

Minutes of the Environment Committee

A meeting of the **Environment Committee** was held on **Monday 17th November 2025** at **19:00hrs** at **The Chamber Room, Bicester Town Council, The Garth, Launton Road, Bicester, Oxon OX26 6PS**

Present:

Cllr Rachel Mallows – (Chair)
Cllr Alisa Russell – (Vice Chair)
Cllr Donna Ford
Cllr Damien Maguire
Cllr Nick Mawer
Cllr Chris Pruden (left at 20:07)
Cllr Les Sibley

In Attendance:

Michael Lee (Officer)
Tanya Govorusa (Sports and Facilities Administrator)

32/ Apologies for Absence

2526 RESOLVED that apologies for absence were received from Cllr Harry Knight and Cllr John Willett.

33/ Declarations of Interest

2526 RESOLVED that no declarations of interests were received.

34/ Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting

2526 RESOLVED that Committee did **APPROVE** the Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting:

- **ENV01/2526 – Monday 16th June 2025**
- **ENV03/2526 – Monday 22nd September 2025**

35/ Public Session

2526 RESOLVED that no members of the public were present.

- Cllr raised the following prior to agenda points. Cllr requested a review / update on the Standing Order's Query.

36/ Budget 2026/2027

2526 UNRESOLVED that the Committee did **NOT APPROVE** and **NOTED** on the following Environment Committee Budget and have asked for **AMMENDMENTS**.

- Cllrs requested a recalculation / review of the Over-Spend and Under-Spend Forecast.
- Cllrs proposed that the Number's are rechecked and a suggestion was made regarding having the Spreadsheet amended to an Excel Spreadsheet with a Scientific Proven Formula.

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Signed

Dated

- Cllrs have questioned the Utilities Budget, including the following: Electric and Water. They have requested an in-depth explanation on how the Forecast was calculated.
- Cllrs noted that Water Charges for Sunderland Drive and Langford Park were not noted on the spreadsheet for Budget for 2026/2027.
- Cllrs have requested for Business Rates from Cherwell District Council.
- Cllrs have requested explanations between big variances on the spreadsheet between the budget figures from the budget verses forecast year-end and expected forecast.

37/ **Memorial Wall Update**

2526 UNRESOLVED that the Committee did **NOT APPROVE** and **STILL UNDER REVIEW** on the proposal for the Memorial Wall.

- Cllrs raised points regarding our Cemetery Records.
- Cllrs requested a Private Meeting to be briefed on the Memorial Wall Update and to be held outside of Council hours with Darren from DL Hancock LTD.
- Cllrs requested that we further investigate thoroughly regarding looking at other sites for a cemetery and sending a letter to Cherwell District Council regarding finding land for a new cemetery site.

38/ **OCC Update**

2526 RESOLVED that the Committee **COMMENTED** on the proposal regarding Household Waste and Recycling Facilities.

- Cllrs discussed the proposal regarding Household Waste and Recycling Facilities. The meeting is due to take place with Oxfordshire County Council on the 18/11/2025.

39/ **Forward Plan**

2526 RESOLVED that the Committee **APPROVED** and **COMMENTED** on the report.

- Cllrs requested more Signage implemented detailing specific age ranges for use of the Garth Park Play Area.
- Cllrs noted the Nissan Van being unusable at the moment and is currently in the garage, due to electrical faults.
- Cllrs noted the Porta Cabin regarding the disconnecting of the 3-phase power supply, due on the 28/11/2025. We can then arrange for a new 3-phase power supply to be delivered, due date early January 2026.
- Cllrs requested Polite Reminder Notices to be made for Whiteland's regarding the misuse of residents using the disabled car-parking spaces. Polite reminders will be issued out clearly stipulating that Blue-Badge Holders can only access the disabled car-parking spaces at Whiteland's. Cllrs have also requested that this matter is added as an Agenda Item to the next Sports Working Group Meeting held on Wednesday 7th January 2026.

40/ **Date of Next Meeting:**

2526 Monday 19th January 2026, at 7pm, The Council Chamber, Garth House

CLOSE OF MEETING: 20:37
