Draft Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 2nd June 2026 at the Rufus Centre

Present:
Cllr Thompson
Cllr Toinko
Cllr Bandy
Cllr Earles
Cllr Wilsmore
Cllr Platt
Cllr Crawford
Cllr Harald

Stacie Lockey – Town Clerk & Chief Executive
Michelle Hampstead – Community Services Officer
Sue Quinn – Community Services Officer
Aaron Pepper – Public Realm Supervisor
Sarah Burgess – Amenities Officer

1377. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

1378. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chairman gave an overview of the advice received regarding disclosable pecuniary interests. It was agreed that the Town Clerk would circulate this.

To receive Statutory Declarations of Interests from Members in relation to:

a. Disclosable Pecuniary interests in any agenda item – Cllr Earles & Cllr Toinko – item 9i – allotment fees.

b. Non-Pecuniary interests in any agenda item – none

1379. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman thanked Members for re-electing her into the role. Members were reminded of the Pride Picnic taking place on Sunday 7th June and Family Fun Day on Saturday 13th June. Any help would be appreciated at both events.

1380. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

No members of the public.

1381. INVITED SPEAKER

No invited speaker.

1382. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

1383. MINUTES

a. For Members to receive and adopt the minutes of the Community Services meeting held on **Tuesday 5th May 2026.**

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes from the Community Services meeting held on Tuesday 5th May 2026 as an accurate record of the meeting.

1384. MATTERS ARISING

a. Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting on **Tuesday 5th May 2026.**

There were no matters arising.

1385. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

a. Vice Chairman

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Toinko as vice chairman.

b. Election to Working Groups

It was **RESOLVED** to elect the following Members to the working groups;

Allotment Working Group – Cllr Earles, Platt, Toinko

Nature Park Working Group – Cllr Wilsmore, Toinko, Thompson, Crawford

Manor Park Working Group – Cllr Wilsmore, Thompson, Platt

c. Flitwick 10k

Members discussed the correspondence, and the following was discussed;

- A Member had looked up dates for other races and seemed to think that moving the race a week earlier or week later could provide a solution
- Some Members felt that it was fair to provide a reduction in fee, given that the field had to be shared
- Some Members felt strongly that if the 10k race was booked with the knowledge of the fair being there, this should be accepted
- The 10k race had a lot of sponsorship and generated a profit, as indicated in the correspondence received
- Members discussed the possibility of relocating the race to the Rufus Centre field. The Town Clerk advised that the Business & Facilities Manager had discussed this with the race director; however, it was not viable at the current time because the race course would need to be changed, which involved a lot of work
- Members commented that the fun fair did not request a discount despite having to share the field
- Some Members commented that the 10k race did not affect the operation of the fair; however, the fair did affect the operation of the race
- The Amenities Officer explained how the fees work and explained that this was considered by the committee within the last year
- Members commented that the principal complaint was around the space as opposed to the fees charged
- Members discussed the booking system of the park and how this operated. Officers advised that bookings opened a year in advance

It was agreed that Officers would contact the organisers of the 10K race to provide

alternative dates for the use of Millennium Park, advise them of the dates already reserved for the fair in 2027, and re-offer the use of the Rufus Centre as a potential venue.

Action: Amenities Officer

d. Annual Residents Survey

The Chairman advised that the Council would consider the survey responses collectively to identify any key themes and insights. Members were invited to comment on any responses that had particularly stood out, provide feedback, or raise any concerns arising from the results. It was noted that some of the information gathered would also inform the discussion under the next agenda item relating to the community engagement strategy.

Members noted that the majority of responses were positive and included a number of interesting suggestions.

Members highlighted that the responses indicated the Hub was currently underutilised. The Town Clerk advised that the Hub formed part of the Council's capital plan and that proposals to explore refurbishment options would be presented to Council at a future meeting.

Members also noted that a number of responses referred to a lack of activities for older residents.

It was further observed that many comments related to matters outside the Council's direct control. Members agreed that improved communication and greater promotion of the Council's activities could help raise awareness of the work being undertaken by the Council.

Action: Communications & Marketing Manager

e. Community Engagement Strategy

The Chairman provided background to the agenda item, reminding Members that the Council had adopted a Community Engagement Strategy which identified key areas of focus and a range of potential activities. It was noted that the strategy was intended to be flexible, allowing the Council to adapt its approach as required. The Chairman highlighted that the item provided an opportunity for Members to consider the role of the Committee, reflect on ideas brought forward by Officers, and share suggestions arising from their engagement with the community.

The Community Services Officer advised Members that, as part of the summer programme, two cinema, coffee and cake events for older residents were being trialled. Bookings had already been received and, whilst the summer events would be free of charge, a fee may be required should the initiative continue in the future. Members were advised that it was also likely that there would be interest in reinstating tea dances, although these has been unsustainable in the past for financial reasons.

The Chairman reminded Members that the Committee had undertaken a review of all events and activities several years previously and had made decisions based on local provision, cost considerations and social value.

Members were advised that the proposed cinema and cake events had been developed following consultation with older residents regarding their preferred film choices.

Members reflected on the success of the Town Trail project delivered with Kingsmoor Lower School. It was noted that the official launch event had attracted families who would not normally engage with school activities. Funding remained available within the budget, and Officers were exploring opportunities to extend the project to additional schools.

Members observed that a number of other local businesses/organisations had expanded their community offer, including lunch clubs and similar initiatives.

The Committee were reminded of the headings within the Community Engagement Strategy, including;

- community engagement and inclusion
- health, wellbeing and leisure
- events, culture and heritage
- environment and sustainability
- partnership working and volunteering.

Members noted that previous community litter picks had been well attended, particularly by families, and expressed support for organising further events. Suggestions included engaging additional schools and rotating activities around different areas of Flitwick to encourage wider participation. The Town Clerk advised that the Environmental Working Group were keen to focus on regular litter picks and they could work with the Community Team to put together a programme.

Members commented that community-based activities provided valuable opportunities for residents to meet Councillors and Council Officers in an informal setting.

The possibility of reinstating the Scarecrow Festival was discussed. Members noted that this type of event could be delivered at relatively low cost while encouraging community participation and celebrating the town. It was suggested to contact key community venues such as the library and other organisations to participate, which would then, in turn, help increase the visibility.

Members also discussed the environmental impact of a Scarecrow Festival and suggested that guidance could be provided on sustainable materials, including promoting the reuse and recycling of materials through local charity shops.

The Committee discussed the value of themed activities and competitions, and the following suggestions included a Christmas window display and an Advent window trail as more affordable and inclusive alternatives to larger-scale Christmas lighting displays, as has been done in previous years. A front garden competition was also discussed.

Members considered whether additional activities for children could be introduced, such as sports-based events. It was noted that similar initiatives had been trialled previously but had attracted limited attendance.

The importance of two-way engagement was discussed, with Members highlighting the need not only to inform residents but also to gather meaningful feedback. Reference was made to previous consultation exercises, including engagement relating to Section 106 proposals for Hinksley Park, where obtaining feedback had proved challenging.

The Community Services Officer suggested exploring opportunities to engage directly with school councils, governing boards and parent groups to better understand the views of younger residents and families.

The Chairman explained that the Council have run Councillor Surgeries in the past, but resident engagement seemed relatively low.

Members and Officers discussed using the Hub and Rufus Centre to provide low-cost events/activities for the middle-aged generation. Members commented that The Swan Public House run a ‘Bike Night’ which proved very popular and was low effort and cost. Members discussed working with the business team to provide similar events.

It was agreed that Officers would prepare a report for consideration at the next meeting, incorporating a number of the ideas discussed and setting out potential options for future community engagement activities.

Action: Community Services Team

f. Central Bedfordshire Leisure Parish Schedules

The Town Clerk advised Members that the Parish Leisure Schedules were a CBC document that included information on recreational open space and potential future projects for S106 funding. The former Leader and Town Clerk had already reviewed this and submitted initial comments, and this was a final opportunity to make any further changes or additions.

Members asked if the following could be added;
- Accessibility to the public area of the Church, as there was currently a steep slope up to the lynch gate.
- Village Hall – roof repairs

Action: Town Clerk

g. Bench & Tree Memorial Policy

Members were happy with the policy and asked why no costs had been included. The Amenities Officer confirmed that adding costs would be too fluid, and these would be submitted upon receiving a request.

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the bench and tree memorial policy.

Action: Amenities Officer

h. Burials Grounds Regulations

Members discussed the point which referred to routine maintenance and asked if this needed to be more specific. The Public Realm Supervisor explained that the grounds are cut weekly, except for the old section being approximately six-weekly.

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the burial ground regulations.

Action: Amenities Officer

i. Football Pitch, Allotment & Burial Ground Fees

Cllr Earles and Toinko left the meeting for this part of the agenda.

Allotments

The Chairman reminded Members that this item was to discuss fees only and not debate the matter of toilets.

The Chairman thanked Officers for the comprehensive document relating to staff time allocated to the allotments.

Members commented that it was worth noting that the average cost to the Council to provide allotments was £70.55. The Town Clerk reminded Members that it was a statutory duty of the Council to provide allotments, and it wasn't necessarily something that needed to make money.

It was **RESOLVED** to increase the allotment fees by 25%.

Cllr Earles and Toinko re-entered the meeting.

Burial Ground

It was **RESOLVED** to keep the burial fees the same.

Pitch Hire

A Member asked if the Council provided changing rooms, higher charges could be made for pitches. The Chairman explained that the Council used to have changing rooms, but these were in the process of being taken over by the Sea Cadets. Officers advised that there had been regular bookings at Hinksley Road last season despite no changing rooms.

It was **RESOLVED** to increase pitch hire fees by 5% for 2027/28.

Action: Amenities Officer

j. Manor Park – Hemlock

Members discussed the report, and Officers advised that option 1, fencing off the area, was in the process of being completed. Members were asked to consider options 2,3 or 4.

Members asked what the most effective solution would be.

A Member commented that they had attended the Manor Park recently and were surprised at how little Hemlock was on site in comparison with previous years. Members asked whether the erection of a fence would create liability on the Council and questioned whether it would be better to keep it open. Officers advised that the Council had a duty to remove this and felt strongly about treating what was there to keep on top of it to prevent further spreading.

After some discussion, Members agreed it would be sensible to erect temporary fencing and signage and pursue option 3 – use selective herbicide with a knapsack hand-held sprayer.

It was **RESOLVED** to treat the hemlock with a selective herbicide with a knapsack handheld sprayer and erect temporary fencing and signage.

Action: Amenities Officer

1386. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

a. Officer Update

(i) Members to note the Amenities Officer update.

Members asked for an update on the basket swing. The Amenities Officer explained that it was the wooden beam that needed replacement, and this was on order and due imminently.

Members asked for the Eat Feast dates to be circulated.

Action: Amenities Officer

(ii) Members to note the Community Services update - noted.

1387. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public.

1388. EXEMPT ITEMS

No items.

Meeting Closed at: 21.20

Signed: ……..……(Chairman)

Vision: ***To make Flitwick a thriving, inclusive, and connected community where everyone has the opportunity to participate, contribute, and feel valued.***

Strategic Themes: Community Engagement and Inclusion
Health and Wellbeing
Events, Culture and Heritage
Environment and Sustainability
Partnerships and Volunteering

Activities/events highlighted in yellow are new proposed initiatives.

