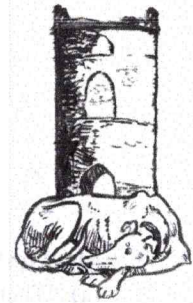


Tidmarsh Millennium Green Trust

Charity No. 1074140



Tidmarsh Millennium Green Trust Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting Held on Wednesday, 14th May 2025 at 7.35p.m. in Tidmarsh Village Hall

Members Present	
Ms. Solvej Biddle (SB)	Chairperson
Cllr Jon Dunn (JD)	Trust representative (Parish Council is Trustee)
Cllr Mark Farrington (MF)	Trust representative (Parish Council is Trustee)
Cllr Sima Elliot (SE)	Trust representative (Parish Council is Trustee)
Cllr Bronwyn Wynne (BW)	Trust representative (Parish Council is Trustee)
Cllr Jonathan Pearson (JP)	Trust representative (Parish Council is Trustee)
Cllr Jon Chishick (JC)	Trust representative (Parish Council is Trustee)
Members' Apologies for Absence	
Mr. Jon Murby (JM)	Groundsman
In Attendance	
Mrs. Wendy Rapley (WR)	Clerk
2 Members of the Public	

Agenda Item	Discussion of Item & Decisions	Action on
	The Chair opened the meeting at 19.35p.m; she welcomed those present including the new Clerk, Mrs. Rapley, to her first meeting.	
MC26/01	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from JM, due to work commitments; he had submitted a report which would be read out and reviewed later in the meeting.	
MC26/02	Declarations of Interest The Members present confirmed there were no new Interests to declare.	
MC26/03	Approval and signature of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Wednesday, 12 March 2025 The minutes from the previous meeting of the Tidmarsh Millennium Green Trust Management Committee ("the TMGT Committee") of Wednesday, 12 th March 2025 were produced to the Meeting. MOTION: Proposed by SE and seconded by MF: "That the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 th March 2025 be approved as an accurate record and be signed by the Chairperson". The Motion was put to the meeting and duly RESOLVED . The Minutes were subsequently signed, and each page initialled by the Chairperson. ACTION: The Clerk was requested to ensure the signed Minutes were placed in the Minutes book and posted to the Parish Website.	WR
MC26/04	Review and update on Tasks List (1) Clarification of Southern Boundary to Millennium Green & responsibility for clearance of encroaching shrubbery - SB had spoken with the Land Registry and obtained a copy of the Title Deeds to her property in an effort to establish clarification of the exact boundary line between her property and Millennium Green and the responsible party for maintenance either side of it; having looked at the Title Deeds, it would appear there was not a "T" mark shown which would clearly indicate both the boundary and responsibility and ownership of the fence, which constitutes a boundary between her property and Millennium Green. - A discussion ensued during which: - concerns were raised at the lack of boundary definition; SB confirmed her belief that the fence constituted the boundary line and she was its owner. - a question was raised as to whether the traditional definition of a boundary responsibility could be adopted i.e. if the "good side" of a fence was facing in towards the property, then	

the property owner would be deemed its owner and be responsible for the maintenance of its structure and clearance of any shrubbery affecting any adjacent property or land located on the other side of the fence.

- a query was raised as to whether the Land Registry may have changed the boundary line at the time when the Church originally sold SB's property to the first purchasers; given the historic nature of this event, this was unlikely to be clarified.

MOTIONS: Proposed by JC, seconded by BW:

- (a) "That the fence situated and delineating in a East/West direction between the Millennium Green and the property of SB constitutes the boundary between the two with SB being the fence's owner.
- (b) "That as a result of (a), SB assumes responsibility for the maintenance of the fence, and for the maintenance of any shrubbery growing on her side of the fence, but that the Tidmarsh Millennium Green Trust would be responsible for the maintenance of any shrubbery growing on the Millennium Green side of the fence, including ensuring none encroaches onto SB's property."

The Motions were put to the Meeting and were duly **RESOLVED**.

ACTION: The GPS function on a mobile phone should be used to establish the exact location of the east and west ends of the south boundary fence located between SB's property and the Millennium Green, as a means of recording TMGT Committee's and Parish Council's agreed understanding as at the date of this meeting of the boundary line between SB's property and the Millennium Green; JP committed to undertaking this exercise and sending confirmation of the result to the TMGT Committee.

JP

(2) Progress of repair/replacement of wooden play equipment (as highlighted by RoSPA in 2024)

In the light of the recent RoSPA Play Safe inspection report following RoSPA's inspection of 24th April 2025, the TMGT Committee discussed this at the same time as the review of RoSPA's recent inspection report (see MC26/06).

