was **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council

1. To add the name of Sub Lieutenant Derek John Theodore Marais to the Burnham War Memorial.
2. To approve a vire from the Community Entertainment Fund to the War Memorial maintenance fund to cover the cost of adding the name.
3. To delegate authority to the Clerk to implement the addition, working with the Burnham Branch of the Royal British Legion and with the family of Sub Lt Marais.

The quote for renovation works to the war memorial was **NOTED**. The Clerk stated that a final decision was not being requested at this meeting, but they were seeking a steer as to the preferred timescale for renovations to the memorial. They advised that having discussed the matter with the Deputy Clerk, and Cllr Slater, who had also consulted the Branch President of Burnham Royal British Legion, it was felt that the best course was to defer works to the 2027-28 financial year, and to allocate a further sum for the renovation fund in the 2027-28 budget. This would then allow more time to seek grants. The Committee felt that it was wise to work towards the recommended works in 2027-28 as outlined above.

RA2627/27 Play areas expansion project
The report was **NOTED**. The Deputy Clerk summarised the report and recommendations.

The Committee expressed thanks to the Deputy Clerk and to Councillors Bunce, Mummery and Gardiner for their hard work on this project so far.

Signed: Date:

It was **RESOLVED to:**

1. Proceed with exploring Option 2 as the 'preferred option' - an extension to the Burnham Park play area, to add a section for older children.
2. Establish an ah hoc Working Group for the play area project, with the terms of reference outlined in Appendix A of the report.
3. Appoint Cllrs Mummery, Gardiner and Foster to the group, in addition to Cllr Bunce and the Deputy Clerk who were ex-officio members.

RA2627/28 GPMG trim trail

The report and accompanying appendix showing the annual external inspection report on the GPMG trim trail was **NOTED**. It was **RESOLVED:**

1. To approve the removal of the balance beam, hurdles and sit up bars at the George Pitcher Memorial Ground.
2. To delegate authority to the Clerk, in consultation with the Head Groundsman, to remove other pieces, or parts, of equipment should the costs of repairs appear disproportionate to the costs of the work.

RA2627/29 Correspondence - Heartstopper

The request to place an installation in Burnham Park in connection with 'Heartstopper' was **NOTED.** It was **RESOLVED:**

a) To approve the request subject to mutual agreement being reached.
b) To delegate authority to the Clerk to negotiate the details and make arrangements for the installation, on the basis that it was a gift to the Council.

RA2627/30 Other project updates

The Clerk reported that the lights for in Burnham Park had now been arrived and should be installed soon, including the perspex protection system.

Cllr Carey reported that he and the Deputy Clerk were continuing to progress works at The Burn, and had met with Cllr Bunce to discuss this along with the adjacent area. The Clerk reported that applications had opened for the next round of Heathrow Community Trust funding which could be of potential relevance to The Burn and to other related projects, potentially under a theme of 'Burnham Green and Blue'.

The Clerk further reported that the library box on the Village Green would be installed towards the end of July, and an opening event was planned on Friday 31st July, 3pm for 3:30pm.

The Clerk additionally reported that the Memorial Tree Scheme was being advanced by the Deputy Clerk working with the Head Groundsman. The Deputy Clerk stated that several expressions of interest had been received.

The Clerk reported on the successful Pond reopening, and stated that the Pond Working Group was meeting on Friday 10th July to discuss future plans. They noted an issue with emptying the new bins at the pond which they were working on.

Signed: Date:

The Clerk confirmed that works to the mosaic outside Burnham Park Hall should take place in September, based around the availability of the expert contractor.

The reports were all **NOTED**.

RA2627/31 GPMG toilets

It was **RESOLVED**:

i) under The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as extended by Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, to exclude the public for confidential business to be considered, on the grounds that the following item included confidential commercial information;

ii) to invite the Deputy Clerk to remain for this item.

The report on proposals to refurbish the toilets at the George Pitcher Memorial Ground pavilion was **NOTED.**

It was **RECOMMENDED** to the Policy and Resources Committee, and Full Council:

1. To commission the refurbishment of the toilets at the George Pitcher Memorial Ground, using a combination of the GPMG Improvement Fund, and CIL in line with the budget in the report.
2. To further authorise the Clerk to loan up to £10,000 from General Reserves to the GPMG Improvement Fund as required to complete the project, these funds to be restored to the General Reserve from future income from the GPMG parking charges.
3. To select County Washrooms as the contractor
4. To delegate authority to the Clerk to implement this project within a total project budget of £40,000, including making any adjustments necessary in consultation with the Chair of the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** to come out of confidential session.

RA2627/32 Committee priorities and budget for 2027-28

The current committee priorities under the Council Strategy and Action Plan, and the annotations on progress, were **NOTED**. The Clerk stated that suggestions for updates to the plan were being sought ahead of the plan being updated and the 2027-28 budget cycle. Various options were discussed including table tennis tables, eco-coordination and mapping projects, repair cafes etc. It was **RESOLVED** to ask the Policy and Resources Committee to consider the possibility of employing a part-time Community Engagement Officer for 2027-2028.

The Clerk sought a steer on pricing policy at the George Pitcher Memorial Ground for 2027-28 ahead of the first draft budget. It was **RESOLVED** to base the first draft budget on an inflationary increase.

Cllr Gardiner left the meeting during the item.

The meeting closed at 20:04

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 8th September (1st budget meeting)

Signed: Date:

Budget monitoring report: Recreation and Amenities Committee (R&A)

Commentary

The overall profit and loss figures appear to show R&A position to be worse than expected. This is significantly skewed by the Trim Trail, where the additional expenditure is covered by the additional income in Q2. R&A has several items that are hard to predict as they are based on maintenance or incomes that are not regular through the year. Overall the committee's position at the end of Q1 appears to actually be a little better than expected. Particular points to note are:

- Staffing costs are as expected (slightly below due to a small buffer); this is usual as Grounds is generally the most predictable area of staff spending.
- Some of the car parking income has been delayed, albeit this then goes into the GPMG improvement fund in any case.
- The sum budgeted for Public Works Loan Board payments for the pavilion solar panels is not needed as it was paid off last year.
- The costs of pitch maintenance at the GPMG are significantly lower than budgeted for this time of year as we are trying a different maintenance model for the off-season maintenance.
- Maintenance at the pavilion and public conveniences is quite high; some of this is annual costs but it will continue to be monitored.
- We have not yet had to refuel our fuel tank, so the fuel items are under budget, but we expect this to balance out over the year.
- Pond Works appear over budget because we are awaiting the Community Board grant for the information board. However, we will be over budget here for the year by about £1,000 due to unanticipated refuse collection costs. This will be managed via a vire.
- Utilities costs at the pavilion are a little higher than the (increased) budget; and this will need to be monitored.
- Utility costs at the public toilets are apparently under budget due to an over-estimate of water bills last year (reported to Council) which was refunded in April.
- Outside Spaces Equipment purchase/repair is currently over budget due to an expensive service of one of the ride-on mowers.
- The Pitchside café remains a financial concern, with very low income in April (last month of the football season), albeit stock purchases has also been low. We will not be able to make a significant gauge of this year's performance until Q3, as the rest of Q1/some of Q2 is off-season, and the last month of Q2 (September) is only the first month of the new season.
- The money put aside for CCTV maintenance and monitoring has not yet been spent; although £1,000 is being vired to the pond to cover the cost of emptying the new bins. Some of this budget will then be spent when CCTV phase 2 kicks in.
- Streetlighting electricity costs are slightly under budget so far, but this may balance out over winter.
- Streetlighting maintenance works appears to be significantly over budget in month 3, but this was partly because some works planned were covered by insurance (under streetlight income) and there will be more available for other works later in the year (it will never be a challenge to find useful works to spend this budget on!)

