



The Old School House  
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These are the minutes of the Amenities Committee on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.00pm in the Old School Hall. Members of the press and public are welcome to attend.

## MINUTES

		Legal Power/ Budget Heading
1	Apologies for absence – Cllrs Gadsby, Mulcrone, Morgan, Bingham	
2	Minutes of last meeting dated – 26 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 - Approved	
3	Matters arising from previous minutes – Item 25 Restricted Lines at Middlefield Road – this has been approved and will go ahead in November 2023	
4	Members Declaration of Interest for agenda items - None	
<p>Public Forum: If residents of Sawtry wish to speak on any item on the agenda (max 3 mins) the meeting will be suspended for a 10-minute open forum. If you wish to speak, please inform the Clerk or the Chairman at least 24 hours before the meeting. One member of the public attended</p>		
5	<p>Allotments – Lead Councillor – Cllr White</p> <p>5.1 Update – There has been a big improvement since the inspections have been carried out monthly, still a few areas of concern to be addressed but overall, both sites are looking good.</p> <p>5.2 Lease agreement – Cllr White will draft a new version of the lease agreement and will forward on to the clerk.</p> <p>5.3 Plot size – Will look at the option of splitting some plots into half plots depending on availability.</p>	Smallholdings and Allotments Act 1908
6	<p>Green Spaces – Lead Cllr White</p> <p>6.1 Update – Areas looking in good condition and well maintained. Cllr Sanderson is looking into options for rewilding when the Parish Council take over the extra 14 grass verges from Highways next April.</p>	Open Spaces Act 1906
7	<p>Play Areas – Lead Councillor – Cllr Whittaker</p> <p>7.1 Update – St Judith’s is looking good with all the new equipment down there; Green End Road has recently had new swings fitted in accordance with our recent safety inspection.</p>	LGA 1972
8	<p>Cemeteries – Lead Councillor – Cllr Tuplin</p> <p>8.1 Update on St Andrew’s drainage – The CDS group have advised due to changes to the plans to incorporate the drainage in the car park and delays out of the Parish Council’s control, they have submitted a further invoice for the extra work and the tender process – however we are still awaiting confirmation from the Middle Level drainage Board that the work has been completed by Spirotech, once that has been confirmed we can make a start.</p>	LGA 1972
9	<p>Benches/Bus Shelters – Cllr White</p> <p>9.1 Update – The Bus Shelter on the Green is still causing concern; this has now been escalated to the Police for further action. Cllr Sanderson raised concerns regarding the Bus Shelter by the</p>	LGA 1953

	Cooperative Funeral building, with cars driving on the pavement in front of the bus shelter to park up at John Green's – The Clerk will raise the concern with Highways.	
10	Working Party - Accessibility around the village – Cllr Bingham  10.1 Update from Cllr Sanderson – just held the latest meeting to go through budget requirements for next year, also have had one new member of the public join the working party.	
11	Planters – Lead Councillor – Cllr Sanderson 11.1 Tom Gosling - Litter / Eco Sawtry Plan – Update from Cllr Sanderson, The Eco Sawtry Plan is aimed more for trying to control the litter problem in the village, looking to arrange a walk around the village with Tom and the Clerk for potential areas for Biodiversity. Currently grant funding of £8000 to improve biodiversity in the land near Bill Hall Way. Some of the planters need repairing or replacing and will be looking to re soil and potentially use some rocks for future.	
12	Highways Grass Verges – Update Clerk, The Parish Council will be maintaining 14 extra grass verges from April 2024 that have been passed down by Highways – The Clerk recommends we cut these the same amount of times as Highways which is currently 3 times a year and arrange further cuts if needed.	
13	Budget 2024/25 Budget requests – Green End Road play park phase 2 Accessible Wheelchair – To come out of the Accessibility Budget New Speed signs as you enter the village. New Kick Wall at St Judiths. Solar Panels Old School Hall and Greenfield sports pavilion. Defibrillators.	
14	5 Year plan – to identify Medium to long term projects. Red K6 Phone Box	
15	Date of next meeting – TBC	

Steve Browning

Clerk to the Council/Proper Officer

Committee: Cllr Rose (Chairman)Gadsby, Mulcrone, Potter, Sanderson, Tuplin, White, Whittaker, Bingham, Morgan