Date/Month	Activity/Event	Venue	Event	Funding Source	Community Strategy Theme
August trial dates and then continued if successful	**Coffee and Cinema**	Rufus Centre	Older people's cinema club Screening of films with coffee and cake. Feedback gathered to run the session on a quarterly basis.	***26/27- funded from 4213/313 - £500***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Health & Wellbeing***
August	**Grow People**	Rufus Centre/Community Fridge/ Hinksley Park	Collaboration with Beds RCC, encouraging people to grow veg in pots. They will supply all materials and staff . Will tie in with the Bug Hotel and Earth day at Hinksley Recreation field.	***No funding required***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Health & Wellbeing*** ***Partnerships & Volunteering***
Ongoing	**Flitwick Living History**	Launch of website	Promote engagement of community groups to create films of events. Enable residents to share their stories on line. Celebrate the anniversaries of the businesses in the town	***EMR 321 – Flitwick Living History*** ***Payment to videographer £2000 for 6 films***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Health & Wellbeing*** ***Events, Culture & Heritage*** ***Partnerships & Volunteering***
Ongoing	**Forget Me Not**	Rufus Centre	Monthly meeting for dementia and carers.	***4628/312*** ***£550***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Health & Wellbeing***
Ongoing	**Over 50's Keep Fit**	Rufus Centre	Weekly Keep Fit Classes	***4627/312*** ***£1,750***	***Health & Wellbeing***
Ongoing	**Stitchers**	Youth Hub	Weekly stitchers – knit for different projects	***4627/312*** ***£200***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion***
September	**Youth Cooking Sessions**	Youth Hub	Cooking sessions in the youth club funded through grant funding. Delivered by DGSS in conjunction with Community Fridge. 70 young people over 5 weeks.	***Grant Funded via TM Charity***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Health & Wellbeing*** ***Environment & Sustainability***
September	**Youth Gardening**	Youth Hub	Use the planters at the youth hub to grow herbs and vegetables. Encourage engagement of young people in growing food and healthy eating. Work with Public Realm Team.	***EMR 327 – Youth Activities*** ***£300*** ***Compost and plants***	***Health & Wellbeing*** ***Environment & Sustainability***
September – October 2026	**Launch of Street Litter Pick initiative & Front**	Various	Competition for streets to clear litter. Bags are weighed and 'trophy' for the most amount of litter collected. Engage through social media to nominate their street.	***4626/312*** ***£300*** ***Trophy costs for litter and front garden winners***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Health & Wellbeing*** ***Events, Culture & Heritage*** ***Environment & Sustainability*** ***Partnerships & Volunteering***

	Garden Competition		Plant and seed swaps Promote gardening equipment from Share	***Equipment for litter picks***	
October 2026	**Volunteer Fair**	Rufus Centre Run on a Saturday in Lockyer	This is for all the community and voluntary groups in Flitwick or provide services for Flitwick residents. Groups will have a stall to promote their services to residents and recruit volunteers The idea - to make volunteering accessible, fun and enjoyable, showing that even small acts can make a big difference. By joining in, people can meet others, develop skills, and help create stronger, more resilient communities – all while being part of a shared national moment of positive action	***No funding required***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Health & Wellbeing*** ***Partnerships & Volunteering***
September 2026	**Scarecrow Festival**	Town Trail	Themed trail around town Suggested theme: **Fairy Tale Villains and Heroes**	***4629/312*** ***£150***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Health & Wellbeing*** ***Events, Culture & Heritage*** ***Partnerships & Volunteering*** ***Environment & Sustainability***
October Half Term 2026	**Pumpkin Carving**	Youth Hub	Free pumpkin carving at the Hub	***4629/312*** ***£150***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Events, Culture & Heritage***
October Half Term 2026	**Movie day**	Lockyer	Free movie sessions for families, afternoon session for SEND families	***4628/312*** ***£50***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion***
October – November	**Advent Calendar Trail**	Various	Households and businesses create Advent Calendar windows – competition ‘best window’	***4629/312*** ***£50***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Events, Culture & Heritage***
November 2026	**Remembrance Service**	Town Square	Annual Remembrance service	***4043/313*** ***£890***	***Events, Culture & Heritage***
November 2026	**Christmas Lights Switch On Event**	Town Square	Christmas Lights Switch-on Stalls, fair and entertainment	***4540/313*** ***£5200***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Events, Culture & Heritage***
November 2026	**Healthy Eating & Exercise** **Mums & Daughters**	Rufus Centre	A six week course for mums and daughters (13+) featuring exercise and diet support. Run with Choose You a CBC initiative and Everyone Active with possible discounted sessions at the Leisure Centre.	***4626/312*** ***£500***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Health & Wellbeing*** ***Partnerships & Volunteering***
November 2026	**Healthy Eating & Exercise** **Men**	Rufus Centre	A six week course for men featuring exercise and diet support. Run with Choose You, a CBC initiative, and Everyone Active, with possible discounted sessions available at the Leisure Centre.	***4626/312*** ***£500***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Health & Wellbeing*** ***Partnerships & Volunteering***
December	**Christmas Party for**	Rufus Centre	Christmas party for siblings of SEND children	***Application to Town Mayor’s Charity for funding £400***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion*** ***Health & Wellbeing***

	Siblings of SEND Children		Disco and games		
31st March Easter holiday	**SEND Drama & Music session**	Rufus Centre	2 Drama and dance sessions run by Spectrum Arts	***4628/312 £450***	***Community Engagement & Inclusion Health & Wellbeing***

Summer Programme Events are also not included above, please see below;

Civic Events include the following;

- 20th July - Mayor's Summer Garden Gathering
- 21st August - Mayor's Fish & Chip Friday (TBC)
- Early Sept - Mayor's Brunch (Outside youth hub) (TBC)
- 27th Nov - Mayor's Christmas quiz
- 8th December - Mayor's Christmas Lunch (TBC)
- W/C 14th December - Christmas centre piece craft (TBC)
- Mid Feb - Bingo event (TBC)
- March - Mayor's Quiz (date TBC)
- April - Civic Reception (date TBC)

FLITWICK TOWN COUNCIL

Report to Community Services Committee
Community Strategy Ideas 07.07.26

Background

The Council recently adopted a Community Strategy which consists of the following themes;

- Community Engagement & Inclusion
- Health & Wellbeing
- Events, Culture & Heritage
- Environment & Sustainability
- Partnerships & Volunteering

At the June Community Services Meeting, Members and Officers discussed ideas for future events and activities, and Officers were tasked with exploring these further and bringing back some suggestions to the next meeting.

Introduction

Appendix 1 is a list of all current events and activities, along with suggested new initiatives. It includes information on how it relates to the Community Strategy and also the funding required.

Additional Information

Officers have identified a number of additional proposals for larger-scale events to be included within the 2027/2028 programme. Separate reports will be submitted for consideration in September to inform the budget-setting process.

Officer Recommendation

1. To approve the activities and events listed within appendix 1.

Sue Quinn & Michelle Hampstead
Community Services Team

Flitwick Town Council

Flitwick Manor Park and Flitwick Nature Park
Farm Business Tenancy – Licence to Graze

THIS AGREEMENT made on INSERT DATE

BETWEEN **Flitwick Town Council,** The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick, Bedfordshire, MK45 1AH "**the Owner**",

and

Dean Whybrow & Amelia Palmieri (herein after called '**the Licensee**') of [redacted]
Mobile numbers: [redacted] / [redacted]

WHEREAS

The Owner and the Licensee have agreed to enter into this Licence to permit the Licensee to graze the Stock on the Owner's Land on the terms hereafter appearing.

AGREED TERMS

1. Definitions and Interpretation

The following definitions and rules of interpretation apply in this licence.

1.1 Definitions:

Animal Legislation	The Animal Welfare Act 2006 and the Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007/2078)
Basic Payment Scheme	The basic payment scheme as defined in section 7 of the Agriculture Act 2020 and any similar replacement scheme and any similar additional scheme including any substituted scheme under the Agriculture Act 2020 and any statutory instrument enacted under the Agriculture Act 2020 and any subsequent legislation
Commencement Date	The date of this Licence
Cross Compliance Condition	The statutory management requirements and the standards for good agricultural and environmental condition of land as published by the RPA or any substituted regulations made by the UK government [or devolved authority] as a result of the UK leaving the EU made under the AA 2020 or any other legislation implementing acts and laws and all subordinate legislation, guidance and codes of practice made from time to time under them and any similar replacement or similar additional conditions, requirements and standards.
DEFRA	The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs and any successor ministry or department
Grazing Land	**The area of land forming part of the Owner's Land shown edged red on the Plan**
Licence Period	The period commencing on INSERT DATE and ending on INSERT DATE

Owner's Land	The landholding of the Flitwick Town Council
Permitted Use	To use only the Grazing Land as per the '**Plan**' only for the purposes of grazing **cattle and sheep** belonging to the Licensee personally, (herein after called '**the Stock**') and for no other purpose and in accordance with the schedule.
Plan	The plan attached to this Licence
RPA	The Rural Payments Agency responsible for the administration of the Basic Payment Scheme in England and any other body discharging similar functions from time to time
Stock	The sheep & cattle belonging to the Licensee personally
VAT	Value added tax under the Value Added Tax Act 1994 and any similar replacement tax and any similar additional tax

1.2 Clause, Schedule and paragraph headings shall not affect the interpretation of this licence.

1.3 A person includes a natural person, corporate or unincorporated body (whether or not having separate legal personality).

1.4 The Schedules form part of this licence and shall have effect as if set out in full in the body of this licence. Any reference to this licence includes the Schedules.

1.5 A reference to a company shall include any company, corporation or other body corporate, wherever and however incorporated or established.

1.6 Unless the context otherwise requires, words in the singular shall include the plural and in the plural shall include the singular.

1.7 Unless the context otherwise requires, a reference to one gender shall include a reference to the other genders.

1.8 A reference to laws in general is a reference to all local, national and directly applicable supra-national laws as amended, extended or re-enacted from time to time and shall include all subordinate laws made from time to time under them and all orders, notices, codes of practice and guidance made under them.

1.9 A reference to a statute or statutory provision is a reference to it as amended, extended or re-enacted from time to time and shall include all subordinate legislation made from time to time under that statute or statutory provision and all orders, notices, codes of practice and guidance made under it.

1.11 Any obligation on a party not to do something includes an obligation not to allow that thing to be done and an obligation to use all reasonable endeavours to prevent that thing being done by another person.

1.12 References to clauses and Schedules are to the clauses and Schedules of this licence and references to paragraphs are to paragraphs of the relevant Schedule.

1.13 Any words following the terms including, include, in particular, for example, or any similar expression shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words, description, definition, phrase or term preceding those terms.

1.14 A working day is any day which is not a Saturday, a Sunday, a bank holiday or a public holiday in England.

2. Licence to Occupy

2.1 Subject to the terms of this Licence the Owner permits the Licensee to occupy the Grazing Land for the Licence Period or sooner determination in accordance with clause 13.1 of this Licence for the purposes of the Permitted Use only in common with the Owner and all others authorised by the Owner (so far as not inconsistent with the Licensee's use of the Grazing Land for the Permitted Use).

2.2 The Owner and Licensee agree and acknowledge that:

(a) The Licensee shall occupy and use the Grazing Land as a licensee and that no relationship of landlord and tenant is created between the Owner and the Licensee by this Licence.
(b) The Owner retains control possession and management of the Grazing Land and the Licensee has no right to exclude from the Grazing Land the Owner or others authorised by the Owner.
(c) This Licence is personal to the Licensee and is not assignable.
(d) This Licence is personal to the Owner and shall not be binding on any successors in title to the Owner.

2.3 The Owner gives no undertaking to renew or extend the Licence.

2.4 Without prejudice to the Owner's rights under clause 13 the Owner may at any time on giving not less than fourteen days' notice require the Licensee to transfer the Licensee's Stock or other animals to alternative land elsewhere within the Owner's Land and to exclude the Licensee from all or part of the Grazing Land from which the Owner has required the Licensee to remove his Stock or other animals and Licensee shall comply with the requirement without objection.

2.5 For the avoidance of all doubt it is agreed and declared that the Owner grants no right to the Licensee to enjoy any rights of exclusive occupation of the Grazing Land and in particular the Owner grants no right to but retains all fruit produced by any trees growing on the land, all game (including ground game) on the Grazing Land, all rights of way to the date of this Licence used or enjoyed over the Grazing Land and the right for the Owner, the Owner's servants, agents and licensees to enter upon the Grazing Land at any time for any purpose whether agricultural or not, other than for grazing livestock there.

2.6 The Owner is at its own discretion free to carry out any activities on the land and in particular can undertake all necessary operations to maintain the pasture and any other vegetation, to repair, alter and maintain any fences, gates, boundaries and ditches and other fixed equipment, and to carry out such monitoring and inspection as the Owner requires, and all other purposes associated with the ownership or management of the Grazing Land.

2.7 For the avoidance of doubt and in consideration of the terms of this Licence the Licensee surrenders all right title and interest (if any) he may have in the ownership of or rights over the Owner's Land or any adjoining or neighbouring land owned by the Owner.

2.8 The Licensee acknowledges that upon termination of the Licence the Licensee shall have no further access to the Grazing Land whatsoever.

3. Use of the Grazing Land

3.1 The Licensee shall use the Grazing Land only for the purposes of the Permitted Use.

3.2 The Licensee shall not use or permit the Grazing Land to be used for grazing any Stock or other animals not owned by the Licensee and shall produce on demand copies of passports or other evidence of ownership of all animals grazing on the Grazing Land when requested by the Owner.

3.3 The Licensee shall not permit the Grazing Land to be used by any third parties or allow any livestock owned by third parties to use the Grazing Land.

3.4 The Licensee shall not obstruct any public or private right of way or any access by any member of the public or any other party to the Grazing Land and or any other land belonging to the Owner and not to erect any signs or other notices other than those provided by the Owner (if any) or as previously agreed in writing by the Owner.

3.5 The Licensee agrees to stock the land properly with his own Stock and not to bring any other livestock onto the land or to sublet or hire, and to remove any infected or troublesome animals. Any fallen stock to be removed as soon as practicable, and at any event within 24 hours and must not be buried on the land.

3.6 The Licensee shall not in any circumstances use the Grazing Land for other commercial purposes including but not limited to the training or exercising of horses in connection with a livery riding school or carriage driving or riding or horse-driving races and/or competitions or any other non-agricultural business.

3.7 The Licensee shall keep all gates, fences, ditches and watercourses in proper stock proof condition so as to prevent his Stock straying or being injured and shall maintain the water supply for the Stock and shall indemnify the Trust against all costs, claims and demands made by the owners or occupiers of adjoining land or any other persons for damages or other money arising from the escape from the land of all or any of the Stock placed upon the land by the licensee pursuant to the terms of this agreement.