Overall summary

Therefore, it is probably most accurate to say that the overall R&A committee budget position after Q1 is currently **a little better than expected for this period in the financial year**, mostly due to savings on CCTV monitoring and on PWLB repayments

Centre	Description	Month Actual	Budget	Variance	YTD Actual	Budget	Variance
300	**GPMG**						
Account	Sales/Income						
1300	GPMG Parking Income	1,333	0	1,333	1,768	2,008	(240)
1370	Padel Court Income	200	0	200	200	0	200
	Total Sales/Income	**1,533**	**0**	**1,533**	**1,968**	**2,008**	**(40)**
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4000	Salaries	4,155	4,298	(143)	12,562	12,894	(332)
4040	Staff Mileage	44	92	(48)	44	276	(232)
4130	Health & Safety/Risk Assess	(235)	0	(235)	373	0	373
4136	Grounds Maintainence & Repairs	3,082	1,000	2,082	7,260	9,000	(1,740)
4200	Clothing	0	8	(8)	0	24	(24)
4255	Refuse	159	121	38	331	363	(32)
4262	Padel Court Utilities	(16)	0	(16)	(16)	0	(16)
4300	Fuel	0	308	(308)	0	924	(924)
4305	Signage	0	42	(42)	0	126	(126)
4310	GPMG Improvement Fund	0	0	0	0	2,008	(2,008)
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**7,189**	**5,869**	**1,320**	**20,554**	**25,615**	**(5,061)**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**(5,657)**	**(5,869)**	**212**	**(18,587)**	**(23,607)**	**5,020**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income	-369.08%			-944.60%	-1,175.65%	
310	**GP Pavillion**						
Account	Sales/Income						
1220	Solar Income	523	150	373	523	150	373
1310	Pavillion Tenant (Income)	2,167	2,292	(125)	4,333	4,584	(251)
	Total Sales/Income	**2,690**	**2,442**	**248**	**4,857**	**4,734**	**123**
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4130	Health & Safety/Risk Assess	(109)	0	(109)	0	0	0
4135	Building Maintenance & Repairs	0	200	(200)	2,548	2,200	348
4195	Defibrillator 5 Bells Expenses	(73)	0	(73)	0	0	0
4260	Utilities	1,932	1,500	432	5,976	4,500	1,476
4275	PWLB Loan Repayments	0	813	(813)	0	813	(813)
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**1,749**	**2,513**	**(764)**	**8,525**	**7,513**	**1,012**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**941**	**(71)**	**1,012**	**(3,668)**	**(2,779)**	**(889)**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income	34.99%	-2.91%		-75.52%	-58.70%	
320	**Public Conveniences**						
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4130	Health & Safety/Risk Assess	0	0	0	169	0	169
4135	Building Maintenance & Repairs	0	250	(250)	2,966	2,750	216
4260	Utilities	151	150	1	(771)	475	(1,246)
4320	Cleaning	426	438	(12)	1,446	1,314	132
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**577**	**838**	**(261)**	**3,811**	**4,539**	**(728)**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**(577)**	**(838)**	**261**	**(3,811)**	**(4,539)**	**728**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income						

		Month Actual	Budget	Variance	YTD Actual	Budget	Variance
330	**Tied Accommodation**						
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4135	Building Maintenance & Repairs	0	125	(125)	0	375	(375)
4330	Council Tax	0	0	0	3,160	3,158	2
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**0**	**125**	**(125)**	**3,160**	**3,533**	**(373)**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**0**	**(125)**	**125**	**(3,160)**	**(3,533)**	**373**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income						
340	**Outside Spaces**						
Account	Sales/Income						
1095	Defib Bleed Kits	0	0	0	95	0	95
1305	Sports & Grounds Lettings	0	0	0	(120)	0	(120)
1360	Burnham Park Income	0	125	(125)	850	375	475
1999	Miscellaneous Income	0	83	(83)	10,509	249	10,260
	Total Sales/Income	**0**	**208**	**(208)**	**11,334**	**624**	**10,710**
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4000	Salaries	6,307	6,604	(297)	19,090	19,812	(722)
4040	Staff Mileage	57	0	57	73	0	73
4055	Training	0	87	(87)	0	261	(261)
4130	Health & Safety/Risk Assess	344	0	344	344	780	(436)
4136	Grounds Maintainence & Repairs	0	750	(750)	34,207	2,250	31,957
4160	Equipment Purchase/Repair	1,374	500	874	2,746	1,300	1,446
4195	Defibrillator 5 Bells Expenses	213	0	213	213	0	213
4200	Clothing	0	17	(17)	0	51	(51)
4300	Fuel	0	83	(83)	0	249	(249)
4305	Signage	79	42	37	114	126	(12)
4340	Purchases	0	21	(21)	138	63	75
4355	War Memorial Maintenance	0	0	0	168	200	(32)
4360	War Memorial Renovation Fund	0	0	0	480	0	480
4400	Pond Works	1,290	0	1,290	6,151	5,000	1,151
4405	Hanging Baskets & Planters	0	0	0	1,905	2,000	(95)
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**9,664**	**8,104**	**1,560**	**65,630**	**32,092**	**33,538**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**(9,664)**	**(7,896)**	**(1,768)**	**(54,297)**	**(31,468)**	**(22,829)**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income		-3,796.15%		-479.08%	-5,042.95%	
350	**Pitchside**						
Account	Sales/Income						
1350	Pitchside Income	0	0	0	654	2,008	(1,354)
	Total Sales/Income	**0**	**0**	**0**	**654**	**2,008**	**(1,354)**
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4000	Salaries	62	0	62	1,417	1,608	(191)
4217	Tills & Terminal Hire	14	17	(3)	42	51	(9)

		Month Actual	Budget	Variance	YTD Actual	Budget	Variance
4380	Stock Purchases	0	0	0	209	1,406	(1,197)
4385	Miscellaneous Purchases	0	33	(33)	17	99	(82)
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**76**	**50**	**26**	**1,685**	**3,164**	**(1,479)**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**(76)**	**(50)**	**(26)**	**(1,030)**	**(1,156)**	**126**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income				-157.51%	-57.57%	
360	**Street Lights & Cameras**						
Account	Sales/Income						
1380	Streetlighting Income	3,690	0	3,690	5,370	0	5,370
	Total Sales/Income	**3,690**	**0**	**3,690**	**5,370**	**0**	**5,370**
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4135	Building Maintenance & Repairs	8,238	6,700	1,538	10,759	10,000	759
4265	Electricity	1,761	1,042	719	2,796	3,126	(330)
4390	CCTV Maintain / replace	(1,604)	0	(1,604)	0	0	0
4395	Bunting	0	500	(500)	480	1,100	(620)
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**8,394**	**8,242**	**152**	**14,035**	**14,226**	**(191)**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**(4,704)**	**(8,242)**	**3,538**	**(8,665)**	**(14,226)**	**5,561**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income	-127.49%			-161.36%		
	COST CENTRE TOTALS						
	Total Income/Sales	**7,913**	2,650	5,263	**24,182**	9,374	14,808
	Total Expenditure/Costs	**27,650**	25,741	1,909	**117,401**	90,682	26,719
	Surplus of Income over Expenditure	**(19,737)**	(23,091)	3,354	**(93,219)**	(81,308)	(11,911)
	% Surplus to Income/Sales	-249.44%	-871.36%		-385.48%	-867.38%	

