

AMBLE TOWN COUNCIL – AMENITIES COMMITTEE – November 2025

Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 27th November 2025 at 6.00pm

PRESENT: Cllr Rackham (Chair) Cllr Richards (Vice Chair), Cllr Osborne
V Smith - Minutes

47: APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE:
Cllrs Dawson, MacColl, Connolly

48: BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE:
None

49: DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:
Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda, as required by the Amble Town Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011, now or as they come up in the agenda process. Members are asked to review their completed Register of Interest forms to ensure that they are accurate and up to date. Cllr Rackham declared an interest in Allotment items.

50: PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:

In accordance with Section 1(d-g) of the ATC Standing Orders members of the public present may address the Council at this point on the agenda. The Committee reserves the right to respond or debate the issue at a later date.

There was one member of the public present, Michelle Davies.

MD requested an additional bin to be placed within the Hauxley Grange estate as she has been providing a bin liner for dog walkers for some time, and this has proven very popular.

This item was due to be discussed at 59.3 however at the Chairs discretion was moved to this point in the agenda.

NCC confirmed they were happy to include an additional bin on their rounds if it was no further up the right of way than that identified on the circulated map.

MD requested that the location was changed and access was given through the estate. Clerk to contact NCC to seek thoughts on new location.

Proposal – JR proposed to add a new bin at a cost of £436 plus VAT depending on outcome of NCC discussions.

Second – Cllr Rackham

Resolved: Clerk to discuss with NCC. Bin to be purchased and placed at NCCs agreed location.

Thanks given to MD.

51: ALLOTMENTS:

51.1 To receive a report from AAHS

The allotment report was noted. Plots that had been fore damaged are due to be looked at.

51.2 To receive an update on knotweed.

The contractor has treated the knotweed at Gloster Hill and the East Allotments.

Further treatment will possibly be required next year depending on the weather.

51.3 To discuss installing a bollard at the west allotments

Cllr Osborne to provide some links for suitable bollards.

52: AMENITIES COMMITTEE AGENDA REPORT & MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM:

52.1 Amenities Committee Agenda Report attached.

Report noted. Thanks to SM.

53: ASSETS REPORTS:

53.1 To note and discuss issues and agree any actions required from the reports.

Reports noted. Asset zones to be updated and given to NCC.

54: TOWN:

54.1 To receive an update on flower beds signage

Contractor has been in touch with staff and will visit the office to measure up.

54.2 To receive a quote to repair the coal trucks

Quotation noted however materials can be sourced direct cheaper. Contractor to be contacted to provide quotation for labour.

Resolved: Clerk to purchase materials.

55: CEMETERIES:

West Cemetery

55.1 To receive an update on unstable memorial programme

All memorials which were highlighted on the memorial safety report have now been laid down or are due to be repaired.

A contractor laid the remaining two memorial fails in October at a cost of £80

55.2 To receive an update on installation of memorials

After extensive investigation staff have determined that the high number of memorial fails within the West Cemetery predate 2005: First British Standard (BS 8415) when it made the use of approved fixing systems compulsory for new headstones.

Any memorial fails post 2005 should be investigated.

55.3 To receive a quote to repair a damaged fence

Staff / Cllr Osborne to visit

55.4 To receive an update on damaged tree

Contractor confirmed works to take place late November / early December. Staff to chase up.

East Cemetery

55.5 To receive an update on unstable memorial programme

Two of the three memorial fails have now been laid down. The third memorial fail however is unable to be laid as it is unable to be removed from the two trees it has fallen between. A refund is to be issued from the contractor for the third memorial work.

55.6 To receive an update on wall repair

Repair to be carried out using lime mortar

56: PLAY AREAS:

Paddler's Park

56.1 To receive an update on placement of a water meter or alternative.

Cllrs Rackham, Osborne and Clerk to meet on site to discuss further.

56.2 To receive an update on monthly meter readings for Water Feature

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Noted: October 4500 – November 4620

56.3 To receive an update on damaged surface repair

Staff have received a quote of £782 plus VAT to remove, repair and refix the gates which were highlighted on the recent ROSPA safety report. Quotation noted. Cllrs Rackham and Osborne to take a look at this when on Paddlers Park site visit.

56.4 To receive a quote to repair grass matting

Quotation noted. Direct purchasing is significantly cheaper, contractor to install required.

Resolved: Clerk to order materials when appropriate.

Philip Drive:

56.5 To receive a quote to repaint railings if available

The housing association has since been in touch and is arranging remedial works.

57: TOWN FURNITURE e.g., bus shelters, bins, noticeboards, seats:

57.1 To receive an update on plaque for the Radcliffe School Memorial

Contractor is calling into the office to measure for quotation.

57.2 To receive an update on the bus shelter on Acklington Road

The side panel has been installed.

57.3 To receive an update on installation of bus shelters on Percy Drive.

Ongoing with NCC and Persimmons

57.4 To receive an update on Church Street bus shelter

Initial quotation had been amended three times by contractor. Quotation and scope of works noted. In line with Council fiscal rules, additional information required from contractor.

58: COMMUNICATIONS:

None

59: AGENDA ITEMS:

59.1 To receive an update on bus shelter improvement fund

Application has been submitted for third time. Due to time lapsed since original submission much of the work has already been carried out unless the grant is retrospective. Await outcome from NCC.

59.2 To discuss memorial request

Resolved: Members agreed to one memorial covering two neighbouring plots.

59.3 To discuss additional bin request

See item 50.

59.4 To discuss over hanging branches over a memorial in the West Cemetery

Resolved: As the trees are healthy, it was agreed that these would not be cut back.

59.6 To discuss memorial within East Cemetery

Resolved: Memorial to be left as is as does not pose a danger to users.

60: INFORMATION ITEMS:

60.1 To note the most recent Paddlers Park and Philip Drive Playground Reports.

Noted

60.2 To receive an update on the King Edwin Primary School commemorative plaque

Noted – the plaque will remain in the office until it is to be installed.

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60.3 To note seat being donated has been carried out

Noted

60.4 To note installation of climb rope

Noted

60.5 To note removal of noticeboard on Links Avenue

Noted

60.6 To note refix of memorial wall plaque

Noted

60.7 To note fountain maintenance

Noted

60.8 To note water switch off at West Cemetery and Paddlers Park

Noted

60.9 To note Clock Tower drainage channel inspection report

Noted

60.10 To note replacement panel work has been carried out to the high street bus shelter

Noted

60.11 To note seat on Lindisfarne Road has been replaced

Noted with thanks

60.12 To note damaged surface repair at Paddlers Park

Noted

61: DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

The next Meeting date will be held at 6.00pm on Thursday 29th January 2025, in the Town Council Office, Top Floor, Fourways 2, Amble NE65 0DT.