



Minutes of **FILTON TOWN COUNCIL – Assets & Open Spaces Committee** held at 7:00PM on Tuesday, 16th June 2026 – Held at: Filton Town Council Office's Conference Room.

PRESENT: Cllrs: B. Mead (*Chair*), M. Elmorssy, D. Harris, T. Mewies and J. Molloy.

IN ATTENDANCE: Simon Davies (*Town Clerk*), Robert Hutton (*Deputy Clerk*) and Peach Jones (*Support Officer*).

NON-ATTENDANCE: Cllrs: A. Monk.

APOLOGIES: Cllrs: A. Doyle, A. Mills (*Deputy Chair*).

MEETING STARTED AT 7:00PM

01. EVACUATION PROCEDURES – Noted.

02. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Noted: Cllrs Doyle and Mills.

03. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

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| A. To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda. | None. |
| B. To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any). | None. |
| C. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate. | None. |

04. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: No items were required for exclusion of the press and public, and no members of the press or public were in attendance.

05. ELECTION FOR CHAIR OF COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That Councillor Brian Mead be elected Chair of the Assets & Open Spaces Committee.

06. ELECTION FOR DEPUTY CHAIR OF COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That Councillor Andrew Mills be elected Deputy Chair of the Assets & Open Spaces Committee.

07. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ASSETS & OPEN SPACES MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 20TH MAY 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th May 2026 were approved and signed, as an accurate record.

08. FILTON ATHLETIC PITCH REFURBISHMENT

The Chair of Filton Athletic Football Club (Oliver Keeble) attended the meeting to present outline proposals for the refurbishment and enhancement of the existing football pitch and associated facilities. The proposed improvements are intended to bring the site up to the standards required by the Gloucestershire Football Association, enabling the Club to meet the criteria necessary for promotion to higher leagues from the 2027 season. The proposals

presented included a refurbished playing surface, spectator stand, floodlighting and the construction of a new clubhouse with changing facilities adjacent to the Filton Community Centre.

Mr Keeble advised Members that Filton Athletic FC is keen to work closely with the Town Council, local residents and neighbouring stakeholders throughout the development process to ensure that the final design is both practical for the Club's future requirements and sensitive to the surrounding residential area, Community Centre and Leisure Centre environment.

Three indicative design options were presented. Each option included provision for a clubhouse to be located adjacent to the Filton Community Centre, incorporating changing room facilities to provide direct and convenient access to the pitch. Members were informed that the clubhouse could also be operated in partnership with the Community Centre and made available for a range of community activities and private hire opportunities. This would provide an additional income stream to support the Club's future development and ongoing activities.

Members raised questions regarding access to the site during development, the provision of utilities and services, and the associated infrastructure requirements. Mr Keeble advised that connecting services from the main road would be a significant cost, estimated to be in the region of £30,000–£40,000.

The Committee emphasised the importance of undertaking comprehensive public consultation before any proposals were progressed further, given the potential impact and scale of change within the area. Members requested that further detail and clarification be provided on the proposals to inform residents and stakeholders. It was therefore suggested that the Town Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Sports Development Ranger work in partnership with Mr Keeble to organise and deliver a public consultation event, supported by a more detailed presentation of the proposals. Members considered it important that consultation be undertaken at an early stage to allow sufficient time for feedback to be considered before any future project deadlines.

Mr Keeble further explained that, to satisfy league progression requirements, the Club would need to provide a seated spectator stand and a minimum of 50 spectator seats at its home ground. The indicative designs presented demonstrated how these requirements could be accommodated within the site. Proposed layouts also included floodlighting and a clubhouse facility with a capacity of approximately 200 people.

Members acknowledged that the site is surrounded by residential properties and noted Mr Keeble's commitment to ensuring that any future facility would operate responsibly with due regard for local residents. It was indicated that clubhouse activities would be managed sensitively, with evening use expected to cease by approximately 9.00 pm, while maintaining reasonable public access and community use of the facilities where appropriate.

It was noted that the progression of the project would ultimately be dependent on the Council's support for the principle of the development and the outcome of the consultation and detailed planning process.

RESOLVED: That the Committee note the outline proposals and request that the Deputy Clerk and Sports Development Ranger proceed with arrangements for an initial public

consultation meeting, with a view to developing more detailed proposals for consideration by Full Council on Tuesday, 28th July 2026.

09. SLANT – ELECTRIC SELF-POWERED TRAILER FOR OPEN SPACES TEAM

The Committee received a presentation from Mr Artemis Fragkopoulos, Chief Executive Officer of SLANT, and Mr Tarun Maddila, Chief Technology Officer, regarding the company's modular electric transport platform and the potential application of its electric-powered trailer/trolley system for Filton Town Council's Street Cleansing and Open Spaces operations. The proposal focused on reducing reliance on van journeys for short-distance waste collection and maintenance tasks, whilst supporting operational efficiency, sustainability objectives and lone-worker safety.