Centre	Description	Month Actual	Budget	Variance	YTD Actual	Budget	Variance
300	**GPMG**						
Account	Sales/Income						
1300	GPMG Parking Income	225	0	225	1,993	2,008	(15)
1370	Padel Court Income	0	0	0	200	0	200
	Total Sales/Income	**225**	**0**	**225**	**2,193**	**2,008**	**185**
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4000	Salaries	4,155	4,298	(143)	16,717	17,192	(475)
4040	Staff Mileage	0	92	(92)	44	368	(324)
4130	Health & Safety/Risk Assess	0	0	0	373	0	373
4136	Grounds Maintainence & Repairs	31	1,000	(969)	7,292	10,000	(2,708)
4200	Clothing	0	8	(8)	0	32	(32)
4255	Refuse	140	121	19	471	484	(13)
4262	Padel Court Utilities	(20)	0	(20)	(36)	0	(36)
4300	Fuel	0	308	(308)	0	1,232	(1,232)
4305	Signage	0	42	(42)	0	168	(168)
4310	GPMG Improvement Fund	0	0	0	0	2,008	(2,008)
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**4,306**	**5,869**	**(1,563)**	**24,861**	**31,484**	**(6,623)**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**(4,081)**	**(5,869)**	**1,788**	**(22,668)**	**(29,476)**	**6,808**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income	-1,813.93%			-1,033.81%	-1,467.93%	
310	**GP Pavillion**						
Account	Sales/Income						
1220	Solar Income	0	0	0	523	150	373
1310	Pavillion Tenant (Income)	2,167	2,292	(125)	6,500	6,876	(376)
	Total Sales/Income	**2,167**	**2,292**	**(125)**	**7,023**	**7,026**	**(3)**
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4135	Building Maintenance & Repairs	0	200	(200)	2,548	2,400	148
4260	Utilities	1,790	1,500	290	7,766	6,000	1,766
4275	PWLB Loan Repayments	0	0	0	0	813	(813)
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**1,790**	**1,700**	**90**	**10,315**	**9,213**	**1,102**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**377**	**592**	**(215)**	**(3,291)**	**(2,187)**	**(1,104)**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income	17.38%	25.83%		-46.86%	-31.13%	
320	**Public Conveniences**						
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4130	Health & Safety/Risk Assess	0	0	0	169	0	169
4135	Building Maintenance & Repairs	0	250	(250)	2,966	3,000	(34)
4260	Utilities	75	150	(75)	(696)	625	(1,321)
4320	Cleaning	537	438	99	1,983	1,752	231
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**612**	**838**	**(226)**	**4,423**	**5,377**	**(954)**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**(612)**	**(838)**	**226**	**(4,423)**	**(5,377)**	**954**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income						

Centre	Description	Month Actual	Budget	Variance	YTD Actual	Budget	Variance
330	**Tied Accommodation**						
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4135	Building Maintenance & Repairs	0	125	(125)	0	500	(500)
4330	Council Tax	0	0	0	3,160	3,158	2
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**0**	**125**	**(125)**	**3,160**	**3,658**	**(498)**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**0**	**(125)**	**125**	**(3,160)**	**(3,658)**	**498**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income						
340	**Outside Spaces**						
Account	Sales/Income						
1095	Defib Bleed Kits	0	0	0	95	0	95
1305	Sports & Grounds Lettings	4,820	5,000	(180)	4,700	5,000	(300)
1360	Burnham Park Income	0	125	(125)	850	500	350
1999	Miscellaneous Income	30,859	83	30,776	41,368	332	41,036
	Total Sales/Income	**35,679**	**5,208**	**30,471**	**47,013**	**5,832**	**41,181**
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4000	Salaries	6,276	6,604	(328)	25,366	26,416	(1,050)
4040	Staff Mileage	289	0	289	362	0	362
4055	Training	0	87	(87)	0	348	(348)
4130	Health & Safety/Risk Assess	0	0	0	344	780	(436)
4135	Building Maintenance & Repairs	5	0	5	5	0	5
4136	Grounds Maintainence & Repairs	(362)	750	(1,112)	33,845	3,000	30,845
4160	Equipment Purchase/Repair	1,198	400	798	3,943	1,700	2,243
4195	Defibrillator 5 Bells Expenses	0	0	0	213	0	213
4200	Clothing	0	17	(17)	0	68	(68)
4300	Fuel	51	83	(32)	51	332	(281)
4305	Signage	0	42	(42)	114	168	(54)
4340	Purchases	0	21	(21)	138	84	54
4355	War Memorial Maintenance	0	0	0	168	200	(32)
4360	War Memorial Renovation Fund	0	0	0	480	0	480
4400	Pond Works	60	1,000	(940)	6,211	6,000	211
4405	Hanging Baskets & Planters	0	400	(400)	1,905	2,400	(495)
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**7,516**	**9,404**	**(1,888)**	**73,147**	**41,496**	**31,651**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**28,163**	**(4,196)**	**32,359**	**(26,134)**	**(35,664)**	**9,530**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income	78.93%	-80.57%		-55.59%	-611.52%	
350	**Pitchside**						
Account	Sales/Income						
1350	Pitchside Income	0	0	0	654	2,008	(1,354)
	Total Sales/Income	**0**	**0**	**0**	**654**	**2,008**	**(1,354)**
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4000	Salaries	0	0	0	1,417	1,608	(191)
4217	Tills & Terminal Hire	14	17	(3)	56	68	(12)

		Month Actual	Budget	Variance	YTD Actual	Budget	Variance
4380	Stock Purchases	0	0	0	209	1,406	(1,197)
4385	Miscellaneous Purchases	0	33	(33)	17	132	(115)
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**14**	**50**	**(36)**	**1,699**	**3,214**	**(1,515)**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**(14)**	**(50)**	**36**	**(1,044)**	**(1,206)**	**162**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income				-159.65%	-60.06%	
360	**Street Lights & Cameras**						
Account	Sales/Income						
1380	Streetlighting Income	2,480	0	2,480	7,850	0	7,850
	Total Sales/Income	**2,480**	**0**	**2,480**	**7,850**	**0**	**7,850**
Account	Indirect/Overhead Expenditure						
4135	Building Maintenance & Repairs	8,758	700	8,058	19,517	10,700	8,817
4265	Electricity	799	1,042	(243)	3,595	4,168	(573)
4390	CCTV Maintain / replace	0	(1,000)	1,000	0	(1,000)	1,000
4395	Bunting	0	0	0	480	1,100	(620)
	Total Indirect/Overhead Expenditure	**9,556**	**742**	**8,814**	**23,592**	**14,968**	**8,624**
	Profit before Other Costs & Income	**(7,076)**	**(742)**	**(6,334)**	**(15,742)**	**(14,968)**	**(774)**
	% Profit before Other Costs & Income	-285.34%			-200.53%		
	COST CENTRE TOTALS						
	Total Income/Sales	**40,551**	7,500	33,051	**64,733**	16,874	47,859
	Total Expenditure/Costs	**23,795**	18,728	5,067	**141,196**	109,410	31,786
	Surplus of Income over Expenditure	**16,756**	(11,228)	27,984	**(76,463)**	(92,536)	16,073
	% Surplus to Income/Sales	41.32%	-149.71%		-118.12%	-548.39%	

