

Minutes of the Meeting of the Open Spaces Committee
held on Tuesday 17 March 2026 at 7:30pm
in the Council Chamber, Town Hall

Councillors present: Cllr Danny Bonnett (Chair)
Cllr Chris Bloor
Cllr Christine Carter
Cllr Chris Davies
Cllr Fiona Deas
Cllr Chris Rowe
Cllr Chris Woodhouse

Officers present: Wendy Sydenham (Deputy Clerk)

Councillors absent: Cllr Gil Gilroy

OS2526.74 TO CONSIDER ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Gil Gilroy.

OS2526.75 TO RECEIVE ANY MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no members' declarations of interest.

OS2526.76 TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20 JANUARY 2026

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the minutes of the Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on 20 January 2026, and they were signed by the Chair.

OS2526.77 TO RECEIVE ANY REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no members of the public present.

OS2526.78 TO RECEIVE A REQUEST FROM THORNBURY IN BLOOM TO PLACE SPONSORSHIP BOARDS ON ROCK STREET GARDEN

The following was **RESOLVED** unanimously:

- To allow Thornbury in Bloom to place one sponsorship board on Rock Street Garden, appropriately sized for the space and designed to blend in as much as possible with the surroundings e.g. green background, with the final design to be agreed with officers.
- The sign can name multiple sponsors, with one of them being Thornbury Town Council.
- An agreement should be put in place between the Town Council and Thornbury in Bloom to cover the placement of the sign (as detailed in the officer report).

OS2526.79 TO AGREE A LIST OF ADDITIONAL STREET AND MAINTENANCE WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT AROUND THE TOWN BY SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to request the following additional works be completed by South Gloucestershire Council:

- Cutting back of hedging at the north side of the tarmacked section of the skatepark.
- Cutting back of the hedging along Gloucester Road, by the old sixth form building, where the hedging encroaches onto the pavement.
- Roughly along the length of Streamside Walk, cutting back of trees where they encroach onto street lighting, particularly (a) outside Gillingstool Primary School, (b) around the grounds of Crossways School, and (c) near to the Anchor Pub where the Streamside Walk comes off Gloucester Road behind Charles Close.

It was further **RESOLVED** unanimously that Councillors should inform the Deputy Clerk of any other items that they wished to add to the list before Tuesday 24 March 2026, at which point the final list would be supplied to South Gloucestershire Council.

OS2526.80 TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON WORKS TO THE UNDERGROUND CULVERT ON OAKLEAZE GREEN

The Deputy Clerk informed the Committee that there had been some flooding reported around the path leading from Gillingstool to Oakleaze Green. The underground culvert beneath that pathway, which continues along the back of Oakleaze Green and the back of Elmdale Crescent, was currently being examined to check if any issues with the covert were contributing to the flooding. Further information would be provided to the Committee in due course.

OS2526.81 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE STREAMLEAZE PLAY AREA REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

- **To note the changes to the project timetable and the requirement for an extraordinary meeting for the contract award**

The Committee noted the amended project timetable, as provided with the meeting papers, and the resulting requirement for an extraordinary meeting to consider awarding the contract. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the extraordinary meeting would take place on Thursday 2 April 2026 at 7.30pm.

- **To agree arrangements for the public consultation phase of the project**

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the public consultation phase would involve an online survey as well as a face-to-face survey taking place as part of the Love Thornbury/Thornbury In Bloom event on Saturday 2 May 2026.

OS2526.82 TO CONFIRM AGREEMENT WITH THE PROVISIONAL DATES FOR OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN THE 2026/2027 CIVIC YEAR

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to agree to the provisional dates for Open Spaces Committee meetings as set out in the draft 2026/2027 civic year meetings schedule.

OS2526.83 TO REVIEW THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL

The Committee reviewed the draft updated Terms of Reference (which had been circulated with the meeting papers) and **RESOLVED** unanimously to recommend them to Full Council for agreement.

OS2526.84 TO REVIEW THE RISKS AND MITIGATIONS OWNED BY THE OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL'S RISK REGISTER 2026, FOR RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL

The risks and mitigations owned by the Open Spaces Committee as set out in the draft Risk Register 2026 were reviewed and it was **RESOLVED** unanimously to recommend these to Full Council for acceptance, with one amendment:

- The mitigations for the risk regarding the skatepark should include some additional detail – the predicted lifespan advised by RoSPA, the anticipated completion date for the new skatepark and confirmation that the existing risks would be mitigated by the new skatepark.

OS2526.85 TO CONSIDER QUOTES FOR THE ANNUAL DEEP CLEAN OF THE TENNIS COURTS

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the quote from Dragon Courts for £1150.00 + VAT for the deep clean of the two public tennis courts.

OS2526.86 TO CONSIDER QUOTES FOR ANNUAL FOOTBALL PITCH MAINTENANCE

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the quote from CPS Grounds for £7254.50 + VAT for annual football pitch maintenance works.

OS2526.87 TO NOTE THAT THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ITEMS TO THE DEPUTY CLERK FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT AGENDA IS WEDNESDAY 6 MAY 2026

The deadline for submission of items to the Deputy Clerk for inclusion in the next agenda was noted to be Wednesday 6 May 2026.

OS2526.88 TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY 19 MAY 2026

The date of the next meeting was noted to be Tuesday 19 May 2026.

The meeting closed at 20.15.