Members were advised that the current street cleansing operation is limited by the amount of waste that can be manually carried by a single operative, often requiring a vehicle to return at a later date to collect larger items. SLANT outlined how its modular electric trolley system could increase carrying capacity, reduce repeat journeys, lower vehicle emissions and provide additional features including route tracking, load monitoring, swappable batteries and lone-worker safety monitoring. The system is capable of transporting loads of up to 250kg whilst operating at a maximum assisted speed of 6 kph.

The Committee was informed that SLANT had developed an indicative solution specifically for Filton Town Council and was offering the opportunity for the Council to work in partnership to create a bespoke waste collection platform tailored to the operational needs of the Street Cleanser role. Under this arrangement, Filton Town Council would contribute to the design process by specifying operational requirements, such as trolley dimensions, storage compartments and attachment points. The resulting design could subsequently be marketed to other local authorities and waste management organisations, with Filton Town Council receiving a royalty payment equivalent to 5% of the cost price of future sales, capped at £10,000.

Members noted that SLANT presented two options for consideration:

Option 1 – Pilot Scheme

- £1,500 one-off capital cost per trolley.
- £99 monthly operating charge.
- First three months of the monthly charge provided free of charge.
- Includes training, priority support, upgrades, replacement guarantee and a three-month impact report.
- The system may be returned at no cost should the Council decide not to proceed following the pilot period.

Option 2 – Co-Design Partnership

- Additional £2,500 contribution towards product development.
- Eligibility to receive royalties on future sales of the co-designed platform.
- Opportunity for the Council to influence the final product specification.

The presenters advised that, based on their estimates, the platform could generate operational savings through the reduction of vehicle call-backs and repeat visits, with projected payback periods ranging from approximately five to twelve weeks depending on usage levels. Additional benefits identified included reduced emissions, support for local net-zero objectives and improved health and safety arrangements for lone workers.

Members asked a number of questions regarding the practical operation of the system, including off-road performance, maintenance requirements and future pricing arrangements. SLANT advised that the proposed monthly cost would remain fixed and would not be subject to inflationary increases. In respect of use on grassed and parkland areas, Members were advised that the trolley was designed for mixed operational environments but that common sense should be exercised in particularly muddy or challenging terrain.

The Committee also discussed the potential wider application of the trolley within the Council's Open Spaces operations, particularly within Elm Park and other recreational areas.

In response to questions regarding the legal framework governing the use of electrically-assisted equipment on pavements, Members were advised that the company had referenced Section 72 of the Highways Act 1835, which historically prohibited the driving of carriages on footways. SLANT stated that the legislation predates modern electrically-assisted micro-logistics vehicles and advised that local authorities may exercise discretion regarding such operational use. Members further noted that the company had obtained approval from Bristol City Council for a Royal Mail pilot project using similar technology.

The Deputy Clerk reported on previous investigations into alternative products following an earlier Committee resolution. Members were advised that available alternatives were either significantly more expensive or lacked the modular functionality, integrated monitoring technology and operational flexibility offered by the SLANT proposal. It was further reported that the Street Cleanser had participated in discussions and trial evaluations and felt highly supportive of the proposal, considering that it would significantly improve both efficiency and working conditions.

THE MAYOR ARRIVED AT 7:40PM.

Clarification was sought regarding procurement requirements should the Council proceed with the co-design option, bringing the total initial investment to £4,000. The Town Clerk advised that, whilst Members were free to seek alternative quotations if they wished, the specialist and bespoke nature of the proposed product, together with the absence of directly comparable alternatives, meant that a formal tender process was not considered necessary.

Members were advised that any expenditure would be funded from the Council's Plant and Equipment Budget, which currently held a provision of £75,000.

Councillor Harris proposed that the Council proceed with the co-design partnership option, noting the potential operational benefits and future royalty income. Members agreed that the opportunity to influence the design of the first municipal deployment of the product, whilst receiving royalties from future sales, represented added value for the Council.

The Mayor queried whether the arrangement would form part of the Council's Investment Strategy. The Town Clerk advised that the proposal should be regarded as an operational procurement decision rather than an investment activity, although the Council could potentially recover some of its expenditure through future royalty payments.

RESOLVED: That the Committee approve the purchase of the SLANT Modular Electric Waste Management Platform and participate in the Co-Design Partnership Option at a total cost of £4,000, including eligibility for future royalty payments arising from sales of the co-designed platform. The Town Clerk advised, in response to a question from Members, that no further quotations were required due to the unique and bespoke nature of the product and

its development partnership arrangement. Members further noted that the proposal had initially benefited from HM Government-supported funding and that the exemption contained within Financial Regulations 5.12(iv) was considered applicable in this instance. The motion was carried.