Council	Their prices	Our prices	Difference
Taplow – Farnham Park playing fields	Adult single - £115 Junior single - £90	Junior season - £675 Adult season - £995 Junior single - £75 Senior single - £115 Mini Soccer season - £360 Tournament - £1900	
Royal borough of Windsor and maidenhead	Adult single - £167 Junior single - £131	Junior season - £675 Adult season - £995 Junior single - £75 Senior single - £115 Mini Soccer season - £360 Tournament - £1900	
Cox Green	Adult pitch Per season 2,948.00 Mini football pitch - marked 2hr session Per season 1,474.00 Adult single - £122.83 Junior single - £82	Junior season - £675 Adult season - £995 Junior single - £75 Senior single - £115 Mini Soccer season - £360 Tournament - £1900	
Marlow town	Adult single - £97.00 per match Junior single - £65.00 per match	Junior season - £675 Adult season - £995 Junior single - £75 Senior single - £115 Mini Soccer season - £360 Tournament - £1900	
Slough Borough	Adult football single match - £105.80 Youth football single match - £61.50	Junior season - £675 Adult season - £995 Junior single - £75 Senior single - £115 Mini Soccer season - £360 Tournament - £1900	



Booking	Price
Senior every week	£2835
Senior alternate weeks	£1575
Youth every week	£1965
Youth alternate weeks	£1095
Junior 9 v 9 pitch every week	£1460
Junior 9 v 9 alternate weeks	£810
Junior 7 v 7 every week	£1165
Junior 7 v 7 alternate weeks	£651
Junior 5 v 5 every week	£840
Junior 5 v 5 alternate weeks	£462

Wooburn & Bourne End		Junior season - £675 Adult season - £995 Junior single - £75 Senior single - £115 Mini Soccer season - £360 Tournament - £1900	

Type	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	% increase
Junior Season	£500.00	£520.00	£540.00	£540.00	£540.00	£560.00	£580.00	£635.00	£655.00	£675.00	£695.00	2.96%
Adult Season	£730.00	£750.00	£770.00	£770.00	£770.00	£850.00	£870.00	£950.00	£980.00	£995.00	£1,025.00	3.02%
Junior Single	£45.00	£45.00	£45.00	£45.00	£45.00	£55.00	£65.00	£70.00	£72.00	£75.00	£77.00	2.67%
Senior Single	£75.00	£75.00	£75.00	£75.00	£75.00	£95.00	£95.00	£105.00	£110.00	£115.00	£120.00	4.35%
Mini Soccer	£225.00	£225.00	£225.00	£225.00	£225.00	£250.00	£300.00	£340.00	£350.00	£360.00	£370.00	2.78%

Based on average 3% increase

Inclusive Play (UK) Ltd
Unit 1 Edgefield Trade Park
Edgefield Road Industrial Estate
Loanhead
Midlothian
EH20 9TH

Tel: 0131 2141 180
www.inclusiveplay.com
info@inclusiveplay.com

Quotation No. 019351

Customer	Contact	Quote Raised By	Date
Burnham Parish	Laiba Malik	Janette Cooper	17/08/2026

Line	Part Ref	Description	Dimensions (mm)	Qty.	Price	Subtotal
1.	KLK1050N	KLK1050N Turntable	1050 x 1050 x 55	1	£1,050.00/Ea	£1,050.00
2.	DEL	Delivery		1	£125.00/Ea	£125.00

General Notes:

NET Total:	£1,175.00
VAT 20%:	£235.00
Total:	£1,410.00

Quote valid for 90 days from date of issue

REIDS PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE LTD
Registered Office: Cabot House, 108 Gipsy Lane, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN16 8UB.
Telephone: 01536 601950
Email: rpm@reidsplayground.co.uk ***Website:*** www.reidsplaygroundmaintenance.co.uk

QUOTE RPM/10745

Burnham Parish Council

Date: 25th August 2026

Ref: Play Area, Slough	**Cost**
Roundabout RPM to strip down the above item, replace bearing with new and re-fit item **Quotes issued will be valid for a period of 3 weeks only due to rising cost in materials**	£2060.00
All prices quoted are subject to VAT	

Head Groundsman's report, 25th August 2026

a) Parks and playgrounds.

Burnham Park

- All shrubs have been trimmed
- Trim trail looks good
- We may have to replace some of the oak trees on Truham walk , we will wait until autumn to see; these have been watered.
- 1 bin needs to be replaced



Hag Hill

- All good
- Some wild flowers along the fence line look good
- Tree will have crown raised that goes on to the garden of the first house (agreed with Clerk / resident). This will also help with getting our machine under it

Stomp road

- Play equipment is good
- Shrubs have been cut at the front

St Peters

- The Burn, this has so far taken 3 days to get it back to some sort of normal; probably another few days to complete





b) Hall, village green and war memorial.

All good

c) Churchyard

- All good
- Have started to cut back ivy and shrubs against wall. Had to delay because of a big wasp nest.

d) George Pitcher Memorial Ground

The Padel Courts are now operating fully. We are now finding things that we should not including blades, split bags of sand etc. possibly related to this later opening. Some nights the doors to the courts are propped open and anyone can use them. *NOTE: the Clerk is raising this with Padel Powerhouse Ltd.*







We are leaving the grass as long as possible as this may help with lack of water. We now have straw.





e) Machinery and equipment.
We are looking at options for replacing the larger ride-on mower, which is the next vehicle replacement due, and a report will come to a future meeting.

f) Other
This year has been so dry which is causing issues for watering plants and pitches.

- The more trees we put in the more water we need
- The start of the football season will be delayed; for how long depends on rain. This then has a knock-on effect at the end of the season.
- We could look at a bore hole and a licence to abstract. We already have a well on site, not being used. A pump would be about £4500, plus a shed, plus another bowser.

Reports are already saying next year will be as bad or worse.

Fire is the biggest fear we have at the moment; we are going out twice a week picking anything up that's glass or plastic up.

Recreation & Amenities 'Green' To Do List (updated 01.09.26)

Live list

Pavilion		
Change heating controls for simpler system	Retain	
Consider changing the heating system	Retain	
Replace remaining lamps with LED	When replacing	
Install aerator shower heads	When replacing	
Replace taps with push button or sensor taps	When replacing	
Check cistern sizes and install water saving bags if needed	When replacing	

George Pitcher		
Purchase electrical machinery	Review when replacing	
Consider EV charging in the car park	Retain	
Change to electric vehicles when current vehicles reach end of life	Review when replacing	
Consider solar panels as part of car park design	Not currently viable	
Explore feasibility of installing wind-turbines	Retain	
Explore feasibility of further solar panels (machinery storage shed)	Retain	
Increase boundary copse by 3 metres in nature park	Retain	
Allow hedge expansion around football pitches	Prioritise	
Use sustainable safe materials under exercise equipment rather than tarmac	When replacing	

Burnham Park		
Line walkways with trees to increase biodiversity	In progress	Trees and signage now in place – just solar lighting and bench

St Peters		
Consider planting a community orchard at St Peters	Investigating	
Upgrade and renew the project 57 area around the stream	In progress	Main work done Nov 25. John and Laiba looking at next stage.