4. Maintenance of the Grazing Land

The Licensee shall:

(a) keep the Grazing Land clean and tidy and clear of rubbish;

(b) keep all gates, fences, ditches and watercourses in proper stock proof condition so as to prevent his Stock or other livestock straying or being injured;

(c) not deposit or allow to be deposited any refuse, waste, redundant material or redundant machinery of any kind on the Grazing Land;

(d) not allow the Grazing Land to become poached during wet weather conditions by treading;

(e) not allow the Grazing Land to become overgrazed;

(f) not damage any trees hedges fruit trees bushes fences growing crops or fruit any game birds ground game wildfowl fish, mammals, on the Grazing Land;

(f) notify the Owner immediately if the Licensee finds growing on the Grazing Land any injurious weeds specified in either the Weeds Act 1959 or the Ragwort Control Act 2003 and to co-operate with the Owner to enable the Owner to remove the injurious weeds;

(g) comply with the rules and regulations governing the Licensee's use of the Grazing Land set out in the Schedule and any further rules and regulations notified to the Licensee by the Owner; and

(h) at the end of the Licence Period leave the Grazing Land in a clean and tidy condition and remove the Licensee's livestock, and any other equipment and goods from the Grazing Land.

5. Alterations additions and planning applications

5.1 The Licensee shall not make any alteration or addition to the Grazing Land except that the Owner may permit the Licensee by prior agreement in writing to place water troughs on the Grazing Land at locations agreed by the Owner for the use of livestock grazing on the Grazing Land and any hoses or pipes to enable the same to be filled with water to be supplied by the Licensee PROVIDED ALWAYS that no permanent connection shall be made and the water troughs and any associated hoses or pipes shall be removed on determination of this Licence and any damage to the Grazing Land or other land belonging to the Owner made good.

5.2 The Licensee shall not apply for any planning permission in respect of the Grazing Land.

6. Insurance

6.1 The Licensee shall not do anything that may vitiate in whole or in part any insurance effected by the Owner in respect of the Grazing Land or the Owner's Land.

6.2 The Licensee shall maintain throughout the Licence Period insurances for a minimum amount of £2,000,000.00 (two million pounds) against liability to third parties for loss injury or damage arising from the Licensee's use of the Grazing Land including any liability under the Animals Act 1971 arising because of an escape of any animal/livestock.

6.3 The Licensee shall produce to the Owner a copy of any policy of insurance maintained under clause 8.2 on commencement of this Licence and thereafter when requested by the Owner

7. Compliance with the Owner's requirements and statutes

7.1 The Licensee shall not bring any diseased animals onto the Grazing Land.

7.2 The Licensee shall comply with:

7.2.1 Without prejudice to any other provisions in this Licence the rules and regulations governing the Licensee's use of the Grazing Land set out in the Schedule hereto and any further rules and regulations governing the Licensee's use of the Grazing Land that the Owner may make and notify to the Licensee in writing from time to time;

7.2.2 all requirements and recommendations of any suppliers of any services to the Grazing Land; and

7.2.3 all laws relating to the Grazing Land and the use of the Grazing Land by the Licensee, and without prejudice to this obligation to comply with all laws, the Licensee shall comply with all Animal Legislation.

8. Nuisance

The Licensee shall not:

(a) do or permit to be done anything on the Grazing Land that is illegal or that may be or become a nuisance (whether actionable or not), annoyance, inconvenience or disturbance to the Owner or any owner or occupier of neighbouring property; or

(b) cause or permit to be caused any damage to the Grazing Land or to any neighbouring land or buildings or to other property of the Owner, its tenants, occupiers or licensees, or any owner or occupier of neighbouring property.

9. Indemnity and lien

11.1 The Licensee shall indemnify the Owner and keep the Owner indemnified against all losses claims demands actions proceeding damages costs expenses or other liability in any way arising from:

(a) this Licence;
(b) the exercise of any rights given in this Licence
(c) any breach of the Licensee's obligations in this Licence;
(d) any breach by the Licensee of any Cross Compliance Conditions;
(e) any breach by the Licensee of the Animal Legislation; or
(f) the escape of any animals from the Grazing Land

11.2 The Owner shall have a lien upon all the Licensee's animals for the time pastured on the Grazing Land for any sum arising or incurred for which under this Licence the Licensee is liable and this lien may be enforced by the sale of any animal or animals belonging to the Licensee for the time being pastured on the Grazing Land.

(Definition of lien: The right to take and hold or sell the property of a debtor as security or payment for a debt or duty).

10. Trespass

The Licensee shall not permit any trespass on the Grazing Land

11. Termination

11.1 This Licence may be terminated immediately on written notice given by the Owner to the Licensee at any time in respect of a breach of this Licence (including for the avoidance of doubt any breach of the regulations set out in the Schedule to this Licence) by the Licensee or following the death of the Licensee.

11.2 If the Owner shall require the whole or any part of the Grazing Land for any purpose whatsoever the Owner shall have the right to determine this Licence and resume possession at any time of either the whole or part thereof upon giving 28 days' notice in writing to the Licensee.

11.3 Either party may terminate this Licence at any time by giving not less than two months' prior written notice to the other party.

11.4 Termination of this Licence shall not affect the rights of either party in connection with any breach of any obligation under this Licence which existed at or before the date of termination.

11.5 The Licensee acknowledges there will be no liability on the part of the Owner to take over any Stock on termination of this Licence and irrevocably appoints the Owner as his agent to dispose of any livestock left on the Grazing Land more than fourteen days after termination of the Licence.

12. Notices

12.1 Except where this licence specifically states that a notice need not be in writing, any notice given under or in connection with this licence shall be:

12.1.1 in writing and for the purposes of this clause a fax is not in writing; and

12.1.2 given by hand or read receipt email or by pre-paid first-class post or other next working day delivery service at the party's registered office address (if the party is a company) or (in any other case) at the party's principal place of business or residence.

12.2 If a notice complies with the criteria in clause 12.1, whether or not this licence requires that notice to be in writing, it shall be deemed to have been received:

12.2.1 if delivered by hand, at the time the notice is left at the proper address;

12.2.2 if sent by pre-paid first-class post or other next working day delivery service, on the second working day after posting.

12.3 This clause does not apply to the service of any proceedings or other documents in any legal action or, where applicable, any arbitration or other method of dispute resolution.

12.4 Section 196 of the Law of Property Act 1925 shall otherwise apply to notices given under this licence.

13. No warranties for use or condition

13.1 The Owner gives no warranty that the Grazing Land is or will remain fit for the Permitted Use and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing gives no warranty as to the status of the Grazing Land under any regulations applying to any notifiable disease.

13.2 The Licensee acknowledges that it does not rely on, and shall have no remedies in respect of, any representation or warranty (whether made innocently or negligently) that may have been made by or on behalf of the Owner before the date of this licence as to any of the matters mentioned in clause 13.1

13.3 Nothing in this clause shall limit or exclude any liability for fraud.

14. Limitation of the Owner’s Liability

14.1 Subject to clause 14.2, the Owner is not liable for any of the following:

14.1.1 the death of, or injury to the Licensee, its employees, or invitees to the Grazing Land; or

14.1.2 damage to any property of the Licensee or that of the Licensee's employees, or other invitees to the Grazing Land; or

14.1.3 any losses, claims, demands, actions, proceedings, damages, costs or expenses or other liability incurred by Licensee or the Licensee's employees, or other invitees to the Grazing Land in the exercise or purported exercise of the rights granted by this Licence

14.1.4 Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing the Owner will not be responsible for any losses incurred through livestock consuming poisonous plants or other matter on the Grazing Land

14.2 Nothing in clause 16 shall limit or exclude the Owner's liability for:

14.2.1 death or personal injury or damage to property caused by negligence on the part of the Owner or its employees or agents; or

14.2.2 any matter in respect of which it would be unlawful for the Owner to exclude or restrict liability.

15. Third Party Rights

A person who is not a party to this Licence shall not have any rights under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 to enforce any term of this Licence.

16. Disputes

Any dispute arising under this licence shall be determined by a single arbitrator to be appointed by agreement between the parties, or in the absence of such agreement, by the Chair for the time being of the Agricultural Law Association, the President for the time being of the Central Association of Agricultural Valuers or the President for the time being of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors on the application of either of the parties, such arbitration to be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Arbitration Act 1996

If you accept the foregoing offer, please sign and date both copies of this licence and the attached schedule and maps and return them for us to sign, before returning one fully signed copy to you, and arrange to let us have a copy of your current third-party liability insurance. The Licence will not take effect until all parties have signed and the Licence has been dated.

I accept the offer on the foregoing conditions. I acknowledge that I understand and approve the contents of this Licence.

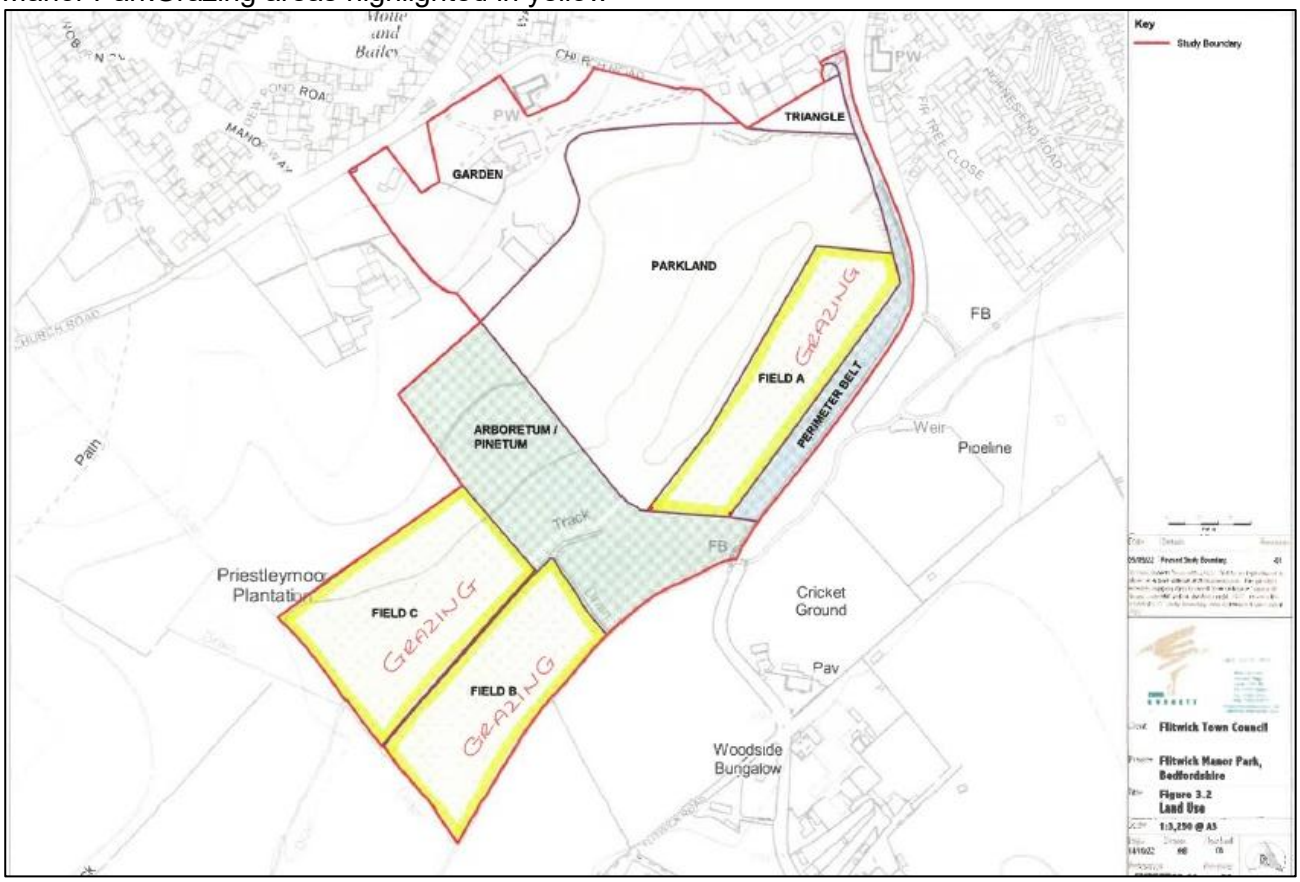
The Licensee:
Signature: Name:

Date:

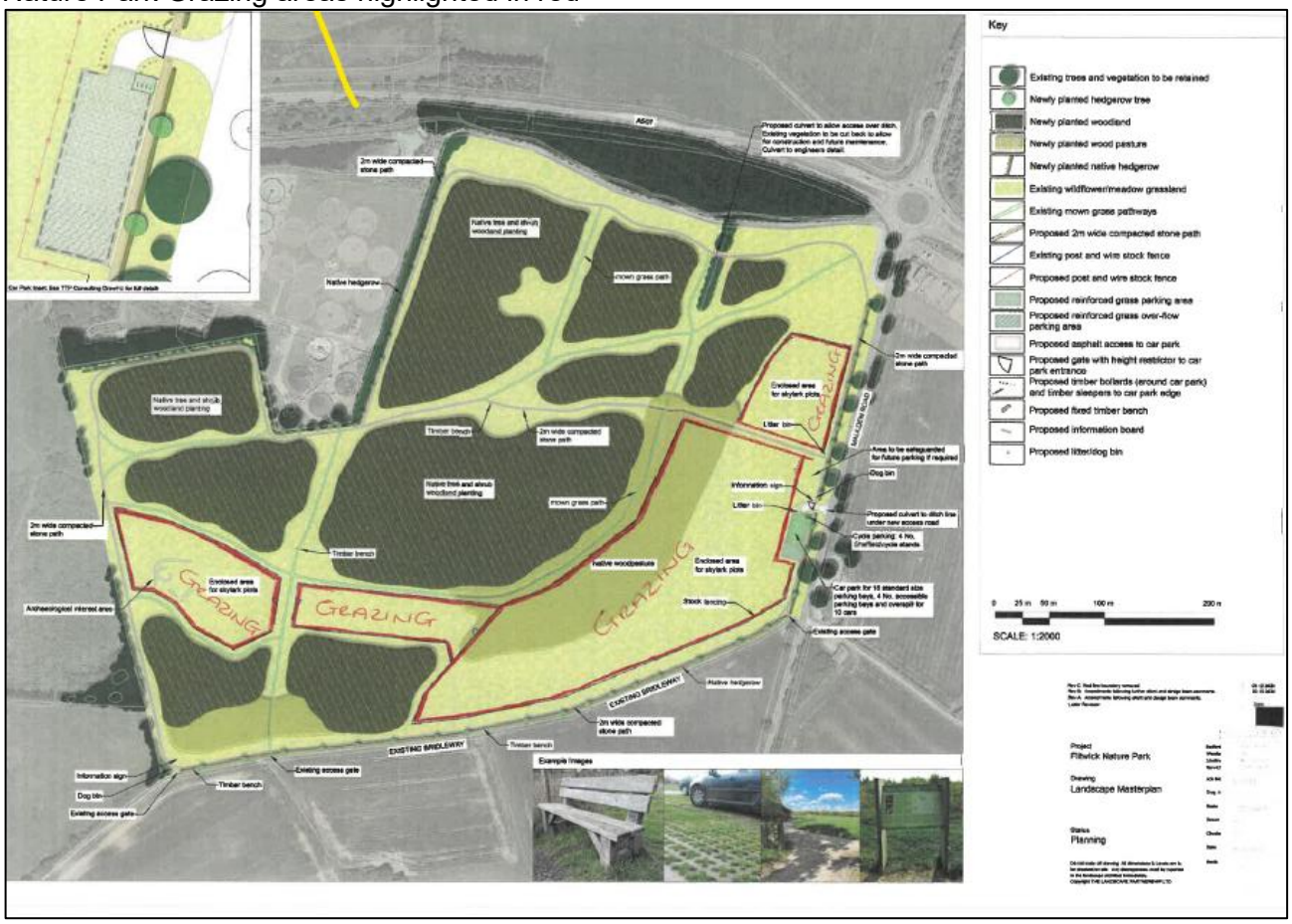
Flitwick Town Council:
Signature: Print name:

Date:

Manor ParkGrazing areas highlighted in yellow



Nature Park Grazing areas highlighted in red



Schedule

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR USE OF THE GRAZING LAND

1. Management of the Grazing Land

The grazing of the Grazing Land shall be managed to the requirements specified by the Owner. A sward height of less than 15cm by the end of November should be avoided.

Poaching and overgrazing by livestock must be avoided. If, in the Owner's opinion, the Grazing Land becomes overgrazed or poached the Owner may require horses or other livestock to be removed as soon as possible and in any event within 7 (seven) days. Failure to remove livestock when so requested will amount to a breach of the Licence.

The Licensee shall not plant, cut down or burn any tree, shrub, or undergrowth.

The Licensee shall not seed or reseed the Grazing Land.

No fires shall be permitted on the Grazing Land

No hunting, fishing, shooting, or trapping on the Grazing Land

2. Water Supply:

The Licensee is responsible for the adequate provision of water for the livestock.

With the prior consent in writing of the Owner, addtional water troughs may be positioned at locations to be agreed by the Owner together with temporary hoses or pipes to allow the permitted troughs to be filled with water supplied by the Licensee at the Licensee's cost. Any troughs and ancillary hoses or pipes must be removed at the end of the Licence.

3. Welfare

The Licensee is responsible for the welfare of the livestock on the Grazing Land and is to ensure that the principles of good husbandry set out in DEFRA Welfare codes are followed.

No slow bolus release Ivermectin wormers to be used whilst the horses and other livestock at on the Grazing Landon or within the specified withdrawal period of drenches prior to being put on the Grazing Land.

Any dead stock is to be removed as soon as practicable, and at any event within 24 hours and must not be buried on the Grazing Land.

The Licensee shall remove any troublesome or infected animals from the Grazing Land.

In the event of an outbreak of any notifiable disease requiring a livestock movement's standstill, every effort will be made to ensure that the conditions of this licence do not compromise animal welfare. However, the Owner may request the disposal of livestock into any available scheme and the Licensee shall comply with the Owner's request.

4. Contact details

The Licensee shall provide contact details for the person in charge of the livestock on the Grazing Land at all times, including holiday cover contacts and shall notify the Owner of any changes in contact details provided promptly.

5. Cross compliance

Copies of animal movement, ear tag numbers and animal passports should be given to the Owner at the earliest opportunity to satisfy cross compliance rules.

6. Subsidies

For the avoidance of doubt the Licensee may NOT include the Grazing Land within his forage area for the purpose of claiming livestock subsidies or other agricultural or environmental payments.

7. Vehicles

No vehicles to be brought onto the Grazing Land, off of the main access road, except in an emergency or for livestock welfare purposes.

8. Supplementary feeding

No supplementary feeding whatsoever is permitted and or is confined to the feeding of mineral blocks. No spraying or use of fertiliser, manure, silage liquor, lime or other sprays is permitted.

9. Stock Movements

The Licensee must promptly inform the Owner of all livestock movements to and from each Grazing Land area. This must include movement dates and numbers of livestock. If the Licensee fails to inform the Owner of relevant livestock movements, then the Owner will take the livestock arrival date as the first of the month and/or the livestock departure date as the last day of the month.

10. Signage

Signs will be displayed at all entrances to enclosures that contain livestock and have public access, and all will show the Owner's contact details together with advice on how to behave near livestock.
Signage templates will conform to HSE guidance and be reviewed as appendices of this policy.

Signage will:

- Clearly indicate when livestock is actually present.
- Be promptly removed when livestock has been taken off.
- Give emergency contact details for the grazier and/or the site manager.
- State that dogs must be kept on leads or under close control in areas where livestock are grazing.
- Electric fencing, if used, must be fitted with suitable warning signs at the appropriate intervals.

I agree to the above terms:

Signed Licensee ……..

Date ……. Print name:

Signed on behalf of Flitwick Town Council ……..

Date ……. Print name:

Flitwick Town Council

Report to Community Services 7th July 2026
Sustainable Farming Incentive – Low Level Grassland Input

Background

Members will be aware that management plans have been adopted for Manor Park and the Nature Park, including provisions for grassland management. Grassland areas at both sites are currently managed through grazing, with cattle at Manor Park and sheep at the Nature Park, in line with the recommendations set out in the plans.

Introduction

A Government-funded scheme is available to farmers for the management of low-input grassland. Further information is available through the Sustainable Farming Incentive action CLIG3: Manage grassland with very low nutrient inputs - click here

The Council is not eligible to apply for this scheme directly; however, if the farmer applies successfully, the arrangement will provide benefits to the Council and support the continued management of the land.

The Town Councils current grazier is eligible to apply for this funding and has approached the Council about entering into a 5 year Farm Business Tenancy. This means that the current grazier is committing to graze both the Nature Park and Manor Park for the next 5 years and would be able to claim £151 per hectare (ha) per year to support this management approach.

In order for the farmer to apply for the grant, a five-year Farm Business Tenancy (FBT) must be in place. The grant runs for three years, and a longer tenancy is therefore required to support the application. The FBT would have break clause, and notice period should either party need to terminate. A draft Farm Business Tenancy (FBT) is attached – Appendix 1

Action aim:
The aim of this action is to maintain grassland that produces a sward with:

- flowering grasses and wildflowers from late spring and during the summer months
- a variety of plant heights by autumn
- some covering of flowering grasses and wildflowers left to go to seed
- tussocky grass allowed to develop

The purpose of this is to:

- provide nectar and shelter for invertebrates and a food supply for farmland birds
- support an integrated pest management approach if located close to cropped areas
- minimise nutrients being carried in surface water runoff to watercourses

Farmers receive the grant funding directly, however this would be reinvested into the appropriate sites and would support the following activities:

- Grazing
- Flail and tidy of the fields
- Control of brambles and nettles
- Maintenance of the informal footpaths around the fields
- Cut and removal of hay from parkland

The land is already managed in this way. However, the financial incentive available to the farmer would help secure long-term, committed management of the areas and provide

additional services for the Council, including an annual cut and removal of hay from the open parkland and the maintenance of footpaths around and through the grazing fields.

Additional Matters

The farmer currently grazes nearby sites at Clophill Lakes and Maulden Woods, both of which are registered under this scheme.

FTC's commitment would be to provide the land for grazing under a Farm Business Tenancy. The farmer and his land agent would complete the necessary paperwork and the grant application.

There would be no cost to the Council. Any unspent grant monies could be used to support other areas of the park, such as the ditches around the grazing fields.

Recommendation

To provide the land at Nature Park and Manor Park under a 5-year Farm Business Tenancy for the Farmer to claim the grant to manage the land.

Sarah Burgess
Amenities Officer

7.2. Flitwick Nature Park Hazel Coppice Woodland Management Plan

Creating Hazel Coppice from a New Plantation

1. Definition

a. Coppicing is *the periodic cutting of broadleaf trees down to a stump and then allowing them to regrow. When cut at ground level some species of tree don't die but instead respond by sending up new shoots from the cut stump (often called a stool). This is the case for most species of native broadleaf tree and it is this characteristic that means a tree can be coppiced. Certain species coppice better than others with hazel, sweet chestnut, willow and ash being good examples.*

b. Coppiced trees can go through the cutting and re-growing cycle over and over again and so provide a sustainable source of wood. In the spring after cutting, the established root systems of the stools enable new shoots to grow much more vigorously than a newly planted tree, reaching perhaps 1.5m (5ft) or more in the first growing season, depending on the species and the growing conditions. This means that useful poles are quickly produced which can be cut once they reach a useful size. The process then starts all over again. (Source and further information – The National Coppice federation - www.ncfed.org.uk).

c. Some terms used in this document:
   i. *Stool* – the cut stump of a coppiced tree
   ii. *Coupe* – the area of a wood cut each winter
   iii. *Coppice rotation* – time period between each successive cut. In the case of hazel, this is usually around seven years
   iv. *In-rotation coppice* – coppice that is currently being managed on a known length of rotation.
   v. *Ride* – the tracks adjacent to coppice coupes that allow access into and out of the wood
   vi. *Product* – the commercially valuable stems resulting from each winter's cut
   vii. *Brash* – parts of cut trees that are not saleable

2. Source of advice

a. In 2023, a local commercial coppicing business (Wassledine[1]) was asked to advise on the creation of an area of planting intended as hazel coppice, within the wider Flitwick Nature Park (FNP). Wassledine's experience suggests that there is a future, in Bedfordshire, for well-managed, commercial, hazel coppice and that there is potential for local people to become involved with such a venture.

b. This section of the management plan is based on Wassledine's experience over the course of work since 1998 and also discussion with others in the UK who have broadly similar experience. There appears

however, to be little knowledge and experience of how best to create a coppice rotation in new plantations.

3. Practical considerations

a. Coppicing requires an open-ended, constant effort, that is, cutting and removal of product is necessary annually. Plans for creating coppice therefore must embrace this annual need for labour, whether professional, volunteer, or a combination of the two. As with other endeavours in the forestry world, coppice is a long-term affair and it will be decades before a really valuable harvest can be expected from coppice created from scratch. Other non-monetary benefits will arise earlier however.
b. As mentioned above, although many tree species coppice, this advice focusses exclusively on hazel.
c. The main commercial markets in hazel coppice are for long, straight poles of varying size - usually less than 50mm diameter. The small size lends itself to cutting with hand tools. Whilst at any scale, a chainsaw is accepted as essential for the initial cut, every other part of the process can be carried out with basic, relatively cheap hand tools. The skills required to use such tools safely and efficiently can be acquired fairly quickly by most able-bodied people who have the enthusiasm and determination to have a go, if taught by an experienced person, on-the-job, without the need for expensive external training courses. The relatively small and light stems cut in hazel coppice in combination with the simple, cheap and easy-to-use tools makes coppicing the only aspect of forestry (apart from planting) that lends itself well to the safe and enjoyable involvement of initially unskilled volunteers.

4. Financial considerations

a. This document assumes:
    i. all the initial costs of tree planting and establishment incurred at FNP to the present, has been covered through *Trees for Climate*[2]
    ii. the availability of a budget to manage and develop the site in future
b. Establishment of a coppice rotation will incur costs over the course of several years (see below). A small amount of equipment is required, as well as fuel, training, insurance etc. but most of the cost will be time for work on the ground
c. Well-managed hazel coppice can start to bring in a small income after perhaps a decade. This should increase over time.

