

Minutes of Meeting: TOWN ENVIRONMENT MEETING
Date and Time: Wednesday 10 September 2025, 7pm
Venue: Kings Court Community Centre, Southwell

Present: L Harris (Chair), G Adams, P Harris, P Rainbow, P Brooker, K Roberts, J Bostock,

Cllr J Berridge attended as a member of the public (not on Committee) and was invited to take part in discussions only.

Susan Stack – Locum Minuting Clerk

No public present

The Council noted that neither the newly appointed Locum Clerk or the Deputy Clerk were available for this evening's meeting. It was proposed and RESOLVED that Sue Stack (recommended to us by Notts ALC) be appointed to act as Clerk for the purposes of this meeting. The Council further noted that the matter of payment of her invoice will be placed on the agenda of the next full Council meeting for formal approval.

MINUTES

25/09/01 Apologies for absence:

Cllr S Perry.

25/09/02 To receive any declarations of interest

Member of the Rugby Club (J Berridge)

25/09/03 Approval of Minutes of previous meetings

03.1 Town Environment Committee Minutes 9th July 2025

It was resolved to approve the minutes (P Brooker, P Rainbow) Cllr P Harris had concerns on the clarity of wording of some items within closed session.

03.2 Matters arising

Some items from the last meeting are not on the agenda but they will be on the Full Council agenda.

Jamie was thanked for this efforts on upcoming event.

A five year plan for play area refurbishment needs to be created - request for an audit of existing equipment and expected lifespan noted

Thanks given to Peter Brooker for the Comms Group

Timetable for Comms and articles was clarified for the Bramley. The October edition needs to include the town's Christmas Market arrangements.

Riverside nature plan and grant funding, query as to if it was ongoing and progress – clarification needed (G Adams to undertake)

25/09/04

Chair's report and announcements:

Polaris branding was thought inappropriate. Cllr P Harris is aware of the rejection of this when it came to the Council

With the town growing and the Council with it the Environment Committee has a lot to cover under its remit and with not enough time to get things done. It is important that we liaise more and Cllr G Adams is going to look at and take the lead on meetings on Parks and Open Spaces. Cllr L Harris will concentrate on the Town centre and Market area matters. The members were generally supportive of trying the new initiative.

Meeting with Alison Thomas from the Economic Development group at NSDC is taking place to discuss grant opportunities open to the Council with a view to us becoming more proactive with future applications. The role of the Clerk and Deputy Clerk is important in this process.

25/09/05

Opportunity for questions from Councillors and Members of the Public

No public present

Cllr Rainbow reported that tenancy officers along with residents walk around the residential estates such as Kings Court. They report that weeds are not being removed especially around the garages. They are aware that some chemicals are not permitted by the Council and they want to know what they can use – it was clarified that any non-glyphosate product would be acceptable. Suggested that the internet may be useful. Cllr L Harris to report back to Cllr Rainbow.

The Wheatsheaf – it was agreed that they have the structure. The structure will be half a metre shorter and will not be skewed this year. The noise will be switched off at 9.30pm – one band is noisy and they sent a note to the resident on King Street and Kings Court to tell them it was happening with a voucher for a free drink as a compensation. The Christmas Market had 3 stalls last year, all happy, and the same could be done this year. It was suggested that something should be put in writing for future years including terms and conditions set down by the Town Council. Licencing issues – the landlord must ensure that his licence is up to date and we have to ensure that we do not ask him to contravene this whilst encouraging his contribution.

25/09/06

To note and accept recent working group notes

6.1 Market and Events Working Group

The minutes were noted. Cllr P Harris Clarified that a PA system was found (untested) in the building. Requires a 13A socket which can be sourced from a neighbour on Remembrance Sunday. Cllr P Harris will test and report back

6.2 Climate and Nature Working Group

The minutes were noted. Cllr P Brooker was concerned at the use of acronyms contained within the minutes – glossary needs to be included

25/09/07

Proposal: To accept STC's Environmental Policy – previously circulated

Cllr P Brooker was thanked for his efforts on the policy. It was agreed that Cllr Brooker would make any changes identified by the Councillors during the

meeting and the resultant document was accepted to be circulated to the Chairman (P Brooker K Roberts)

25/09/08

To recommend that CAN prepare a draft Environmental Policy implementation plan - see CAN meeting notes

Refers to Section C of the policy in minute 25/09/07. Cllr G Adams gave an overview of the current situation and reported that CAN have indicated that they can prepare a streamlined implementation plan for us. It was resolved to accept the offer (G Adams J Bostock)

It was suggested that other members/groups who have similar objectives are invited to work with CAN – Terms of Reference to be reviewed at the next meeting to confirm/accommodate this.

