RECREATION COMMITTEE

TWYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Held on Thursday 10th September 2026 at 7:30 PM
In the The Pavilion, Hunter Park, SO21 1QS.

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr. R. Sellars
Councillors : Cllr. S. Cook, Cllr. C. Mitchell, Cllr. J. Pain

4 members of the public

Officers : - Asst. Clerk

* Attended remotely

R01/26 Chairman's Announcements

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

R02/26 Apologies for Absence

Apologies have been received from Cllr A Forder-Stent and Cllr. S. Pullen.

R03/26 Dispensation under Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011

No dispension requests were received.

R04/26 Declarations of Interest on agenda items

No declarations of interest received.

R05/26 Approval of Minutes of previous meeting

It was Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on 14h May 2026 be approved. Propsed by Cllr Pain and seconded by Cllr Cook.

R06/26 Public Representation

Member(s) of the public addressed the committee in support of the proposal for the old cricket net area to be used for pétanque. They explained that informal use of the area had grown organically during the summer and highlighted that the old compacted hardcore surface was well draining and ideally sized for the playing of pétanque and was not an activity currently catered for in the park.

R07/26 Hunter Park

It was Resolved to change the order of business, bringing forward item 9.2.

Special Motion: Notice had been given, under Standing Order 7, by Councillors Mitchell, Sellars and Percival, to reverse a previous resolution R54/25-2 made by the committee in May 2026.

Resolved: The recission of resolution R54/25-2 made by the committee in May 2026.

Received: A report on usage of the old cricket net area.

Members were supportive of the comments made in the Public Representation and felt that the proposals in the report would make good use of the area of the old cricket nets.

Cllr Mitchell considered that the Council's Public Liability Insurance would provide adequate cover, but would like confirmation from the Clerk.

It was Resolved:

1. That there is a demand for providing a permanent pétanque, and that Officers be authorised to seek permission from the Local Planning Authority to make the relevant changes to the Planning Condition.
2. That, subject to the necessary planning permission being obtained, the two 15 meter strips be retained and improved where required, to provide a permanent area for pétanque. The remaining shorter lengths be returned to grass, with the grit redistributed onto the longer sections.

3. The Clerk would investigate the insurance position further.
4. That Officers identify an alternative location for the small football goal post.

Members of public left the meeting at 8.00pm.

R08/26 Assistant Clerk's Report

The Assistant Clerk's report was **received and noted**, attached in the appendices. The following items were highlighted:
* Members acknowledged the number of football teams using Hunter Park as their home ground and that the forthcoming reseeding of the goal areas was not expected to impact matches.
* A member was pleased that the picnic bench near the coffee pod was being replaced and requested that this be implemented as soon as possible.
* Members expressed their satisfaction with the new palisade bollard fencing installed at Northfields.
* The Assistant Clerk confirmed that all chemicals in the Pavilion are kept in a locked COSHH cupboard for safety of all Pavilion users.

R09/26 Maintenance

The maintenance report was **received and noted,** attached in the appendices.
The addition of two minor items to the maintenance list was requested in relation to the car park: a piece of loose timber edging requiring fixing, and the removal of a pole set in a concrete base, with the surface to be made good following its removal. The Assistant Clerk would add these items to the maintenance list.

R10/26 Hunter Park

1. Pump Track
A report on the provision of a pump track at Hunter Park was **received and considered**. Members discussed the benefits of a pump track and acknowledged that facilities are currently provided for younger and older members of the community, but that there is limited provision for children aged approximately 8 - 13. Members were generally supportive of investigating the options and associated costs, although Northfields was suggested as a potentially more appropriate location.

It was Resolved that Officers investigate the options and associated costs and report back to a future meeting, including exploring potential grant funding that may be available.

2. Tree Planting
A report was **received and considered**. Members welcomed the proposal to plant two walnut trees at Hunter Park, but expressed concern that they be planted in suitable locations.

It was Resolved to purchase two good-sized walnut trees and Officers to seek professional advice on the most appropriate locations within the park.

R11/26 Pavilion

A report was **received and noted**. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that two cleaning contractors had been approached and that two quotes had been received.

The decision to appoint 1st Klas Cleaning Services Ltd to provide weekly cleaning services at Hunter Park Pavilion at a cost of £40 per week, with effect from 10th September 2026, **was formally ratified**. It was also noted that the initial deep clean would cost £160 and should be carried out annually.

R12/26 Trees

A report was **received and considered** together with the Visual Tree Assessment carried out at Hunter Park and Northfields. Members **noted** the VTA and acknowledged the detailed information provided and the recommended works. It was also noted that the immediate ation to remove a bench and rope swing at Hunter Park had already been completed.

It was Resolved:

1. To approve the tree works identified in the VTA at Northfields and Hunter Park, as detailed on pages 22 and 23 of the report.
2. That officers would obtain quotations and appoint a suitably qualified and insured tree surgeon to undertake the required works.

R13/26 Play Inspection Reports

The Play Inspection Reports were **received and noted.** The Assistant Clerk confirmed that the

fence at Northfields, identified in the report as requiring replacement, had since been replaced.

R14/26 Lengthsman

The Assistant Clerk confirmed that all submitted works had been completed by the Lengthsman in August. The next visit would take place on 4th November and Members were asked to submit jobs to the Assistant Clerk by 20th October. A reminder would be sent to Members.

R15/26 Budget

Members considered items for inclusion in 2027/28 budget:

* resurfacing of driveway entrance to Hunter Park, to include speed bumps
* marking of car park bays at Hunter Park
* provision of a pump track
* replacement of steps at Hunter Park by allotments
* replacement of fencing around play area at Hunter Park

R16/26 Future Agenda Items

An update on the new information sign at entrance to Hunter Park.
Update on old cricket net area and progress of Petanque area
Position of small football goal

The meeting closed at 8.52pm.