5. Other considerations

a. It seems unlikely that as a local authority body, the primary motivation for FTC creating FNP and its hazel coppice is to make a profit. Other benefits

of woodland and open spaces, focusing on the hazel coppice are listed (in no particular order):

i. Carbon capture, possibly faster than woodland managed as high forest
ii. Improved landscape diversity particularly within the coppice area
iii. Improved informal leisure opportunities for local people, bringing, in its simplest form, mental and physical health benefits
iv. Accelerated creation of diversity of habitats through the coppice cycle
v. Opportunities for education and information about woodlands - new and traditional uses of wood products, tools and techniques, biodiversity, the woodland economy, etc.
vi. Coppice products sold to local people, thus contributing to a reduction in imported goods and road miles
vii. Opportunities for local people to get involved in coppice management. These will primarily be of a voluntary nature and would focus on practical work. Such involvement is well proven as bringing important physical and mental health benefits, not only from simple physical activity but also from being part of a group, doing something useful, contributing to the common good and feeling valued. Volunteer labour can reduce costs generally, but it takes significant investment in time to achieve such a goal and then to maintain it. In net terms therefore, volunteers generally have a cost
viii. More commercial work-related opportunities exist in the medium to long term. Whether FTC manage the coppice in-house or contract it to a third party, the profit in the hazel could contribute to the costs of an apprentice who would learn the skills required and potentially take on the management. This is very much a long-term aspiration.

6. Establishing coppice in newly planted hazel

a. In established, in-rotation hazel coppice, the whole area is divided into seven coupes of roughly equal size and shape (the length of coppice cycle can be longer or shorter for a number of reasons but this document uses seven years throughout). One is cut each winter so that when the last is cut in year seven, the first will have regrown and be ready to cut again in year eight. The combined area of coppice always contains all stages of growth, from completely clear after cutting, through middle stages where regrowth produces a dense, impenetrable thicket, to the last year when hazel's dense canopy of leaves is raised to 4-5m and creates a dark understorey in which few other plants can survive. This is in marked contrast to an uncoppiced woodland plantation, where the age structure is uniform throughout. The diversity created within a small area is what

makes coppice relatively attractive to so many species. It also creates a woodland that holds much interest and beauty for human visitors.

b. In the case of FNP, the planting plan already has seven coupes outlined. They appear to be roughly the same size and shape (as square as possible) and all are accessible directly from a ride. This layout is ideal and should be followed as far as possible in future. Location of rides was fixed by the planting. The coupes should be marked out on the ground as soon as possible (the longer this is left, the more difficult the process will be amongst the quickly growing and tightly planted trees), perhaps using simple wooden pegs driven into the ground at each coupe's corner
c. In the future, the aim should be to bring the 3.5 hectares of hazel into a seven-year rotation as soon as possible.
d. Nothing should be cut until the hazel is established and growing vigorously – perhaps after its third summer, so by the end of summer 2026. Delay is recommended if there is any doubt about the vigour of the hazel's growth
e. Before the first cut, the tree guards will have to be removed.
f. Each cut of a healthy and vigorous hazel plant stimulates it to produce larger numbers of stems, a feature that gardeners will recognise from pruning other woody shrubs or trees. Hazel's response is particularly marked. Production of multiple stems in plants growing close together forces each stem to grow straight upwards, towards the light, resulting in large number of long straight, generally unbranched stems – exactly what a commercial coppice business requires.
g. To achieve a seven-year rotation Wassledine advises cutting the whole area over three winters, a third each year (temporarily ignoring the coupe boundaries). Cutting the whole 3.5 hectares in one winter might produce results slightly more quickly but this *third at a time* approach is less radical and allows room for delaying a second cut if plants in the first area don't respond as hoped. Cuts would be taken at the end of the winters of 2026/27, 27/28, and 28/29.
h. In winter 2029/30, the first cut would be taken from coupe 1, following the mapped boundaries as closely as possible. In subsequent winters, each of the seven coupes would be cut until 2035/36 during which winter, coupe seven would be cut to complete the rotation. Thus, following these proposals, a complete rotation would be achieved after thirteen summers from planting in 2023/24.

Table 1. Summary of suggested actions to create a coppice rotation

Year No.	Winter of	Action
0	2023/24	Planting
1	2024/25	No action
2	2025/26	No action
3	2026/27	Cut one third of hazel
4	2027/28	Cut one third of hazel
5	2028/29	Cut one third of hazel

6	2029/30	Cut coupe 1 following mapped boundaries
7	2030/31	Cut coupe 2 following mapped boundaries
8-12	2031-2036	Cut coupes 3-7
13	2036/37	Cut coupe 1

i. Coupe order – there is on-going debate in the coppice world regarding whether to cut adjacent coupes each winter or to move the cut around at random. There are pros and cons to each approach. Wassledine suggest that cutting adjacent coupes makes life slightly more straightforward in that the next coupe to cut at any time is clear – it's simply the next one along. Once this decision is made it will be difficult to change, but it won't be completely fixed until 2035.

7. Managing the coppice – workforce and the case for a commercial approach

a. Management of hazel coppice is a labour intensive business requiring significant investment of time through the winter and into the spring every year. Coppice management in a wood can lead to worthwhile outcomes for wildlife and landscape and there are examples of coppice being managed successfully purely for these reasons. However, without a commercial element, the work has a cost that can be difficult to justify even in ancient woodland where special wildlife (bats, dormice, bluebells, oxlips, butterflies, etc.) are being looked after. A potential financial return could be important in the decision making process. Two simple options present themselves for Flitwick Town Council to develop a hazel coppice rotation.
    i. Use existing or recruited employee/s to carry out the necessary work – early in the process this could be an existing grounds maintenance team without the need for additional skills or training.
    ii. Engage a suitable contractor to carry out the work
b. However, a third option is definitely worth considering:
    iii. Development of a volunteer team to be involved with the coppice management into the future. This could be managed in-house or through a third party contractor - the same or a different contract to the one in ii. above (see below)

8. Involving local people in Flitwick Nature Park[3]

a. FNP's location close to large populations of people means that lots of local people are likely already to be interested in what happens there. For the same reason it's a likely project for the development of a volunteer team to help with a whole array of tasks. There are at least two sides to involving people
    i. Intellectual - information about what's planned and what's going on now

ii. Physical - opportunities to get involved in the process

b. To be successful, a volunteer group needs support in the form of information, management, training, finances, tools and guidance. As it develops, other facilities might become necessary - storage, workshop, admin, decision making and financial management structure, etc. Although volunteer-led and managed volunteer groups are common, there is usually a support network of some kind provided by professionals somewhere in the background.

c. Information
   i. It has been assumed here that Flitwick Town Council (FTC) and the Forest Team, have carried out some promotion amongst people in and around the town so there should be a general, possibly low level awareness of at least the fact that the Park has been created and perhaps of the intentions for management in the future. It is also highly visible from Maulden Road and the A507, so many people who pass by will know something's happening there.
   ii. Coppicing, by its very nature, appears to be destructive, so in a newly created woodland, the first cuts have potential to cause concern if people aren't aware of what's going on. Even without an ambition to recruit volunteers in future, a regular effort should be made to introduce the idea of coppice to people as soon as possible, by on-site signage[4] and guided walks; information on websites reached perhaps via QR codes on site; social media posts; a local radio, TV and newspaper(?) campaign and talks to local groups. It has been assumed that this kind of effort is planned or has already started with regard to the wider Park.
   iii. If involvement of local people in the future management of coppice is seen to be important, recruitment of a volunteer team should be mentioned in this publicity at an early a stage as possible – even though there won't be anything practical to do with regard the coppice until the winter of 2026/27

d. Volunteer involvement - there are several ways in which volunteers could be involved in FNP's future management. Many apply to the wider Park but this section will focus specifically on involvement of volunteers in the hazel coppice.
   i. Practical work:
      1. Remove guards from trees to be coppiced
      2. First cut of hazel over three winters and removal of cut material, starting winter 2026/27
      3. First cut of coupe 1, winter 2029/30. Training provided on the job. Use of power tools as necessary by professionals, volunteers with hand tools
      4. From this point, there should be a small amount of saleable material produced and potential for the beginnings of some

craft workshops. These opportunities should develop each year.

ii. The approach to volunteer working - from the outset, Flitwick Town Council should make their ambitions as clear as possible in this regard. Three approaches present themselves:
    a. Develop and manage a volunteer team in-house
    b. Contract a coppicing business to develop and manage a volunteer team in exchange for money and/or coppice products – the balance of which should change over time. Volunteers working alongside the contractor
    c. Contract a local charity[5] to develop and manage a volunteer team in exchange for money. Volunteers sworking alongside the charity's staff

e. Commercial – In the long term (15 years plus), there should be saleable products available from the coppice. As has been mentioned above, a commercial element would provide incentive for the coppice to be cut every year, which is what is needed to bring it into production and maintain it in future. FTC may see an opportunity for its own business enterprise here and have the necessary skills to develop it. Alternatively, it is possible to foresee volunteers running a small coppice business, perhaps as a social enterprise, most likely with some support. Equally, a local coppice business might work in partnership with FTC to provide expert supervision and training for volunteers as well as more labour and use of power tools where necessary, in exchange for payments initially and then, if successful, for the products, as more volume is produced.
f. Formal training and employment – Again in the long-term, it is possible that a commercial venture could be successful enough to provide opportunities for work-based training such as an apprenticeship or internship and eventually a paid post.

Notes

1. *Wassledine is a Bedfordshire based coppice business established in 2003, cutting hazel, willow and birch* - http://wassledine.co.uk
2. *Trees for Climate – an ambitious multi-million-pound programme offering landowners, farmers and community groups free expert advice and funding to transform their land through hedge and tree planting and woodland creation* - *https://www.marstonvale.org/trees-for-climate*
3. *For the purposes of this document, Flitwick Town Council is assumed to be committed to involving local volunteers in the management of the whole site in future*
4. *Wassledine has access to some explanatory signs produced by the National Coppice Federation and others*
5. *Likely organisations – The Greensand Trust, The Forest of Marston Vale Trust, The Wildlife Trust (BCN), The Conservation Volunteers*

Author – Guy Lambourne, Wassledine, 07794 013876, info@wassledine.co.uk
http://wassledine.co.uk March 2025

Flitwick Nature Park

Management costing for hazel coppice

2026-27

Introduction

This document has been produced by Guy Lambourne of Wassledine at the request of Sarah Burgess at Flitwick Town Council (FTC). The costings are based on actions described in the *Flitwick Nature Park Management Plan* (2025) and relate only to the management of 3.5ha of hazel coppice planted at the northern end of the site.

Aim

To introduce and develop a seven-year coppice rotation in 3.5ha of hazel planted during the winter of 2023/24, at Flitwick Nature Park, according to proposals in the Management Plan (2025)

Two alternative approaches are suggested:

1. Wassledine carries out all the works required
2. Wassledine works with FTC to recruit and develop a group of volunteers, probably drawn largely from local communities, to begin to work alongside and under the guidance of Wassledine, in the hazel coppice

DRAFT

Alternative 1 – Wassledine does the coppice work

Flitwick Town Council staff will be kept informed at all stages and get involved in as much or as little as they see appropriate.

Time period	Action/s	Cost/s	Outputs
Summer/autumn 2026	Two site visits to assess hazel growth, plan first winter's work and Survey and mark out: - 3 equal 1.2ha areas for first cut - 7 equal areas as final coupes - 2 trial plots Liaison with FTC Public guided walk jointly with FTC	£250 £100	Plan for first winter's cut agreed Guided walk delivered on site
Winter 2026/27	First cut The area will be assessed for the success of hazel growth during summer 2026. Growth during summers of 2024 and 2025 has not been as vigorous as hoped and many replacements have been required. Initial assessment therefore suggests a reduction of the first cut to two square trial areas, of perhaps 50 plants each, that can be assessed for regrowth the following summer. The cut stems will have no value and because they are small, will be cut with a clearing saw and left where they fall. Tree guards to be removed from site – taken to the Forest Centre for recycling. All cut areas to be marked on the ground with corner stakes and recorded electronically	Small trial plots x 2 - £300 Disposal of tree guards - £50	2 small trial plots cut and marked Tree guards disposed of appropriately. Timber stakes left in situ
Total cost 2026/27		**£700**	
Summer/autumn 2027	Site visit to assess hazel growth in cut and uncut areas. Plan second winter's work. Liaison with FTC Public guided walk jointly with FTC	£100 £100	Plan developed for second winter cut Guided walk delivered on site
Winter 2027/28	Cut first 1/3 of area. Includes removal of tree guards to Forest Centre The cut stems will have no value and because they are small, will be cut with a clearing saw and left on site where they fall Or further trial plots cut if concerns remain regarding health and vigour of the hazel. If this is the case, advice should be sought from the Forest of Marston Vale Team	£900	First 1/3 of total area cut Tree guards disposed of appropriately. Timber stakes left in situ
Total cost 2027/28		**£1100**	
Total costs to end of winter 2027-28		**£1800**	
Contingency (15%)		**£270**	
Suggested budget		**£2070**	

DRAFT

Alternative 2 – Wassledine works with volunteers to develop a coppice rotation

Wassledine & FTC:

* Begin recruitment of a team of volunteers who are interested in getting involved with hazel coppice in FNP. [The same volunteers are likely to be involved with other tasks at FNP but this document considers work on the hazel coppice only]
* Produce joint plans/documentation for safe working practice, risk assessment, GDPR compliance and other health and safety issues.