25/09/09

9.1 Proposal to accept the Pitch Power report and commence the work Previously circulated

Updates:

Cllr L Harris has contacted Andy Hardy from District Council reference funding – Football Foundation covers 2/3 of total cost, front loaded 100%, 100%, 66%, 66%, 33%, 33% after which the Council will be responsible for all costs.

Football Foundation will get the pitches to standard, STC will have to maintain that standard. By the time we get to years 7-10 the standard of the pitches will make it much easier to maintain.

Cllr J Berridge reported that the Rugby club have offered to assist the Council with the process as they have been through it.

Cllr P Harris reminded the Council that anything we do must be as a “Park” not a “Football Pitch”. Additional cost should fall on users of the pitch and not users of the park and ensure that the rules in any agreement need to be enforced.

There is a report in the Bramley advertising for what would be additional use on the memorial ground pitches for junior sessions – Councillors were not aware or consulted on this.

There was concern about controlling future over-use and that failure could result in funding being withdrawn/claimed back. Communications to a local club have been blatantly ignored regarding overuse and there was discussion on what the Council can do about it (e.g. sanctions). Cllr J Berridge reported that the lease has expired and there is no automatic right of renewal contained in it. The problem is enforcement and control. A meeting is needed with the management of the Club concerned – Cllr L Harris to arrange.

The report was accepted. (L Harris K Roberts)

9.2 Proposal to apply for grants to pay for combination turf grooming tool and deep slitter – Previously circulated

Cllr P Harris reported that the current prime mover will not cope long term to pull the additional equipment and this needs to be taken into account. Would we hire in?

Cllr J Berridge reported that this type of equipment spends the majority of time in storage and could we work with the other clubs to share services and equipment instead - he would be willing to make introductions

Cllr P Brooker suggested that we run the grant applications and sharing options concurrently.

It was resolved to defer application for the grant but research sharing options with other groups and look into machinery to pull it, storage etc (K Roberts J Bostock)

- 25/09/10** **To discuss the request for pitch space by Southwell United Rugby Club**
- STC discussed this request and it was felt that due to the current condition of the pitches and prior commitment to the football club, we are unable to accommodate the Rugby Club at this time, but will reconsider when the pitches are in a better condition or circumstances change.
- It was noted that historically the Rugby Club used the top pitch, giving it back to help accommodate football subject to them having space on the Moorfield Court being built.
- Cllr J Berridge suggested land acquisition to accommodate more pitches south of the village may be a solution and could it be asked of owners, Notts CC. Cllr J Berridge was tasked to get a proposal from the Rugby Club as to what they are looking for from the Council
- 25/09/11** **Himalayan Balsam eradication Proposal to write to specific landowners – previously circulated**
- It was resolved for the Clerk to write to three landowners who have not taken action to remove the Balsam, including a deadline for action subject to time of year (up to May 2026) The letter should include a PDF file held of advice on its removal. (G Adams K Roberts)
- 25/09/12** **Parks and Open spaces**
- 12.1 Azolla update – verbal**
- The Weavels have been in clearing it free of charge
- 12.2 Squires Pond blue/green algae update -verbal**
- The data collected by a company has been lost by them and further updates are being sought.
- 25/09/13** **Proposal from the Market and Events Working Group to buy a portable JBL Eon One Compact all in one Rechargeable Personal PA speaker system with microphones and stands. – previously circulated**
- It is a portable system (no supply needed).
- It was resolved to make the purchase with the addition of a rain cover within the budget set but that we will still pursue a grant towards it. (P Harris P Brooker)
- 25/09/14** **Items for Communication**
- It was agreed that the work to clear Squire’s Pond of Azolla and blue – green algae, as well as the Pitch power decision, to be publicised
- 25/09/15** **Items for discussion at next meeting**
- Playground equipment audit and future plan
- 25/09/16** **Date of next meeting Wednesday 12th November 2025**
- Noted along with thanks to the locum Clerk, Susan Stack.

Chair – Cllr L Harris 10/09/2025

Clerk – S Stack