Public Toilets		
Investigate water usage as seems very high	Investigating – need to review following plumbing works	

Litter pick		
Introduce a quarterly little pick	In progress	Continuing

Other council land		
Investigate cycle racks at Jennery Lane and other central location	Retain	No site ideas received: will consider as and when sites come up.

Additional action not on list but in progress / under consideration

GPMG		
Add additional trees at GPMG/Cherry Orchard arising from Padel Court project	In progress	Will plant when trees handed over
Add wildlife enhancements at the Pond (bird and bat boxes etc)	Under consideration	Will consider as part of plan for next stage of improvements. Potentially some funding available.
Crocus planting project at the Pond *NEW*	In progress	Agreed with Rotary Club – hopefully planting late October

Completed Actions

Pavillion

Insulate pipes to the hot water tank	Done	
Insulate loft hatch	Done	
Repair leaking taps	Done	
Switch to recycled toilet paper	Done	
Ensure all cleaning products are environmentally friendly	Done	
Increase insulation in pavilion roof from 100mm to 300mm	Done	

GPMG

Increase areas of natural woodland hedging	Done	

Increase areas of wildflower meadow	Done: New area planted	
Prune trees shadowing the solar panels on pavilion	Done	
Investigate switching diesel vehicles to hydrogenated fuel oil	Done	
Add tree/shrub/herb hedging to perimeter of St Peters, utilising free saplings from Woodland Trust	Done	Done along one full side. Can review to consider more for coming year if successful

Pitchside

Replace old chest freezer with new energy efficient model	Done	
Ensure freezer set to -18 and fridge set to 5 degrees	Done	
Replace beef crisps with alternative	Done	
Switch from single use sugar sachets to sugar shaker	Done	
Ensure all cleaning products are environmentally friendly	Done	
Replace beef burgers with less environmentally damaging option	Done	
Switch to recycled napkins	Done	
Switch to recycled bin bags	Done	
Buy fairtrade coffee tee, sugar and organic milk	Done	

Public toilets

Switch to recycled toilet paper	Done	
Switch to recycled bin bags	Done	
Ensure all cleaning products are environmentally friendly	Done	

Water fountains

Investigate / install water fountain at GPMG	Done	
Investigate / install water fountain at Jennery Lane toilets	Done	

Items done not on list

400 trees/hedging planted at GPMG
Wild flower seeds planted at GPMG – now in Nature Park as well as Car Park verge
Lavender planted along pavilion edge
Sought advice on management of Nashdom Lane, and added new sign
Added wildlife enhancements at the Fairway (bug hotel, bird houses etc)
Planters added to Phone Box at Littleworth Common.
New planters added outside Hall.
Solar streetlights pilot at Lent Green Lane – Now also agreed future policy of replacing with solar as lamps / posts reach end of life, or if there are ongoing connection issues, provided the site is not unsuitable.

Burnham Green and Blue (Stage 1)

Project overview

The Vision

Burnham Green and Blue is the exciting first stage of our initiative to revitalize and future-proof Burnham's vital ecological assets. We are focusing on two key sites: **the Burn**—an established educational space around our local stream—and **the Pond**, which we have recently, and very pleasingly, taken back into community management. Crucially, we aim to connect these sites via a natural corridor and underground watercourse.

Our goal is a resilient, interconnected network of green and blue spaces. Just as water flows in a cycle under Burnham Park, to the pond, through the Burn, and across the former school site, we want to encourage residents and visitors to flow along this scenic corridor. Through targeted habitat restoration, water-quality improvements, and biodiversity work, we will ensure these essential ecosystems remain sustainable.

We are also placing a heavy emphasis on public education and youth engagement, offering interactive outdoor activities and materials. By enhancing these areas as living classrooms, we hope to foster environmental stewardship, promote well-being, and inspire a deeper appreciation for our local wildlife.

This is year one of a five-year programme adopted as part of our Council strategy. We hope to see Burnham's entire green and blue network transformed, providing massive local benefits while contributing to wider global sustainability.

Strands to the project

1. The Burn
2. The Pond
3. The Corridor
4. Education and engagement
5. Management

1. The Burn

- Clearing the stream led by Chiltern Rangers (with volunteers?)
- Reseeding and wildflowers between the stream and St Peter's
- Installing an information board
- Pond dipping kits people can borrow
- Restoring the wooden pathway (on the bridge over the stream)

Possible additions

- 'Mini dipping platform'
- Further planting (cautious about this)

2. The Corridor

- Signage to encourage the flow (matching the flow of the water)
- The Mosaic (which encapsulates green and blue nature and is at the start of the corridor, drawing the public from the Burn towards the Pond and vice versa)

3. The Pond

- Wildflower planting
- Bird, bats and bugs
- Pond planting

4. Education and engagement

- Green and Blue leaflets
- Young people's activities

5. Management

- Strategic management: project steering group (Cllrs/Staff/Key partners)
- Operational management: Clerk or Deputy Clerk
- Space management: Grounds Team

BURNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

GREEN & BLUE

A STRATEGIC PROPOSAL FOR CREATING CONNECTED GREEN AND BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT NATURE RECOVERY

NATURE | WILDLIFE | COMMUNITY | WELLBEING

A PROPOSAL FOR THE BIODIVERSITY WORKING GROUP



WORKING TOGETHER FOR A GREENER, HEALTHIER BURNHAM

Green & Blue
Burnham Nature Recovery Strategy (2027–2032)

A Strategic Proposal for Creating Connected Green and Blue Infrastructure to Support Nature Recovery

Prepared for:
R&A committee
Playgrounds Working Group
Ecological, Biodiversity & Sustainability Working Group
The Pond Working Group
Deputy Clerk / Cllr Carey, working on The Burn

Executive Summary

The United Kingdom has experienced significant declines in biodiversity over recent decades. Native pollinators, butterflies, dragonflies and many other invertebrates have suffered habitat fragmentation, reduced food availability, pollution, invasive species and climate change. Local authorities have an increasingly important role in reversing these trends through thoughtful management of public spaces. The "Green & Blue" initiative proposes the creation of an interconnected ecological network linking parks, woodlands, grasslands, roadside verges, rivers, streams, ponds, lakes, wetlands and sustainable drainage systems (SuDS). By improving both terrestrial ("Green") and aquatic ("Blue") habitats using native plant species and wildlife-friendly management practices, the Council can significantly increase biodiversity while enhancing the quality of public open spaces.

The strategy recognises that isolated habitats rarely provide sufficient ecological resilience. Instead, wildlife requires connected landscapes that allow species to move, breed, forage and adapt to environmental change.

This proposal aligns with national legislation including:
Environment Act 2021
Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)
Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS)
Pollinator Strategy for England
25 Year Environment Plan
Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
Local Plan environmental policies

The project represents a long-term investment in natural capital, delivering environmental, social and economic benefits.

Why "Green & Blue"?

Historically, green spaces and watercourses have often been managed separately. Yet nature does not recognise administrative boundaries.

Many species depend upon both terrestrial and aquatic habitats throughout their life cycles.

For example:

Dragonflies lay eggs in water but spend much of their adult life hunting over grassland.
Frogs require ponds for breeding but woodland and long grass for shelter.
Butterflies require nectar-rich flowers but also sheltered hedgerows.
Pollinating insects move continuously between trees, meadows and waterways.
Connecting these habitats creates ecological corridors rather than isolated pockets of biodiversity.