MC26/05 Groundsman's Report

JM had circulated a short report to the TMGT Committee on 12th May 2025, highlighting the following:

- The potential cordoning off with immediate effect of the basket swing due to the securing bolt in the main beam of the swing having come loose; he proposed repairing it by the end of the same week.
- The need to consider replacement of the wooden play equipment and benches due to deterioration in condition.
- Confirmation that all regular maintenance, including taking on the adjacent bank areas owned by the Council, was progressing well, with the mowers and strimmer fully functioning.
- Future tasks to be carried out, subject to the Committee's approval, namely:
 - a) To spray the grass to address weed growth with a professional weed killer that would not kill grass and would be safe for pets and children.
 - b) Trimming the hedge which overhangs from Lawrence House.
 - c) Removal and destruction of remaining tree and clearance debris in the far front corner of the Green in the Autumn.
 - d) Trimming of the shrub area behind the wild flowers meadow.
 - e) Inspection of wooden benches and their bases.
 - f) Prioritisation of the play swing repairs.
 - g) Minor repairs to the climbing frame and slide.
 - h) Felling and removal of the dead tree next to the oak lychgate entrance.

The TMGT Committee considered the Groundsman's Report; concern was raised that any professional weedkiller used to tackle the weeds should not be detrimental to pollinating insects, including bees.

MOTION: Proposed by BW, seconded by JC:

"That the Groundsman should be instructed to tackle all tasks as set out from (a) to (h), as well as to tackle weedkilling, provided that any professional weedkiller used would not be detrimental to pollinating insects nor harmful to pets and children."

The Motion was put to the Meeting and was unanimously **RESOLVED**.

ACTION: The Clerk to instruct the Groundsman on TMGT Committee's decision and approval to future tasks as set out at (a) to (h), subject to the caveat regarding the type of professional weedkiller to be used i.e. not harmful to pollinating or other insects, pets or children.

WR

MC26/06 RoSPA Play Safe Inspection Report arising from Inspection of Play Equipment on 24th April 2025

RoSPA had carried out an inspection of the play equipment on 24th April 2025 and an inspection report had been received; arising from that inspection and report, the TMGT Committee reviewed the report and the following points were raised at the meeting:

- The Groundsman had noticed on 11th May that one of the bolts on the top beam of the basket swing was coming loose and had brought this to the TMG Committee's attention; to address Health & Safety concerns, the swing's basket seat had been removed whilst a more permanent solution was being arranged.

SB

- Having reviewed RoSPA's report, it appeared from looking at their photographs of the basket swing that the bolt was coming loose at the time of their inspection, yet the report had not identified this which was disappointing and had triggered a lack of confidence in RoSPA's diligence in its inspections.
- A further inspection had been carried out of the equipment by MF and JP; both identified parts of the wooden structures which required wood preservation treatment to prolong their lifespan.
- A suggestion was made for a new timber beam to be sourced and used as a replacement for the top beam of the basket swing to be installed at a later date, with an interim measure to be undertaken of making safe and repairing the loose bolt on the basket swing.
- Recognition was given to the insurance ramifications if such repairs were carried out by either the members of the TMG Management Committee or by professional firms, who were likely to be covered by product and public liability insurance covers; a professional inspection by a reputable firm to determine the nature and extent of repairs required was proposed although JP challenged the validity or worth of any qualifications or accreditations.
- Clarification was sought as to whether there was a legal requirement for the play equipment to be subject to annual inspections; it was thought that such inspections may be a condition imposed by the Millennium Green's insurers.
- Consideration was given to appointing a new inspection firm to conduct annual inspections and for the TMG Committee to seek reimbursement from RoSPA in respect of their invoice which had recently been paid due to the Committee's perceived view of poor inspection performance.

MOTIONS:

(a) Proposed by SE, seconded by JD

"That a letter be sent to RoSPA from the TMG Trust expressing disappointment in the quality of RoSPA's inspection and their report's findings, especially in the light of the inspection not having identified the loose basket swing bolt in its top beam, and requesting full reimbursement of the invoice amount."

The Motion was put to the Meeting and was **RESOLVED**.

ACTION: The Clerk should arrange for a letter to be sent to RoSPA from the TMG Trust expressing disappointment in the quality of RoSPA's inspection and their report's findings.

WR

(b) Proposed by JP, seconded by MF

"That a direct replacement for the top beam of the basket swing be sourced for installation at a later date, this to be carried out as part of a wider exercise in obtaining quotations for a professional firm to inspect and identify required repairs to the wooden play equipment (both in the short-term and longer term) and provide quotations to TMG Committee as well as details of their insurances and qualifications.