Proposed division of roles and responsibilities between Wassledine and Flitwick Town Council

Wassledine

- Lead tasks on the ground
- Provide on the job training, eg in basic hand tool use, safe working,
- Provide information verbally on coppicing, history, products, etc.
- Produce written risk assessments for site and tasks and maintain copies for reference
- Arrange visits to other woods as desired

Flitwick Town Council

- Financial support for the volunteer group as necessary – perhaps set up a small running budget
- Purchase tools and other equipment as requested by Wassledine
- Liaise with Wassledine and group members as necessary
- Pay Wassledine for its input

Responsibility to be confirmed

- Arrange Public liability for the volunteer group
- Provide secure storage for tools and equipment purchased specifically for the volunteer group
- Arrange insurance for tools and any other equipment purchased specifically for the volunteer group
- Administration of group details as a minimum to comply with requirements of GDPR

A proposal that includes volunteers is difficult to cost because there is no certainty regarding the numbers of people who might come forward, their enthusiasm, availability and willingness to keep coming back for more. The fallback position will always be with Wassledine, to complete any task or group of tasks.
In the long term, volunteers can offer a genuine and worthwhile addition to the outputs of any project, but in the early stages, while people lack experience, skills and knowledge, this approach takes longer and is more expensive than an alternative where a contractor carries out the tasks.

In the timetable and costing below it is assumed that volunteers will be invited to take part in all stages – site meetings, surveys as well as practical tasks. Wassledine will provide all necessary supervision. Flitwick Town Council staff will be kept informed at all stages and get involved as much or as little as they see appropriate.
Once a volunteer group is established, it is assumed that FTC will begin to work with them to get involved in other tasks in FNP beyond the hazel coppice.

DRAFT

Time period	Action/s	Cost/s	Output
Summer 2026			
June	Guided walk on site to introduce potential volunteers to the project	£100	Guided walk run on site
August-October	Repeat of guided walk if first hasn't produced what is considered sufficient numbers. Consider alternative approach, eg. evening meeting, taster session on-site	£150	A second event runs if required
	Assessment of growth of hazel. Site visit	£100	Decision on what to cut in coming winter. Liaison with FTC
	Survey and mark out: - 3 equal 1.2ha areas for first cut - 7 equal areas as final coupes - 2 trial areas Liaison with FTC	 £200	Two trial areas and 7 coupes marked on site and electronically
	Summer/autumn visit to Wassledine's coppice	£150	Volunteers experience in-rotation hazel coppice
	Arrange public liability insurance for volunteer group	?	Volunteer group insured against third party risk
	Establish administration of volunteer group - names, addresses, contacts, emergency contacts, medical conditions, etc. Minimum necessary for practical purposes. Must comply with GDPR. FTC to manage	-	Necessary information stored compliant with GDPR
Winter 2026/27	First cut The area will be assessed for the success of hazel growth during summer 2026. Growth during summers of 2024 and 2025 has not been as vigorous as hoped and many replacements have been required. Initial assessment therefore suggests a reduction of the first cut to two square trial areas, of perhaps 50 plants each, that can be assessed for regrowth during the following summer. The hazel will be cut by volunteers with loppers and will have no value, so left where it falls. Tree guards to be removed from site – taken to the Forest Centre for recycling. All cut areas to be marked on the ground with corner stakes and recorded electronically	£300	Two, 50 plant trial areas cut by volunteers
Total cost – 2026/27		**£1000**	
Summer 2027	Two site visits to assess hazel growth in cut and uncut areas. Plan second winter's work. Liaison with FTC Guided walk on site	£250 £100	Volunteers involved with assessment and plans Plan developed for second winter cut Volunteer interest maintained Guided walk run on site
	Purchase tools and other equipment. Eg. loppers, Silky saws, rigger gloves, storage boxes (FTC)	£800	Tools purchased and storage secured
	Arrange insurance and storage for new tools (responsibility to be confirmed)	?	New tools insured against theft

DRAFT

Winter 2027/28	First cut of 1/3 of area, cut by volunteers with loppers (Wassledine to complete with machine if necessary). The cut stems will have no value and because they are small, will be left where they fall. Includes removal of plastic tree guards to Forest Centre. Timber tree stakes left in situ. Or Further trial plots cut if concerns remain regarding health and vigour of the hazel. If this is the case, advice should be sought from the Forest of Marston Vale Team	£1000	First 1/3 area cut Volunteers involved in the cut Plastic tree guards disposed of off-site
Total 2027/28		**£2850**	
Total cost to end of winter 27/28		**£3150**	
Contingency (15%)		**£473**	
Suggested budget		**£3623**	

Notes

This draft includes areas that have not yet been finalised:

1. Storage of volunteer tools and other equipment.
2. Public liability and theft/damage insurance if volunteers re involved
3. A volunteer group will need to keep some records of the people involved, at a minimum, to comply with GDPR requirements. The schedule above suggests this is managed by FTC

DRAFT

Guy Lambourne, Wassledine, May 2026

Flitwick Town Council

Report to Community Services 7th July 2026
Nature Park – Hazel Management

Background
At the December 2023 Community Services Meeting Members received a presentation remotely regarding the Nature Park plan. Darren Woodward from the Forest of Marton Vale explained the plan in detail and addressed questions asked by members.

The Woodland design plan included Broadleaf Woodland, Hazel Coppice, Woodland pasture, hedgerow, and informal paths. These areas were divided into zones. Placement of areas and the design included wildlife, conservation of heritage areas as well as Landscape impact.

Members asked about the Hazel Coppice and the environmental impact of this along with the commercial aspects of using this species of plant. It was confirmed that there was a large need for this crop and that the area would be divided into 8 sections that would run on a revolving basis to allow for cultivation. The impact of the crop would be great for wildlife due to the differing aspects of growth at one time in the area allowing for a moving landscape. A local company based in Gravenhurst called Wassledine had shown an interest in supporting this aspect of the project.

It was suggested that the Hazel Coppice would allow for community engagement and that a volunteer group could be used but that if there was a need then commercial agreements could be put in place to limit expenditure in this area.

Members RESOLVED to accept the Woodland Design Plan.

At the August 2025 Community Services Meeting Members RESOLVED to adopt the Nature Park Management Plan which included a Hazel Management Plan – see attached Appendix 1.

Introduction
The Amenities Officer has liaised with Guy Lambourne of Wassledine, a local hazel coppicing enterprise, and asked him to prepare a proposal for the management of the hazel at the Nature Park.
Two management approaches have been suggested:

1. Wassledine carries out all required works.
2. Wassledine works with FTC to recruit and develop a volunteer group to operate under Wassledine's supervision and guidance.

A breakdown of the estimated costs and works involved is attached at Appendix 2.
Option 1 – suggested budget of £2,070.
Option 2 – suggested budget of £3,623.

Additional Matters
Expenditure would be covered from the Tree for Climate annual maintenance payments.

The proposed plan would take the project through to winter 2027/28, at which point it would be reviewed for continuation.

This plan and the associated costings relate only to the management of the hazel. However, the benefits of Option 2 are considered to outweigh the savings offered by Option 1. Option 2 would provide expert advice and management of the hazel while enabling FTC to retain oversight and

develop a strong volunteer group. This would support the Council's wider strategies and contribute to future volunteer management of the wider Nature Park.

Option 2 is more costly as it includes additional support from Wassledine and the time required to train volunteers to manage the coppice and learn the craft of coppicing.

It would be beneficial to for one member of the Public Realm team to participate in this management approach for future management options.

Recommendations
Option 1 – Wassledine to carry out all works at an estimated cost of £2,070
Option 2 – Wassledine works with FTC to recruit and develop a volunteer group to operate under Wassledine's supervision and guidance at an estimated cost of £3,623
Option 3 – To not manage the hazel and let nature take its course

Officer Recommendation
Option 2 - Wassledine works with FTC to recruit and develop a volunteer group to operate under Wassledine's supervision and guidance at a n estimated cost of £3,623

Sarah Burgess
Amenities Officer

Flitwick Town Council Community Committee Financial Summary 26/27

01 April to 31st May 2026

	YTD Income	Income Budget	+/- EMR Mvts	% Budget Achieved		YTD Expenditure	Expenditure Budget	+/- EMR Mvts	% Budget Spent
Community Amenities	£ 7,165	£ 24,913		29%		£ 26,941	£ 335,818	*£ 825*	8%
Community Engagement	£ 22,555	£ 27,810		81%		£ 61,251	£ 301,425	*£ 112*	20%
Community Committee	**£ 29,720**	**£ 52,723**	***£ -***	56%		**£ 88,192**	**£ 637,243**	***£ 937***	14%

TOLERANCES: spend against budget

Income	**0% to 24%**	**RED**
	25% to 74%	**AMBER**
	75% to 100%+	**GREEN**
Expenditure	**0% to 74%**	**GREEN**
	75% to 99%	**AMBER**
	100%	**BLACK**
	101%+	**RED**

Community Services Summary 26/27

			01-31 May 26		2026/27 Year to date							
			Income	Expenditure	**Income**	Budget	*+/- EMR Mvts*	% Budget Achieved	**Expenditure**	Budget	*+/- EMR Mvts*	% Budget Spent
	4001/300, 4002/300, 4037/300	**Staff Costs**		£ 20,296					£ 41,102	£ 254,228		**16%**
300	4005/300, 4006/300, 4008/300, 4063/300	**Vehicle/Truck Costs**		£ 1,327					£ 4,619	£ 16,955		**27%**
	4064/300, 4103/300	**Other Costs** (CCTV & Internal Hire)		£ 2,061					£ 2,081	£ 3,800		**55%**
	1004/301, 1013/301, 4015/301, 4068/301	**Burial Grounds** (301)	£ 2,332	£ 110	£ 2,581	£ 16,000		**16%**	£ 110	£ 1,600		**7%**
	1005/302, 4015/302, 4072/302, 4103/302	**Allotments** (302)	£ 216	£ 1,018	£ 458	£ 4,500		**10%**	£ 1,463	£ 3,700		**40%**
	1014/302, 1072/303 4013/303, 4015/303, 4059/303, 4078/303, 4084/303, 4085/303, 4110/303, 4128/303, 4132/303, 4137/303, 4140/303, 4700/303, 4701/303, 4702/303, 4703/303	**Local Amenities & Tractor Store** (303)	£ 2,301	£ 5,057	£ 2,301	£ 1,000		**230%**	£ 9,766	£ 35,785	*£ 825*	**25%**
	1010/305, 1012/305 4075/305,4098/305, 4111/305, 4122/305	**Play Areas / Millennium Park** (305)	£ 525	£ 98	£ 1,825	£ 3,413		**53%**	-£ 2,233	£ 10,100		**-22%**
	4096/306, 4097/306	**Street Lighting**		£ 503					£ 503	£ 9,650		**5%**

Community Services Narrative

Apr-26	Nature Park	4702/303	Spend for Draft Management Plan (£750) taken from Nature Park Annual Grant (EMR 317) negating any overspend.
	Transport Interchange Maint	4703/303	Spending for Transport Interchange Maintenance to be matched to CBC income received on 1072/303
May-26	Tractor Store Water Dispenser	4137/303	Monthly maintenance costs for Tractor Store Water Dispenser for staff
	Play Areas Maintenance	4075/305	Showing as 'in credit' (negative figure) following year end Accrual for Millennium, Fir Tree and Station Road play area repairs. This accrual will be cleared once the invoice for works is received and paid.

Community Engagement Summary 26/27

		01-31 May 2026		2026/27 Year to date							
		Income	Expenditure	**Income**	Budget	*+/- EMR Mvts*	% Budget Achieved	**Expenditure**	Budget	*+/- EMR Mvts*	% Budget Spent
4001/312	**Salaries & Wages**		£ 18,279					£ 31,315	£ 156,490		**20%**
1148/310, 1149/310, 1191/310 4005/310, 4008/310, 4047/310, 4102/310, 4103/310, 4128/310, 4619/310, 4620/310	**Food Hub** *(including Van Costs)*	£ 124	£ 1,099	£ 146	£ 2,580		**6%**	£ 2,291	£ 9,651		**24%**
1041/311, 4049/311	**Youth Activities**	£ 15,000	£ -	£ 15,000	£ 15,000		**100%**	£ 13,063	£ 52,250		**25%**
1035/311, 4013/311, 4015/311, 4016/311, 4082/311, 4128/311, 4132/311, 4134/311, 4138/311, 4140/311, 4151/311	**Youth Hub**	£ 75	£ 717	£ 960	£ 650		**148%**	£ 4,252	£ 11,354		**37%**
1177/312 4617/312	**Flitwick Heritage (312)**	£ -	£ 112	£ -	£ -		**0%**	£ 112	£ -	*£ 112*	**0%**
1121/312, 1122/312, 1123/312, 1124/312 4103/312, 4614/312, 4626/312, 4627/312, 4628/312, 4629/312	**Community Activities (312)**	£ -	£ 889	£ 356	£ 4,130		**9%**	£ 1,366	£ 14,545		**9%**
1127/313, 1142/313, 1165/131 4043/313, 4200/313, 4204/313, 4211/313, 4213/313, 4540/313, 4541/313, 4551/313, 4618/313	**Community Events (313)**	£ 588	£ 996	£ 6,093	£ 5,450		**112%**	£ 8,852	£ 57,135		**15%**

Community Activity Narrative

Apr-25	Flitwick Living History	4617/312	Spending for Flitwick Living History Project from dedicated Earmarked Reserve (EMR 321) and grant funding.