Strategic Vision

To establish a Parish-wide network of connected green and blue infrastructure that supports thriving populations of native wildlife while enhancing the landscape for residents and visitors.

Burnham Nature Recovery Network

1. **The Pond** – Aquatic Biodiversity Hub
2. **The Living Corridor** – Ecological Connection
3. **The Burn** – Riparian Habitat
4. **St Peter's Recreational Ground** – Community Nature Park
5. **Burnham Park** – Woodland & Open Landscape

Understanding the Biodiversity Crisis

Current evidence indicates that:

- Over 40% of UK insect species are experiencing long-term decline
- Nearly 80% of butterfly species have declined in abundance or distribution.
- Freshwater habitats remain among the most threatened ecosystems.
- Habitat fragmentation is one of the greatest barriers to species recovery.

Many Council-owned spaces already have considerable ecological potential and are currently managed with an emphasis on appearance; however, there is an opportunity to adopt a more balanced approach that enhances biodiversity while maintaining attractive and well-kept public spaces. Simple changes in management can produce significant additional ecological gains.

Strategic Objectives

1. **Increase Biodiversity**

1.1 Create additional diverse habitats that support a wide range of species including insects, birds, mammals, amphibians and aquatic life.
1.2 Introduce a variety of native plants that provide year-round food sources such as nectar, pollen, seeds and berries; at an appropriate cautious pace and guided by expert advice.
1.3 Enhance structural diversity within landscapes by incorporating additional trees, shrubs, wildflowers, long grass and wetland features.
1.4 Support breeding, nesting and overwintering opportunities for wildlife across different habitat types.

2. **Improve Ecological Connectivity**

2.1 Reduce habitat fragmentation by linking parks, green spaces, waterways and roadside verges into continuous wildlife corridors.
2.2 Enable species to move safely between habitats for feeding, breeding and seasonal migration.
2.3 Integrate green and blue infrastructure into urban planning to create a cohesive ecological network.
2.4 Strengthen resilience of wildlife populations by reducing isolation and increasing genetic diversity.

3. **Restore Native Plant Communities**

3.1 Replace ornamental or low-value planting with native species that are better suited to local conditions and wildlife needs.
3.2 Re-establish traditional plant communities such as meadows, hedgerows and wetland vegetation.
3.3 Prioritise species that have strong ecological relationships with native insects and pollinators.
3.4 Reduce reliance on non-native species that offer limited ecological benefit.

4. **Improve Water Quality**

4.1 Increase aquatic and marginal vegetation to naturally filter pollutants and sediments from water bodies.
4.2 Use appropriate plants to absorb excess nutrients and improve oxygen levels in ponds, streams and rivers.
4.3 Incorporate sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) such as rain gardens and swales to manage runoff.
4.4 Enhance the ecological health of aquatic environments, supporting fish, amphibians and invertebrates.

5. **Increase Climate Resilience**

5.1 Use vegetation to reduce flood risk through natural water absorption and storage.
5.2 Provide shading and cooling in urban areas to mitigate the urban heat island effect.
5.3 Improve soil structure and moisture retention through increased plant cover.
5.4 Support ecosystems that are better able to adapt to changing climate conditions.

6. **Engage Communities**

6.1 Develop volunteer programmes that involve residents in planting, maintenance and monitoring activities.
6.2 Encourage citizen science initiatives such as butterfly counts, pollinator surveys and water quality monitoring.
6.3 Partner further with schools and community groups to deliver educational projects and outdoor learning opportunities.
6.4 Foster an increase sense of ownership and stewardship of local green and blue spaces.

7. **Reduce Long-Term Maintenance Costs**

7.1 Introduce additional sustainable management practices such as reduced mowing and naturalised planting schemes.
7.2 Lower reliance on chemical inputs including herbicides and fertilisers (noting that such reliance in the Parish is already low).
7.3 Decrease labour and operational costs through less intensive maintenance regimes where appropriate.
7.4 Create self-sustaining habitats that require minimal intervention once established.

The Importance of Native Plants

Native plants have evolved alongside native insects over thousands of years.
Many insects cannot utilise imported ornamental species.
For example:
Oak trees support over 2,000 associated wildlife species, including caterpillars of moths such as the Winter Moth and Oak Beauty, beetles like the Stag Beetle, and birds such as Blue Tits and Great Spotted Woodpeckers that feed on the abundant insect life.
Hawthorn supports hundreds of insects, including aphids, shield bugs and caterpillars of species such as the Hawthorn Moth, while its berries provide food for birds like Thrushes and Blackbirds in autumn.
Blackthorn provides early nectar for emerging pollinators such as bumblebees and solitary bees, and also serves as a larval food plant for butterflies like the Brown Hairstreak and moths such as the Blackthorn Moth.
Bird's-foot Trefoil is essential for several butterfly species, including the Common Blue, Dingy Skipper and

Six-spot Burnet moth, whose caterpillars rely on it as a primary food source, while its flowers attract a wide range of bees and other pollinating insects.
Increasing native planting directly increases food availability for wildlife

Blue Infrastructure

Pond

Where possible, ponds should contain a variety of planting zones.

1. Deep water
    - Provides refuge for fish and aquatic invertebrates during extreme temperatures and drought conditions
    - Supports submerged and oxygenating plants that improve water quality
    - Helps maintain stable water levels within ponds and wetlands
    - Creates habitat for species that require deeper, cooler water environments
2. Floating vegetation
    - Offers shade, helping to regulate water temperature and reduce algal blooms
    - Provides resting and feeding platforms for insects such as dragonflies and damselflies
    - Protects aquatic life from predators by creating cover
    - Contributes to improved water quality by absorbing excess nutrients
3. Marginal vegetation
    - Serves as critical breeding and egg-laying habitat for amphibians and dragonflies
    - Stabilises pond edges and reduces erosion
    - Provides nectar sources for pollinators including bees and butterflies
    - Acts as a transition zone between aquatic and terrestrial habitats, increasing biodiversity
4. Wet meadow
    - Supports a wide range of wildflowers that provide nectar throughout the growing season
    - Offers habitat for insects, small mammals and ground-nesting birds
    - Helps absorb excess water, reducing flood risk
    - Enhances visual appeal with seasonal colour and diversity
5. Seasonally wet grassland
    - Provides important habitat for species adapted to fluctuating water levels
    - Supports diverse plant communities that thrive in both wet and dry conditions
    - Acts as a natural buffer, filtering runoff before it enters water bodies
    - Creates feeding grounds for birds and insects during wetter periods

This creates habitat for every life stage of aquatic insects.

Commented [C1]: I'm not sure whether this is scale-appropriate for our size of pond. We don't have fish, and need to be very cautious about any plans to reintroduce them. "Deep Water zones" are also not currently applicable

Commented [C2]: This does seem more relevant to us

Commented [C3]: Not sure size and scale of pond would accommodate all of this

Recommended Aquatic Plants

Marginal

1. Marginal Plants

Marginal plants grow at the edges of ponds, streams and wetlands where water levels fluctuate. They play a crucial role in stabilising banks, reducing erosion and filtering pollutants from surface runoff before they enter the water. These plants provide essential habitat for insects, amphibians and birds, offering shelter, breeding sites and nectar sources. Their flowers are particularly valuable for pollinators such as bees, butterflies and hoverflies, while their stems and leaves create ideal egg-laying sites for dragonflies and damselflies.

