



Garstang Town Council

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Garstang Scout and Guide
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Amenities & Public Realm Committee Meeting, 8th December 2025 Minutes

Present

Chairman; Councillor Pearson

Councillors present: Allan, Keyes, Halford, Hesketh and Pearson.

Also present: Town Clerk and Lengthsman.

019(2025-26) Apologies for Absence

Councillors Perkins and Webster (ex-officio members).

020(2025-26) Declaration of Interests and Dispensations

None.

021(2025-26) Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

022(2025-26) Minutes of the last meeting

A copy of the minutes of the Amenities & Public Realm Committee meeting held on 20 October 2025 had been circulated.

Resolved: The minutes of the of the Amenities & Public Realm Committee meeting held on 20 October 2025, were confirmed and signed as a true record.

023(2025-26) Chairman's report

The Chairman reflected on the recent amenity successes, including the recent improvements to the allotments and war memorial. Councillor Hesketh endorsed the comment reporting that she had seen positive comments relating to the Allotments on Facebook.

The Chairman emphasised and reminded the Committee of roles and responsibilities (summarised below).

Councillors are responsible for making council policy, but do not have executive authority.

The clerk is responsible for advising members on the making of council policy and for ensuring such policy is carried out.

All decisions are made by councillors at meetings of the council/committee.

The day-to-day management of services, facilities, and events is the responsibility of the clerk, who in turn can delegate to staff.

An up-to-date and approved delegation scheme is essential in detailing and clarifying who does what and when.

024(2025-26) Drainage – Moss Lane Playing Field

The Committee acknowledged receipt of the Moss Lane Park – Drainage and Surface Improvement Viability Report and noted Council minute 024(2025-26), 28/10/2025, Finance & Governance committee.

The Committee discussed the various quotes.

The Clerk asked the Committee to confirm the desired performance standard e.g. improved playability vs. formal sports use (as detailed in the Lengthsman's report) to assist them making their decision.

Resolved: The Committee recommends to Full Council, at its meeting on 15/12/2025, to proceed along the lines of option 1 'do minimal' of the report but just implement an improved cut frequency and review in 12 months (annual review). The Committee **further resolved** to explore the viability of outsourcing additional works to local green keepers.

025(2025-26) Moss Lane Play Area

Recommendation: Renew the play surface and security.

Councillors noted 'Surface failed; fencing rotten; gate unsafe; seating damaged' and the associated quotes for repair.

Resolved: It is recommended that Full Council, at its meeting on 15/12/2025, approve the quotation for the surface works as set out in Quote No. 1, subject to the Clerk verifying the guarantee and warranty for the works. The intention is to allocate part of the S106 funds (£29,099) towards these works.

That the Clerk makes the best efforts to seek 2 further quotes for the fencing and report back to Full Council.

026(2025-26) Moss Lane Park – Church Street Entrance

Recommendation: Address non-compliance of entrance width.

Councillors noted that the Church Street entrance is less than 1.6m minimum; chicane barrier restricts access.

Resolved: Officers to contact Lancashire County Council (LCC) Highways, County Councillor James Tomlinson and Wyre Council to seek their advice and obtain quotes to resolve if required.

027(2025-26) Kepple Lane Play Area

Recommendation: Explore options for repurposing the play area (which is owned and planned for removal by Wyre Council).

Councillors noted that the Deeds restrict use, point 2 – Kepple Lane Park Conveyance 'that the land hereby conveyed will be used by the purchases as a playing field and for no other purpose'

Resolved: The Committee agreed to wait for a response from Wyre Council, to Full Council minute 109(2025-26), before progressing any further. The Committee further resolved to ask Wyre Council what/where the play facility for the new Nateby development is.

028(2025-26) Friends of Kepple Lane Park

Recommendation: To support the establishment of a Friends group.

The Committee noted that the resident interest expressed and that a Friends group could enhance a public space. It was also noted that the group would need to operate with a self-sustaining model going forward.

Resolved: To resolve to approve the group and that any start up costs (not exceeding £500) be met by Kepple Lane EMR, which will be approved at Full Council or adhering to financial regulations point 5.15.

029(2025-26) Kepple Lane Park Working Group

Recommendation: Clarification and delegation of Working Group responsibilities.

The Committee noted the Working Group survey notes and the Roles and responsibilities of a working group.

Resolved: The Committee approved the Working Groups plan of redevelopment and that staff be tasked with enacting the plan, by bringing recommendations of detail to future meetings of Council/Committee to proceed with works. The Committee **further resolved** that Councillors Keyes and Pearson continue to be the Councillors on the Working group.

030(2025-26) Park Hill Road Rain Garden

Recommendation: That the project is submitted to LCC for progression.

The Lengthsman gave a briefing to the Committee about the project. In summary the project is viable and designed and that funding is available from United Utilities. LCC are very invested in the project.

Resolved: That the project is submitted to LCC for costing and implementation.

031(2025-26) War Memorial

Recommendation: To seek quotes and viability studies for restoration.

Councillors noted that a structural deterioration had been identified and that the Memorial was inaccessible to people with a disability.

Resolved: Staff to obtain quotes for restoration and underpinning, seek grant advice, and explore accessibility improvements. Additionally, the committee approved that a new power source be included in the quotation.

032(2025-26) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 - Exclusion of the Press and Public

To resolve that in accordance of Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

033(2025-26) Wyre Park Mowing Contracts

Recommendation: That the Kepple Lane and Moss Lane park grass cutting be delivered in-house by the Lengthsman team.

Resolved: The Committee recommends to Full Council, at its meeting on 15/12/2025, that grass-cutting services at Kepple Lane and Moss Lane parks be discontinued from 1 April 2026.

034(2025-26) Delivery of Maintenance Contracts for Lengthsman expansion scheme

Resolved: To delegate establishment and operation of maintenance contracts to Officers, except in extraordinary circumstances.

035(2025-26) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 - Re-admission of the Press and Public

To resolve that the confidential business having been concluded, the press and public be re-admitted to the meeting.

036(2025-26) Date of next meeting

The Committee discussed the viability of holding the next meeting on Monday 9th or Tuesday 10th February 2025 at 5.00pm.

Resolved: The next Amenities & Public Realm Committee meeting to be held on Tuesday 10th February 2025 at 5.00pm.

The Meeting Finished at: 8.14pm