The Motion was put to the Meeting and was **RESOLVED**.

ACTIONS:

- JP to source a provider of a replacement new top beam, with a quotation, for the basket swing and revert with details by the next meeting.
- MF to research possible firms to inspect and identify required repairs to the wooden play equipment and obtain quotations.

JP

MF

(c) Proposed by SE, seconded by JD

"That the TMG Committee should commence the process for appointing a new inspection firm to carry out annual inspections of the play equipment, having regard to any insurance or legal conditions imposed."

The Motion was put to the Meeting and was **RESOLVED**.

ACTION: To commence the process of appointing a new inspection firm to carry out annual inspections of the play equipment, having regard to any insurance or legal conditions imposed.

MC26/07 Events

(1) VE Day Celebration

- The TMGT Committee discussed the recent VE Day celebratory event on the Millennium Green, held on Thursday 8th May, which had been well-received and enjoyable; the Chairperson thanked all those involved in its organisation, especially BW, Colin Pawson and the local Rector, the Rev'd Mark Hopkins.
- The Pangbourne Silver Band which had entertained at the event, were to play at Pangbourne College for its Classic Car Show on 31st May 2025; Members were encouraged to tell others of the Band's next performance or attend themselves.
- Photographs taken at the VE Day celebrations were being collated and an article with photographs would be published in the next edition of the Parish Magazine.

ACTION: The TMGT Committee to be updated on the publication of the article regarding the recent VE Day celebrations.

BW

(2) Possible future events

Consideration was given to organising other events on the Millennium Green before the end of 2025:

SB

- a) A Victory over Japan Day celebration in August to mark the 80th anniversary of the surrender of Imperial Japan in World War II, but this had been discarded due to difficulties in organising such an event in the main holiday season.
- b) A Christmas Carol Service: this idea was being progressed and was planned for December 2025.
- c) The Village Hall Committee had suggested the reinstatement of a Tidmarsh with Sulham Village Fair to be held in 2026 on the Millennium Green; the TMGT Committee believed this to be an excellent idea but recognised the difficulties posed in respect of available parking for visitors and stallholders, although a field on Tidmarsh Lane could potentially be used as a car-park, as well as the need to source a mains electricity supply for use by participants, stall-holders, et al.

ACTIONS:

- 1) An update on the proposed Christmas Carol service to be held on the Millennium Green should be provided at the next meeting in July, including details of any key participants and arrangements. **BW**
- 2) The initiative for the reinstatement of a Tidmarsh with Sulham Village Fair to be held on the Millennium Green in 2026 should be more fully explored as a viable event and for an update on its viability, organisation, parking, electrical supply sources, and stall-holders, participants to be provided at the next meeting. **BW**

MC26/08 Items for the Next Meeting/New Items

No items except for updates on Actions recorded earlier in the Minutes; however, a new item of business was raised at this meeting.

(1) Hedge Trimming between Barn Cottage and Millennium Green

- The new occupants of Barn Cottage, adjacent to the Millennium Green, had requested via the Chairman whether the Groundsman would be able to trim the hedge between their property and the Green as it was too high.
- The Committee was informed that it was believed the legal maximum height for hedges along boundary line was 2.4 metres, so as not to obstruct neighbours' light or view; however, one of the members of the public provided an historical background to this particular property stating that the previous occupants had desired the hedge to be kept higher in order to afford them greater privacy.

MOTION: Proposed by JD, Seconded by ?

"That the Groundsman be requested to trim the hedge to a more reasonable height located between Barn Cottage and the Millennium Green."

The Motion was **RESOLVED**.

ACTION: The Groundsman should be requested to trim the hedge between Barn Cottage and the Millennium Green. **WR**

MC26/09 Date of the Next Meeting

It was proposed for the next TMGT Management Committee Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 9th July 2025 at 19.30 in Tidmarsh Village Hall, prior to the Parish Council Meeting.

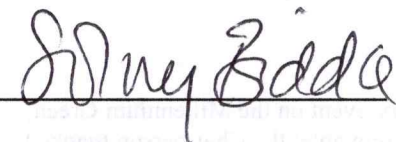
IT WAS RESOLVED for the next TMGT Management Committee Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 9th July 2025 at 19.30.

Cllr SE tendered her apologies for this meeting.

MC26/10 Close of Meeting

The Meeting closed at 20.10.

Signed:



(Chair)

Date: 9th July 2025