- Marsh Marigold
- Water Mint
- Yellow Flag Iris

- Purple Loosestrife
- Brooklime

Commented [C4]: Worth getting 'Pond Dan's input on this

2. Floating Plants

Floating plants sit on the surface of the water and help regulate light penetration and temperature within aquatic environments. By providing shade, they reduce excessive algae growth and help maintain water quality. Their leaves offer resting platforms for insects such as dragonflies, while their roots provide shelter for fish and aquatic invertebrates. These plants also contribute to oxygen balance and create a more stable and resilient aquatic ecosystem.

- Frogbit
- White Water Lily
- Yellow Water Lily

3. Oxygenating Plants

Oxygenating plants grow beneath the water surface and are vital for maintaining healthy aquatic ecosystems. They release oxygen into the water during photosynthesis, supporting fish, amphibians and invertebrates. These plants also absorb excess nutrients, helping to prevent algal blooms and improve water clarity. Their dense underwater structure provides refuge for larvae, including dragonfly nymphs, and supports a diverse range of aquatic life at different stages of development.

- Hornwort
- Water Crowfoot
- Water Starwort

Endangered species and what they need

The programme should focus on creating habitats capable of supporting a wide range of native wildlife, grouped by their primary habitat requirements:

Terrestrial Species

Commented [C5]: This all seems reasonable, and very interesting. We probably do need more detail on which land we control in Burnham we think might be suitable to develop for each group

Pollinators

- Shrill Carder Bee – requires flower-rich grasslands with clover and undisturbed nesting areas.
- Brown-banded Carder Bee – needs wildflower meadows with abundant nectar sources and long grass for nesting.
- Solitary Bees – depend on bare soil or hollow stems for nesting and a variety of flowering plants.
- Mining Bees – require sandy or loose soil for burrowing and early spring flowers for food.
- Hoverflies – need nectar-rich flowers for adults and aphid populations for larvae.

Butterflies and Moths

- Small Blue – relies on Kidney Vetch plants for egg-laying and sunny, sheltered grasslands.
- Grizzled Skipper – needs sparse grassland with wild strawberries and bare ground.
- Common Blue – depends on Bird's-foot Trefoil and open grassy habitats.
- White-letter Hairstreak – requires elm trees for breeding and nearby nectar sources.
- Heath Fritillary (where suitable habitat can be established) – needs coppiced woodland with abundant cow-wheat.

Beetles

- Stag Beetle – requires decaying wood for larvae and undisturbed habitats.
- Violet Ground Beetles – need damp soil and leaf litter for shelter and hunting.
- Ladybirds – depend on aphid populations and flowering plants.

- Soldier Beetles – require flowers for feeding and grassy areas for larvae.

Arachnids

- Wasp Spider – needs tall grassland with good insect populations.
- Wolf Spiders – require open ground and leaf litter for hunting.
- Orb-weavers – depend on vegetation structures to build webs and abundant flying insects.
- Jumping Spiders – need sunny areas with varied surfaces for hunting prey.

Reptiles

- Common Lizard – requires sunny basking spots, rough grassland and shelter.
- Slow Worm – needs compost heaps, dense vegetation and undisturbed ground.
- Adder (where appropriate habitat exists nearby) – requires heathland or rough grassland with basking areas and cover.

Aquatic Species

Dragonflies and Damselflies

- Southern Hawker – needs clean ponds with vegetation for egg-laying.
- Emperor Dragonfly – requires large, well-vegetated water bodies.
- Broad-bodied Chaser – depends on shallow ponds with sunny margins.
- Azure Damselfly – needs still or slow-moving water with aquatic plants.
- Common Blue Damselfly – requires clean water and emergent vegetation.

Species Using Both Terrestrial and Aquatic Habitats

Amphibians

- Great Crested Newt – needs clean ponds for breeding and rough grassland or woodland for shelter.
- Smooth Newt – requires small ponds and nearby vegetation for feeding.
- Common Frog – depends on garden ponds and damp habitats.
- Common Toad – needs larger ponds and terrestrial habitats such as woodland or hedgerows.

Semi-aquatic Reptiles and Arachnids

- Grass Snake – requires ponds for feeding and rough grassland for shelter and egg-laying.
- Nursery Web Spider – needs damp vegetation near water to hunt and build nursery webs.

Sustainable Grounds Maintenance

To maximise biodiversity, the Council should consider adopting wildlife-friendly maintenance practices, including:

- **Rotational grass cutting**, whereby different sections of grassland are cut at different times of the year, ensuring that some areas are always left undisturbed to provide continuous habitat, shelter and food sources for insects, small mammals and ground-nesting species.
- **Reduced mowing frequencies in selected areas**, particularly in less formal parts of parks and verges, allowing grasses and wildflowers to grow and complete their life cycles, which supports pollinators and increases plant diversity.
- **Avoiding pesticide use unless essential**, and where intervention is necessary, prioritising targeted, environmentally sensitive methods to minimise harm to beneficial insects, soil organisms and aquatic life.
- **Leaving overwintering vegetation in place**, including long grass, stems and leaf litter, to provide vital shelter for insects, spiders and amphibians during colder months, helping to sustain populations into the following spring.

Commented [C6]: Happy to discuss with Tim these points

Commented [C7]: Already the case

- **Retaining seed heads through winter**, which not only provides food for birds and small mammals but also allows natural reseeding of wildflowers, contributing to the long-term sustainability of meadow areas.
- **Delaying meadow cuts until late summer or early autumn**, after flowering plants have set seed and pollinators have completed their life cycles, ensuring maximum ecological benefit from each growing season.
- **Leaving areas of rough grass and unmanaged margins** for reptiles and invertebrates, creating warm, sheltered microhabitats that are essential for basking, hunting and breeding.
- **Protecting amphibian breeding ponds** during spring by restricting maintenance activities nearby, avoiding disturbance to spawning areas, and ensuring that water quality and surrounding vegetation remain suitable for successful reproduction.

These measures can reduce maintenance costs while significantly increasing habitat value.

Commented [C8]: Currently none to protect

Community Engagement

The success of this initiative will rely upon active community involvement.
Suggested activities include:

- Annual Biodiversity Week.
- Community meadow planting days.
- Wildlife recording projects.
- School pond dipping sessions.
- Pollinator surveys.
- Reptile and amphibian monitoring.
- Volunteer conservation groups.
- Educational interpretation boards.
- Partnerships with local schools, environmental organisations and residents' associations.

Community participation will strengthen local ownership and foster a lasting culture of environmental stewardship.

Commented [C9]: If we get the projects office role in post these may well be possible

Monitoring and Evaluation

Progress should be monitored annually through:

Commented [C10]: This would rely on volunteers: we can't commit to this level of activity as a council

- Pollinator counts.
- Butterfly transects.
- Dragonfly surveys.
- Amphibian breeding surveys.
- Reptile refuge monitoring.
- Spider recording.
- Botanical surveys.
- Water quality assessments.
- Habitat condition reports.
- Volunteer participation statistics.

Monitoring will enable adaptive management and ensure continuous improvement.

Expected Outcomes

Within five years the programme should aim to deliver:

- A significant increase in pollinator populations.
- Improved populations of amphibians and reptiles.
- Enhanced ecological connectivity between Burnham's green spaces.
- Greater public awareness of local wildlife.

- Reduced long-term maintenance costs in selected areas.
- Improved water quality within ponds and streams.
- Increased community participation in environmental projects.
- Recognition of Burnham as a parish committed to nature recovery and sustainable land management.