FTC Projects Review 2026-27

Accepted Project budget variance at 5%.

Last Updated: **31 May 2026**

	PROJECT Details				Project Details										FUNDING Details				
	Project Code	N/C	Project Description	Committee	Minute Ref	Project Start Date	Whole Project Funds Committed	*Previous Year's Project Spend*	26/27 Opening Project Balance	GRANT /Funding Received	26/27 Project Spend to Date	Overspend Funded by CPF/Ops Reserve	Underspend Returned to CPF/Ops Reserves	Project Commitment Remaining YTD		TOTAL Approved Grants/ Funding	Prev Yrs Funds Received	26/27 Funds Received	Grants/ Funding Budget Remaining	Comments
Ongoing Projects	**800**	4212 110	Proj - Nature Park	Community	Del. Auth	Apr-21	£ 3,000	*£ 13,490*	**£ -**		£ -			**£ -**	0%	£ 283,385	£ 10,490	£ -	**£ 272,895**	*S106 remaining: Phase 1 £7,106.89, Phase 2 £274,728 & Plans £1,550 (CBC to be invoiced for S106 once works completed). SL 7/9/22. Planning Consultant RCF approved July 23.* ***Jan 25*** *: CPF Fund & 24/25 Grant Instal complete. Outstanding approved grant fund (£272,895) not yet claimed. No further CPF spend committed. £10,490 received on FTC8584 June 2024.*
	802	4823 110	Proj - Heritage Website	Community	753a 5252a)i	Jun-23	£ 3,800	£ 1,580	**£ 2,220**		£ -			**£ 2,220**	58%					
	819	4864 110	Proj - Community Fridge Door	Business	5934c	Dec-25	£ 5,000	£ 4,742	**£ 258**		£ 300	**£ 42**		**£ -**	0%			*£ 5,000*	**£ 5,000**	*Funded by £5,000 from* ***Ops Reserves*** *EMR 319 transfer (journal 4462).* **PROJECT CLOSED Apr 26**
	821	4867 110	Proj - Stocksfield Renovation	Council	5964a	Feb-26	£ 15,434	£ 1,693	**£ 13,741**		£ 11,656			**£ 2,085**	14%					*Funded by £15,433.30 from* ***Ops Reserves*** *EMR 319 transfer (journal).*

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
COMMUNITY Amenities & PublicR									
300	CORE SERVICES								
4001	Salaries & Wages	18,046	36,778	236,478	199,700		199,700	15.6%	
4002	Uniform	0	74	750	676		676	9.8%	
4005	Vehicle/Trucks Maintenance	252	374	750	376		376	49.9%	
4006	Fuel	343	744	4,000	3,256		3,256	18.6%	
4008	Vehicle/Trucks Insurance	0	2,036	3,361	1,325		1,325	60.6%	
4037	PublicR Contractor Costs	2,250	4,250	17,000	12,750		12,750	25.0%	
4063	Vehicle/Truck Lease Repayments	732	1,465	8,844	7,379		7,379	16.6%	
4064	Town Centre CCTV	1,927	1,927	2,800	873		873	68.8%	
4103	FTC Internal Hire	134	154	1,000	847		847	15.3%	
	CORE SERVICES :- Indirect Expenditure	**23,683**	**47,802**	**274,983**	**227,181**	**0**	**227,181**	**17.4%**	**0**
	Net Expenditure	**(23,683)**	**(47,802)**	**(274,983)**	**(227,181)**				
301	BURIAL GROUNDS								
1004	Burial Grounds Income	2,332	2,581	15,000	12,419			17.2%	
1013	CBC-Closed Burial Ground	0	0	1,000	1,000			0.0%	
	BURIAL GROUNDS :- Income	**2,332**	**2,581**	**16,000**	**13,419**			**16.1%**	**0**
4015	Utility - Water	0	0	100	100		100	0.0%	
4068	Burial Ground	110	110	1,500	1,390		1,390	7.3%	
	BURIAL GROUNDS :- Indirect Expenditure	**110**	**110**	**1,600**	**1,490**	**0**	**1,490**	**6.9%**	**0**
	Net Income over Expenditure	**2,222**	**2,471**	**14,400**	**11,929**				
302	ALLOTMENTS								
1005	Allotment Income	216	458	4,500	4,042			10.2%	
	ALLOTMENTS :- Income	**216**	**458**	**4,500**	**4,042**			**10.2%**	**0**
4015	Utility - Water	938	938	1,850	912		912	50.7%	
4072	Allotments Maintenance	54	72	1,500	1,428		1,428	4.8%	
4103	FTC Internal Hire	26	453	350	(103)		(103)	129.4%	
	ALLOTMENTS :- Indirect Expenditure	**1,018**	**1,463**	**3,700**	**2,237**	**0**	**2,237**	**39.5%**	**0**
	Net Income over Expenditure	**(802)**	**(1,005)**	**800**	**1,805**				
303	LOCAL AMENITIES/TRACTOR STORE								
1014	Phone Mast (Station Rd)	0	0	1,000	1,000			0.0%	
1072	Transport Interchange Maint.	2,301	2,301	0	(2,301)			0.0%	
	LOCAL AMENITIES/TRACTOR STORE :- Income	**2,301**	**2,301**	**1,000**	**(1,301)**			**230.1%**	**0**

Continued over page

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
4013	Utility - Electric	101	101	1,200	1,099		1,099	8.4%	
4015	Utility - Water	0	0	1,000	1,000		1,000	0.0%	
4059	SUNDRIES	0	0	500	500		500	0.0%	
4078	Planting/Weeding	46	46	2,500	2,454	2,000	454	81.8%	
4084	Plant/Equip -PURCHASE	0	2,405	4,000	1,595		1,595	60.1%	
4085	Plant/Equip- MAINTENANCE	1,189	1,189	4,500	3,311	1,580	1,731	61.5%	
4110	Tree Maintenance	0	150	4,000	3,850	700	3,150	21.3%	
4128	Waste Disposal	757	1,154	6,025	4,871		4,871	19.2%	
4132	Building Maintenance	23	23	1,000	977		977	2.3%	
4137	Water Dispenser Maintenance	16	16	0	(16)		(16)	0.0%	
4140	Maintenance Contracts	0	870	1,060	190		190	82.0%	
4700	Flitwick Manor Park	2,850	2,745	9,000	6,255		6,255	30.5%	
4701	Flit Valley Maintenance	0	0	500	500		500	0.0%	
4702	Flitwick Nature Park	0	825	500	(325)		(325)	165.0%	825
4703	Transport Interchange Maint.	76	242	0	(242)		(242)	0.0%	
	LOCAL AMENITIES/TRACTOR STORE :- Indirect Expenditure	**5,057**	**9,766**	**35,785**	**26,019**	**4,280**	**21,739**	**39.3%**	**825**
	Net Income over Expenditure	**(2,756)**	**(7,465)**	**(34,785)**	**(27,320)**				
6000	plus Transfer from EMR	0	825	0	(825)				
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	**(2,756)**	**(6,640)**	**(34,785)**	**(28,145)**				
305	PLAY AREAS								
1010	Pitch / Field Hire	0	0	903	903			0.0%	
1012	Millennium Park Hire	525	1,825	2,510	685			72.7%	
	PLAY AREAS :- Income	**525**	**1,825**	**3,413**	**1,588**			**53.5%**	**0**
4075	Play Areas Repairs & Maint.	36	(2,527)	8,000	10,527	617	9,909	(23.9%)	
4098	Skate Park Lighting	29	29	500	471		471	5.8%	
4111	Pitch Maintenance - Hinksley R	0	0	700	700		700	0.0%	
4122	Changing Rooms - Hinksley Rd	33	264	900	636		636	29.4%	
	PLAY AREAS :- Indirect Expenditure	**98**	**(2,233)**	**10,100**	**12,333**	**617**	**11,716**	**(16.0%)**	**0**
	Net Income over Expenditure	**427**	**4,058**	**(6,687)**	**(10,745)**				
306	STREET LIGHTING								
4096	Electricity - Street Lights	425	425	7,650	7,225		7,225	5.6%	
4097	Street Lighting Maintenance	78	78	2,000	1,922		1,922	3.9%	
	STREET LIGHTING :- Indirect Expenditure	**503**	**503**	**9,650**	**9,147**	**0**	**9,147**	**5.2%**	**0**
	Net Expenditure	**(503)**	**(503)**	**(9,650)**	**(9,147)**				
	COMMUNITY Amenities & PublicR :- Income	**5,374**	**7,165**	**24,913**	**17,748**			**28.8%**	
	Expenditure	**30,469**	**57,410**	**335,818**	**278,408**	**4,898**	**273,510**	**18.6%**	
	Net Income over Expenditure	**(25,095)**	**(50,245)**	**(310,905)**	**(260,660)**				

Continued over page

	Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
plus Transfer from EMR	**0**	**825**	0	(825)				
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	**(25,095)**	**(49,420)**	**(310,905)**	**(261,485)**				
Grand Totals:- Income	**5,374**	**7,165**	**24,913**	**17,748**			**28.8%**	
Expenditure	**30,469**	**57,410**	**335,818**	**278,408**	**4,898**	**273,510**	**18.6%**	
Net Income over Expenditure	**(25,095)**	**(50,245)**	**(310,905)**	**(260,660)**				
plus Transfer from EMR	**0**	**825**	0	(825)				
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	**(25,095)**	**(49,420)**	**(310,905)**	**(261,485)**				

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
COMMUNITY Engagement									
310	FOOD HUB								
1148	Comm Fridge Deliveries	124	144	240	96			59.8%	
1149	Sofea Collections	0	0	2,340	2,340			0.0%	
1191	Miscellaneous Income	1	3	0	(3)			0.0%	
	FOOD HUB :- Income	124	146	2,580	2,434			5.7%	0
4005	Vehicle/Trucks Maintenance	172	535	850	315		315	62.9%	
4008	Vehicle/Trucks Insurance	0	672	1,610	938		938	41.7%	
4047	Training	0	0	450	450		450	0.0%	
4102	FTC Internal Rent	108	216	1,296	1,080		1,080	16.7%	
4103	FTC Internal Hire	0	0	250	250		250	0.0%	
4128	Waste Disposal	28	56	355	299		299	15.9%	
4619	General Community Fridge Costs	790	812	2,500	1,688		1,688	32.5%	
4620	Sofea Collections	0	0	2,340	2,340		2,340	0.0%	
	FOOD HUB :- Indirect Expenditure	1,099	2,291	9,651	7,360	0	7,360	23.7%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	(974)	(2,144)	(7,071)	(4,927)				
311	THE HUB & YOUTH ACTIVITIES								
1035	Youth Hub Hire	75	960	650	(310)			147.7%	
1041	Youth Activities	15,000	15,000	15,000	0			100.0%	
	THE HUB & YOUTH ACTIVITIES :- Income	15,075	15,960	15,650	(310)			102.0%	0
4013	Utility - Electric	184	184	1,013	829		829	18.2%	
4015	Utility - Water	0	0	1,000	1,000		1,000	0.0%	
4016	Business Rates	0	1,764	2,367	603		603	74.5%	
4049	Youth Provision	0	13,063	52,250	39,188		39,188	25.0%	
4082	Youth Hub CCTV	0	0	500	500		500	0.0%	
4128	Waste Disposal	28	57	390	333		333	14.5%	
4132	Building Maintenance	110	110	1,500	1,390	110	1,280	14.7%	
4134	Cleaning Costs	2	95	1,600	1,505		1,505	5.9%	
4138	Equipment Purchase	340	340	500	160		160	67.9%	
4140	Maintenance Contracts	0	1,598	1,980	382		382	80.7%	
4151	Broadband Costs	52	104	504	400		400	20.7%	
	THE HUB & YOUTH ACTIVITIES :- Indirect Expenditure	717	17,315	63,604	46,289	110	46,179	27.4%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	14,358	(1,355)	(47,954)	(46,599)				

