



**Minutes of the Parks Committee held in the Market Hall, The Square  
on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at 17:30**

**Present:** Councillors; H. Parker, J. Allen, D. De ste Croix, D. Cole,  
J. Hutchings, N. Kenneally, J. Tadman

**In Attendance:** Town Clerk (TC), Assistant to the Town Clerk (ATTC)

**Absentees:** Councillor L. Piper

**1652. Apologies for Absence**

Councillors S. Preston.

**1653. Declaration of interests**

Councillor H. Parker asked that councillors declare any interests as they arise.

Councillor J. Hutchings declared an interest under Agenda Item 8, Minute Number 1626.

**1654. Public open question time**

No members of public present.

**1655. Parks' Meeting Minutes** – To agree and sign the Minutes of the Parks' Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the Parks Committee meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2025. Page 307, Item 1617 : To amend wording to aid clarity.

**Councillor J. Tadman proposed that the minutes of committee meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2025 be signed as a true record with amendment and be agreed. This was seconded by Councillor D. Cole and approved. (5 For, 2 Abstentions, 0 Against).**

**1656. Matters Arising** – To consider matters arising from the minutes of 10th September 2025. No matters arose.

**1657. To review the Parks Committee Action Plan.**

The committee reviewed the actions list from the previous committee meeting noting that the committee would like to invite the shutter supplier to Badock Gardens to measure, quote and install the shutters.

**1658. To discuss and note the Parks' Income and Expenditure and Budget for the year 2025/26.**

The committee discussed the income and expenditure for Parks in August 2025 noting that

**1659. To discuss and agree furniture required for the completion of sunlounge**

The Committee discussed the future use and setup of the Sun Lounge where they considered opening it to the public during certain hours such as 10-12pm and/or hiring it out to local groups. They agreed that versatile furniture suitable for both indoor and outdoor use would

be most practical. It was noted that the space should accommodate a mix of users including families, workers and older residents. Potentially providing suitable activities such as puzzles.

Members agreed that good-quality, durable furniture would be a worthwhile investment. Further quotes and research will be gathered for discussion at the next meeting. Additionally, it was decided to invite the shutter supplier to assess and install a suitable shutter for the Sun Lounge, with consideration given to options that allow kitchen access. A suggestion was also made to provide a kettle and mini fridge in the lounge to improve convenience and hygiene.

*Cllr. N. Kenneally exited the meeting at 18:09*

Further discussion ensued. The committee discussed further shutter options and concluded to invite the supplier to measure, quote and install a shutter at Badock gardens.

**Councillor J. Tadman proposed to purchase a small fridge and a kettle for the Town Ranger to situate in a suitable location and be agreed. This was seconded by Councillor J. Hutchings and approved. (Unanimous)**

*Cllr J. Hutchings declared an interest.*

**Councillor J. Tadman proposed that the Council purchase a total of 50 crockery sets from the Whtie Hart Hotel and be agreed. This was seconded by Councillor D. Cole and approved.** (The vote was inconclusive).

**1660. Stanhope park** – To discuss matters relating to Stanhope Park including the ROSPA reports and agree the purchase of any required parts or repairs.

The committee reviewed the ROSPA reports noting that the basket swing is reported as red, therefore it has been removed. Currently 2 quotes have been received, both of which are the same price £950 + VAT. Discussion ensued.

**Councillor J. Hutchings proposed the purchase of the Basket Swing repairs and be agreed. This was seconded by Councillor J. Tadman and approved. (Unanimous).**

The TC discussed the wet pour matter for beneath the younger children's play equipment. Discussion ensued. The TC recommended the Parks committee to consider whether they would like to continue slowly repairing everything or budget to renew the equipment in one go. Cllr. J. Hutchings suggested breaking it down to each individual item dependent on its life remaining. Discussion ensued. The committee requested the TC to source quotes and see where to go from there and guestimate of the life expectancy of the equipment. Regarding the Football nets on the ROSPA reports, the committee requested the TC to investigate whether the nets have a warranty.

The committee also discussed including Badock Gardens to the ROSPA Reports. Discussion ensued.

**1661. Skateboard park** – To discuss matters relating to the Skateboard Park.

The Committee reviewed the ROSPA Report for the skateboard park noting that a brick is

**1662. To discuss and agree the Plough Arts shows for the 2026 season.**

The committee discussed the theatre options for 2026 at Badock Gardens. Noting they would like 3 performances, 1x June, 1x July & 1 August). Discussion ensued. Cllr. J. Hutchigns suggested a performance at the beginning of July during St Peters fair week as there will be not be any activities in the first week, however the committee agreed they did not want 'The Return of the Native (T Hardy) by Hotbuckle Theatre. Further discussion ensued. The committee felt it would be appropriate to include a show suitable for young kids and a show suitable for adults. The 3 suggested shows were:

- The (almost) complete history of Britain) by Pantaloons
- The jungle Book by Immersion Theatre
- The Sword in the Stone by Cambridge Touring Theatre

**1663. To discuss quotes for replacement Parks utility vehicle and recommend to Full Council**

The committee reviewed the current quotes sourced by the TC. Discussion ensued.

**1664. To discuss matters relating to the Parish Paths.**

The committee discussed the Parish Paths noting no additional funding will be received by Devon County Council. J. Tadman remarked that it was unusual for DCC to state that the paths were satisfactory while also suggesting they required upgrading. It was noted that renovating the paths to make them suitable for cycling would be extremely costly. Councillor J. Allen suggested that there may be some confusion with the Viaduct.

**1665. Correspondence**

TTVS have requested to hire the Sunlounge at Badock Gardens again. The committee agreed that currently due to the project still being in process the Sun Lounge is not currently available for hire. Cllr. J. Tadman noted that the committee should consider this when agreeing which furniture to purchase. Further discussion ensued. Cllr. J. Tadman suggested signage outside the Sunlounge to indicate upcoming events.

*Councillor D. De ste Croix left the meeting at 19:00*

**1666. Town clerks report**

Sun Lounge- reassessed for insurance purposes. Had a bit of a shock the reassessment came back less than previously and the premium has decreased. 258k now paid 333k in 2023.

Poppy crosses – RBL – Long story short we believe they have been ordered but uncertain on the amount when advised of it. J. Tadman – happy to do it as a council or through it out to a wider audience. TC will keep the committee updated.

When the fire extinguishers in manor offices were being replaced Tc asked for 2 extinguishers and a fire blanket to be situated at the sun lounge in Badock gardens.

**Councillor J. Tadman proposed that in view of the special or confidential nature of the following business to be transacted, it is advisable, in the public interest, that the public and press temporarily be excluded and they will be instructed to withdraw. This was seconded by Councillor J. Allen and agreed. (Unanimous)**

**1667. Exchange of information**

There was no additional information to exchange.

**1668. Close**

Councillor H. Parker closed the meeting at 19:22