Project Delivery and Long-Term Management

The majority of investment, labour and specialist ecological work will be concentrated during the first year of this programme. Following many years of limited intervention, substantial restoration is required to reverse habitat degradation, improve ecological function and establish the conditions necessary for long-term biodiversity recovery. Initial works will include ecological surveys, selective vegetation clearance, sediment assessments, water quality monitoring, habitat creation and, where supported by detailed design and the appropriate regulatory approvals, restoration of the stream and pond profiles. These activities represent the most resource-intensive phase of the programme.

As habitats become established and ecological processes recover, the level of intervention will reduce significantly. Years Two and Three will focus primarily on targeted habitat enhancement, planting and monitoring, while Years Four and Five will transition towards adaptive management, routine maintenance and community-led conservation activities. This phased approach is expected to reduce annual maintenance requirements over time, as healthy ecosystems become increasingly self-sustaining and natural processes assume a greater role in maintaining habitat quality. By the end of the five-year programme, management should consist largely of periodic monitoring, selective vegetation management, invasive species control where necessary and ongoing community engagement, providing a cost-effective and sustainable long-term model for managing Burnham's natural assets.

Conclusion

Burnham has a unique opportunity to become a model for local nature recovery by protecting and enhancing the habitats that support some of Britain's most threatened wildlife. Through practical habitat restoration, sensitive land management and strong community involvement, the Parish Council can create an interconnected landscape where insects, arachnids, reptiles and amphibians flourish alongside vibrant, accessible public spaces.

This proposal is intended as the foundation of a long-term biodiversity programme that will deliver lasting environmental, social and economic benefits for Burnham and future generations. By investing in nature today, Burnham Parish Council can help secure a healthier, more resilient landscape that reflects the community's commitment to sustainability, conservation and civic pride.

Pond future plans – excerpts from notes of working group, 10.07.26

Additional Clerk's notes from September 2026 in red

The main items from the original plan and timetable not yet done are:

- Dredging: ADK updated on this later in the meeting.
- Duck feeding machine: PB is working on this. If there isn't progress by next time it was agreed to consider alternatives such as selling seed at the hall. Next Pond WG meeting will consider this

Now agreed:

1. Duck house: It was **AGREED** to accept PBi's kind offer to purchase a duck house for the pond from Burnham Men's Shed; with the house to be named Duckingham Palace and to go on the far bank of the pond (not the island). **ACTION** PBi to contact Men's Shed and copy in ADK. now done

2. Flowers: wildflowers, or rotary crocuses offer. It was **AGREED** to accept the offer of a box of crocus bulbs from the Rotary. **ACTION** ADK to reply. **ACTION** TG to consider the potential of also buying a couple of kilograms of wildflower seeds to then discuss with ADK. **ACTION** TL to follow up a possible offer from a resident to donate/buy wildflower seeds. Crocus planting planned for late October

3. Wildlife boxes - bird and bat boxes, hedgehog box, bug hotel etc. **AGREED** these were a good idea, and could be put in place if funded. **ACTION** VN to put ADK in contact with Burnham Grammar School eco group to discuss. **ACTION** ADK to meet with Men's Shed, BP & TG on site to discuss siting when funding has been secured. Awaiting confirmation of funds.

4. Water monitoring: **AGREED** this is a good idea. **ACTION** VN to put ADK in contact with Burnham Grammar School eco group to discuss. Awaiting response (it has been the school holidays)

5. Pond plants. **AGREED** that adding plants could be a good idea once 'dredging' was dealt with, and as long as it was based on sound ecological advice. There was some uncertainty about a water lily, albeit it may work at the 'sludgy end'. **ACTION** ADK to contact the person offering the lily; if it would need to be very soon then politely decline. Still following-up the dredging.

6. Further furniture. **AGREED** an additional bench could be added if sponsored. **ACTION** LM to seek quotes for a picnic bench for ADK to discuss with the Community Board; and to keep an eye out for potential sponsors for an additional standard bench. Community board may fund if it is part of an accessibility project, rather than just for the pond.

7. Foraging project: **AGREED** this is a good idea. **ACTION** ADK to talk to Burnham Beeches about this possibility. We have made contact with the Bucks Funghi Group who are potentially interested.

8. Further bat and bird walks – **AGREED** this is a good idea. **ACTION** BP/PB to liaise about future dates. Update at next Pond WG meeting

9. Pond Newsletter. **AGREED** this is a good idea, potentially quarterly. **ACTION** PR to look into – she could collate articles and BPC could print it for the Friends of the Pond to distribute, or it could be distributed electronically (or a combination of the two). Update at next Pond WG meeting

10. Parish noticeboard. **AGREED** this could be useful for changeable notices, with BPC/Friends of the Pond/Church all having access to place notices. **ACTION** LM to seek quotes for a noticeboard for ADK to discuss with the Community Board. Community Board funding unlikely for this. Could consider from next year's Pond WG budget instead.

Deferred to a future year.

- Dipping platform. **AGREED** NFA for now

The following possible funding was discussed:

1. Further sponsorship from this year's sponsors; possibly another bench. **ACTION** ADK to contact sponsors towards the end of the year to discuss. Pending.
2. Community Board funding - more potentially available (est £1-2k?). **AGREED** potentially for a picnic bench and noticeboard **ACTION** ADK and LM to investigate and apply. As above – possible, if part of an accessibility project.
3. Donation from fundraiser at Red Lion (est £100?) **AGREED** for bird/bat boxes **ACTION** ADK to follow up. Pending.
4. Council budget – for 2027-28. **AGREED** some funds would need to be kept for any tree or maintenance work in 2027-28, but could then be spent on amenities if not spent. **ACTION** ADK to include a suitable budget line in the draft council budget for 2027-28. Line included in draft budget for committee consideration.

5. Heathrow community trust environment fund. **NOTED** ADK, LM, PB and JC meeting next week to discuss. Application going in for 'Burnham Green and Blue' 2nd September.

Written Update

- The play area working group (WG) has continued to look into the preferred option of developing a new play area at Burnham Park aimed at 8 -14 years old.
- The WG has been in contact with several play equipment companies to find out what they can offer and to get some initial estimates of costs.
- One of the companies suggested that the group put together a Wishlist of the equipment we would ideally like to see in the new play area. The group discussed this and came up with a list, considering the feedback received from the public consultations.
- The WG has also discussed working towards a bronze, silver and gold level for the play area; these would be three different levels that the group will explore. Bronze would be a realistic and achievable base level for the project. Silver would allow for a bigger budget and more equipment, while Gold would reflect a significant budget and the standard we would ideally like to achieve if more funding and other opportunities become available.
- The WG is currently having conversations with various play area organisations to find out more about what would be required.
- We are also looking into possible grant applications and sponsorship opportunities to help fund the project.
- The WG is due to visit TVAP to look at a wider range of different play equipment and to see what other options could potentially be included in the proposal.
- In terms of the size of the potential play area, we are currently looking at either $300m^2$ or $400m^2$. After a meeting with a sales manager, it was suggested that $300m^2$ could be more cost effective while still allowing enough space for a decent sized play area.
- The WG has also started speaking with local groups to see whether they may be interested in contributing towards the cost of the project.
- We are also in the process of obtaining some pre-planning advice to establish whether the proposal would require planning permission.
- The WG will look to bring a full proposal by the new year, potentially earlier depending on contractors.

Laiba Malik, Deputy Clerk