Continued over page

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
312	COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES								
1121	Health & Wellbeing	0	356	500	144			71.3%	
1122	Over 60s & Older People	0	0	3,150	3,150			0.0%	
1123	Inclusive & Disability	0	0	240	240			0.0%	
1124	Families & Children	0	0	240	240			0.0%	
	COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES :- Income	0	356	4,130	3,774			8.6%	0
4001	Salaries & Wages	18,279	31,315	156,490	125,175		125,175	20.0%	
4103	FTC Internal Hire	418	661	6,000	5,340		5,340	11.0%	
4614	Proud AF Initiative	144	144	1,500	1,356		1,356	9.6%	
4617	Flitwick Living History	112	112	0	(112)		(112)	0.0%	112
4626	Health & Wellbeing	300	508	1,685	1,177		1,177	30.2%	
4627	Over 60s & Older People	27	54	2,450	2,396		2,396	2.2%	
4628	Inclusive & Disability	0	0	2,710	2,710		2,710	0.0%	
4629	Families & Children	0	0	200	200		200	0.0%	
	COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES :- Indirect Expenditure	19,280	32,793	171,035	138,242	0	138,242	19.2%	112
	Net Income over Expenditure	(19,280)	(32,437)	(166,905)	(134,468)				
6000	plus Transfer from EMR	112	112	0	(112)				
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(19,168)	(32,326)	(166,905)	(134,580)				
313	COMMUNITY EVENTS								
1127	Flitwick Fun Day	588	6,093	4,500	(1,593)			135.4%	
1142	Easter Egg Trail	0	0	350	350			0.0%	
1165	Christmas Lights EVENT	0	0	600	600			0.0%	
	COMMUNITY EVENTS :- Income	588	6,093	5,450	(643)			111.8%	0
4043	Remembrance Event	0	0	890	890		890	0.0%	
4200	Christmas Lights Installation	0	0	20,475	20,475		20,475	0.0%	
4204	Flitwick TownSq Chritsmas Tree	0	0	1,500	1,500		1,500	0.0%	
4211	Easter Egg Trail	0	0	350	350		350	0.0%	
4213	Summer Programme	0	928	6,220	5,292		5,292	14.9%	
4540	Christmas Lights EVENT	0	0	5,200	5,200		5,200	0.0%	
4541	Festival of Lights	0	0	5,000	5,000		5,000	0.0%	
4551	Flitwick Fun Day	932	7,861	16,000	8,139		8,139	49.1%	
4618	Community General Costs	64	64	1,500	1,437		1,437	4.2%	
	COMMUNITY EVENTS :- Indirect Expenditure	996	8,852	57,135	48,283	0	48,283	15.5%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	(408)	(2,760)	(51,685)	(48,925)				
	COMMUNITY Engagement :- Income	15,787	22,555	27,810	5,255			81.1%	
	Expenditure	22,091	61,251	301,425	240,174	110	240,064	20.4%	
	Net Income over Expenditure	(6,304)	(38,696)	(273,615)	(234,919)				
	plus Transfer from EMR	112	112	0	(112)				

Continued over page

	Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(6,192)	(38,584)	(273,615)	(235,031)				
Grand Totals:- Income	15,787	22,555	27,810	5,255			81.1%	
Expenditure	22,091	61,251	301,425	240,174	110	240,064	20.4%	
Net Income over Expenditure	(6,304)	(38,696)	(273,615)	(234,919)				
plus Transfer from EMR	112	112	0	(112)				
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(6,192)	(38,584)	(273,615)	(235,031)				

Flitwick Town Council

Community Services Committee – 7th July 2026
Officer Update – Amenities

1. Manor Park

Wildflowers:
The wildflowers, sown by SEND students from Woodland Academy, continue to thrive, creating a valuable corridor for insects and bees and a visually pleasing welcome to the park.

MPWG:
The Manor Park Working Group meets in the park on the first Thursday of each month to carry out maintenance tasks and is looking to add further sessions to undertake some ragwort pulling and continue with other tasks around the park.

Guided Walk:
Tomorrow, 8th July, there is a Guided Walk organised by the Wildlife Trust-Beds Local Group. David Alderman (director of the Tree Register) will guide the group around the park.

2. Millennium Park

Eat Feast:
Future Eat Feast – dates for 2026 are Sat 25th July & Sat 26th September.

Play Equipment:
The accessible roundabout has now been installed in Millennium Park. The Amenities Officer is following up with the supplier to arrange installation of the new basket swing beam, trying to ensure the work does not conflict with the upcoming school holidays.

3. Nature Park

Guided Walk:
On Wednesday 3rd June members of the public joined us to learn all about the Nature, and particularly an introduction to Hazel Coppicing, led by Guy Lambourne of Wassledine. It was an evening of all weathers – with rain, wind, sunshine and we were even treated to a beautiful rainbow over the park.

Another guided walk will be planned for later in the summer/early autumn.

4. SuDS Planter

On behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council as part of the ResilienTogether Project, we were approached regarding SuDS, as the Rufus Centre was identified as a good candidate being home to the Community Fridge.

The planters are designed to connect to an external downpipe and temporarily capture rainwater from roofs during heavy rainfall. Rather than water immediately entering the drainage system, the planter stores and slowly releases it over a period of approximately 30 minutes to 2 hours, helping to reduce pressure on local drainage infrastructure during storms.

Alongside flood resilience benefits, the planters can also:

- support biodiversity and pollinators
- provide habitat opportunities for wildlife
- create attractive green spaces
- and potentially allow stored water to be reused for watering plants or gardens.

The planter, installation, initial soil, and planting are all fully funded through the project, and installation itself only takes a matter of hours.

The planter dimensions are approximately 1 metre high by 1.2 metres long.

Once installed, the planter is fully handed over to FTC and ongoing maintenance would sit with PRT. Maintenance requirements are low and would be included in the 2-weekly schedule.

There is a possibility for this to become a community initiative, introducing herbs to create a herb garden for Community Fridge users to access fresh herbs.

5. Grow Buddies

BRCC have contacted FTC about a Grow Buddies initiative and Amenities Officer & Community Services Officer met with them to see how the initiative may work for us.

BRCC have received a grant as part of Food Fairness and delivering some initiatives around growing your own food. They have selected 3 areas – Dunstable, Sandy and Flitwick.

There are 3 elements to the initiative for Flitwick:

1. Connecting homeowners with gardens to people who don't, so they have opportunities to grow food
2. Planter at Ellenshaw Court – open to all
3. 2/3 workshops, plant a container to take home

A fourth initiative was suggested to partner Buddies with allotment holders that may be struggling.

FTC Commitment for each element:

1. None other than sharing on socials if applicable
2. Displaying the poster at the Community Fridge/ Sharing on socials
3. Community Services Officer to tie this in with Summer Programme – across 3 venues, Hub, Hinksley Rec, grassed area on a Wednesday fridge day – all delivered and equipment provided by BRCC. Sharing on socials
4. Amenities Officer to contact AWG to gauge their thoughts, email out to all allotment holders, allotment holders then liaise with BRCC to connect with their buddy

6. Public Realm Team

Summer planting has now been completed across the Town, and the team continue to maintain, on a rotational basis, all areas.

Flitwick Town Council

Community Services Committee – 7th July 2026

Officers Update

Flitwick Community Fridge Update

We have had a good response to the change in times for the Supported session with more visitors able to access the service. The Supported session on Saturday is slowly building momentum. The timing for the afternoon sessions have changed to 3pm – 4.30pm allowing extra time for parents and carers on school pick up.

It has been a challenging time for the supply of fresh fruit and vegetables. This time last year we received surplus fresh food from SOFEA, however their funding has been cut from DEFRA and they are limited on how much they are able to purchase direct from farms. Some of the donations received from visitors will be used to purchase fruit and veg from wholesalers, ensuring that we are still offering a selection of healthy food to the community. We acknowledge that recent weather patterns are also affecting the supply of fruit and vegetables. The recent hot weather has impacted on the storage of food in the Hub and its longevity.

A meeting of all the organisations involved in community food provision in Flitwick is being arranged to achieve a more joined up approach to support residents impacted by the cost of living.

Tesco funding for cooking courses

The Town Mayors Charity received £500 from Tesco for cooking courses. The funding was not sufficient to run a repeat of the cooking courses for parents and children. To maximise the impact of the funding, cooking sessions will be offered at the youth club as part of the youth provision.

Summer Programme 2026

- 20th July – 24th July: Play in a Week, The Rufus Centre
- 28th July: Community Free Movie Day, The Rufus Centre
- 29th July: The Great Flitwick Cake & Cinema Club, The Rufus Centre
- 31st July: Dance workshop, The Rufus Centre
- 4th August: Circus Skills, The Rufus Centre
- 5th August: Boxing Workshop, The Rufus Centre
- 7th August: Mosaic Workshop, The Hub
- 11th August: The Great Flitwick Cake & Cinema Club, The Rufus Centre
- 12th August: Earth Day & Bug Hotel Workshop, Tiny Forest, Hinksley Rec
- 19th August: Boxing Workshop, The Rufus Centre
- 25th August: Graffiti Workshop, Millennium Park

- 26th August: Community Free Movie Day, The Rufus Centre

Town Mayor Event

- 20th July – Town Mayor's Afternoon Tea (TBC)

<u>Flitwick Family Fun Day</u>

The annual Flitwick Family Fun Day was held on 13 June in Millennium Park. The event was well attended, with an estimated 1,000–1,500 residents participating throughout the day.

The day included two outdoor film screenings, a funfair, community and commercial stalls, food vendors, a free gaming pod, and two live performances by the band Dirty Lotus. The introduction of the gaming pod was particularly well received, providing an additional free activity for children and teenagers, especially for those who may not have wished to participate in the fairground rides.

Kingsmoor Lower School PTA also supported the event by operating from the Village Hall, where they sold refreshments and snacks and organised a range of low-cost games and activities. The Village Hall provided attendees with a quiet and shaded space to rest away from the hot weather throughout the day.

I would like to thank Cllr Thompson, Cllr Earles, Cllr Crawford, Cllr Hart and Cllr Roberts for their support and attendance throughout what was a busy and particularly warm day.

Feedback received from attendees was overwhelmingly positive, with many residents expressing their appreciation for the event and the opportunity it provided for the local community to come together and enjoy a free family-focused day.

Event Report from Pride Picnic 7th June 2026

For Ampthill and Flitwick Town Councils

The fourth annual Pride Picnic Event from Ampthill and Flitwick Town Councils through the joint working group Proud AF was a popular and well supported event. Attendance through the core period (12.30-3.30pm) was between 180-200 representing a combination of groups who stayed for the whole event and other groups, individuals and families who passed through for a short time or stayed for a couple of hours.

The event was supported on the day by ATC Community Engagement Officer and Parks Manager and Maintenance operative, with significant admin support from the ATC Community Engagement officer through the previous weeks and months. FTC officers also supported as needed. On the day , there were 8 volunteers who were able to help set up, support attendees through the event and help with final packing up.

Feedback from attendees was gathered by survey (attached) from groups who were settled at the event. The survey results corresponded with observations and headcounts. In summary - attendees were often in multi-generational groups, often coming because it was a Pride event, with positive comments on the event being family friendly. Attendees came from Ampthill, Flitwick and the Bedford area. They had heard about the event from a range of sources, including print, social media and word of mouth. The most popular feature of the event was the music (50% of responses). There were no significant “dislikes” but some respondents would have liked to see more food choices and stalls. Open comments were positive with one suggestion that advertising wasn’t adequate.

Other feedback to volunteers was wholly positive with a clear indication from attendees that they would like to come again next year and that the friendliness of the event was a big draw.

On the day, the Revolution Circus workshop was in demand for the full 4 hours, the Full House Theatre Drama Geezers interactive sessions were well attended, especially the second session. All 3 food vendors were pleased with steady trade and the two retailers were happy to have paid to come, with the jewellery vendor reporting very good trade. The attendance of Beds Police PCSO Daniel McHugh from the Community Cohesion Team was very much appreciated with a positive comment on this in the survey.

The Proud AF team feel that the event went smoothly and exceeded our expectations in the positivity of attendees. We will have a post event meeting to review any minor glitches and look at planning for next year. Our current expectation is that the event has been well within the assigned budget and we would appreciate any underspend to be placed in reserves to supplement the 2027 event fund.

Survey Results Pride Picnic 7th June 2026 - Responses from 16 groups/58 people							
No in group	Ages	Where From?	Heard about event?	Travelled by?	Liked about Event?	Disliked about Event?	Other Comments
2	46,73	Ampthill	Online	Walked	Free Family Event	Nothing	
3	5, 51,50	Bedford	Friend	Car	Family Friendly		
3	5, 38,39	Bedford	Facebook group	Car	Open, welcoming family event	Limited food van options	Limited advertising. Many friends did not know of this event
4	2,3,30, 31	Stewartby	Came for a walk and noticed	Car	Food, circus, music	Nothing	Lovely to have the Community Officer engaging with children
3		Flitwick	Jamie and Amelie	Car	Music, location		
3		Ampthill	Jamie and Amelie	Walked	Music and friendliness	No Wooden Hill coffee	
2	Teena ger , 50	Flitwick	Church and social Media	Car	Just chilling		
3		Milton Keynes	Facebook	Car	Family friendly	Wind	
3	33,39, 63	Flitwick	The Oracle	Car	Everything - good mix of music and		

					entertainment		
7		Ampthill and Flitwick	Facebook	Walked	Community, music, educating kids.	Nothing	Thank you for putting on a fabulous event every year.
4	7,9,36, 42	Bedford	Unison LGBT+ colleague	Car share with friend	Everything	Nothing	Keep it coming
4		Ampthill	Social Media, Big in Brazil band	Car	Celebration of the diverse world we live in	The weather	Fab Event - thank you for organising
3	32,34, 35	Milton Keynes	Friend had a stall	Car	Live Music	It is small	Hopefully the sun is still out
5	20,21, 46,65, 61	Flitwick	Facebook	Car	The music and cake	Liked it all	
3	64,59, 14	Ampthill	The Oracle	Car	The music, the weather	All Good	
3	2, 36,36,	Maulden	Facebook - Focus on Flitwick	Car	Live Music		
3	8, 44,45	Bedford	Attended previously	Car	Circus and food	Expected more stalls and food	