10. CONYGRE REGENERATION PROJECT

The Committee considered the emerging Conygre Regeneration Project and discussed the broad allocation of funding across a number of delivery areas to enable the development of detailed financial plans and project proposals. Members considered the indicative budget allocations associated with the proposed Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) funding for the project and provided direction to assist officers in preparing detailed costings and implementation plans. The draft budget currently includes a proposed £500,000 PWLB allocation for the Conygre Project, subject to approval by Full Council and the Public Works Loan Board.

The Town Clerk advised Members that delivery of the project would need to take account of several external factors and timetable constraints, including pre-election restrictions (purdah) and seasonal considerations during November, December and January. It was anticipated that the majority of larger-scale project delivery would be planned for the summer period of June and July 2027.

Members discussed the potential allocation of funding between the Conygre area, Blenheim Park and other currently unspecified regeneration initiatives. It was generally agreed that investment levels should be significant enough to deliver meaningful improvements, with Members expressing support for allocations in excess of £100,000 and suggesting that up to £300,000 be earmarked for key priority projects.

The Mayor raised concerns regarding proposed tree-related works in the Kenmore area and sought an update on associated active travel schemes. It was noted that the active travel project had been delayed and that discussions had taken place with South Gloucestershire Council representatives regarding tree provision and management along Station Road and the adjoining main road network.

Councillor Elmorssy reported that feedback received through community engagement and canvassing exercises indicated strong public support for additional seating and covered benches across Filton. Members acknowledged that improvements to street furniture could enhance accessibility and encourage use of public spaces throughout the town.

The Committee also discussed future operational requirements for the Open Spaces Team. It was noted that the existing tractor and trailer arrangement can at times be restrictive for highway use. Members suggested that future capital investment could include consideration of an electric utility vehicle with flat-bed carrying capacity to improve flexibility and efficiency for maintenance and project work. The existing Plant and Machinery budget provision of £75,000 was noted during this discussion.

Members further considered opportunities to expand green infrastructure through the introduction of additional pocket parks and environmental enhancements. Locations identified as potential opportunities included the Conygre Triangle and town centre roundabouts, where landscaping and biodiversity improvements could make a positive contribution to the public realm. Members noted that elements of this work were already progressing within the Conygre Triangle area.

The Committee also discussed opportunities to improve the street scene through the enhancement of highway infrastructure, including the potential future decorative painting of bollards, similar to schemes undertaken elsewhere in the Bristol area. Whilst it was noted that South Gloucestershire Council had previously expressed reservations regarding maintenance and cost implications, Members considered that cultural and placemaking benefits could justify future consideration as part of wider regeneration initiatives.

It was suggested that public realm improvements could complement the developing Filton History Project, creating opportunities to interpret local heritage within both the Conygre and Blenheim Park areas.

Members also received an update regarding play area provision. The Deputy Clerk reported that a safety and risk inspection had recently been undertaken as part of South Gloucestershire Council's insurance arrangements and that, for additional assurance, the Council had commissioned an independent ROSPA inspection. Members noted that the draft budget includes both a dedicated Play Area Fund and ongoing maintenance and improvement allocations for recreational facilities.

The Town Clerk explained the financial mechanisms associated with drawing down loan funding and prioritising individual projects within the overall regeneration programme, noting that expenditure would need to be supported by clear business cases and demonstrate value for money in accordance with public sector financial requirements.

Councillor Elmorssy proposed that the initial priorities within the regeneration programme should focus on Blenheim Park improvements, tree planting and street furniture enhancements, with indicative allocations as follows:

- £300,000 towards improvements to play area equipment and facilities within Blenheim Park
- £100,000 towards tree planting and landscaping initiatives
- £100,000 towards street furniture improvements, including seating and related public realm enhancements.

Following discussion, Members expressed unanimous support for the proposed priority areas and associated indicative allocations.

Members noted the current project timetable, which anticipates construction of the proposed park commencing in October 2026. It was further noted that consideration of the tender process for the future Leisure Centre provider is expected to take place during the same period, and officers would need to manage both workstreams accordingly.

RESOLVED: That the Committee approve the proposed priority delivery areas and associated indicative budget allocations for the Conygre Regeneration Project, with priority being given to improvements at Blenheim Park, tree planting and landscaping initiatives, and street furniture enhancements and that officers proceed with the development of detailed project proposals and costings for future consideration.

11. ELM PARK KISSING GATES

The Committee considered a proposal to address ongoing anti-social behaviour involving electric bikes and other powered vehicles within Elm Park through the installation of compliant kissing gates at appropriate park entrances. Members noted that reports of anti-social behaviour involving powered vehicles had increased and that physical access controls

could assist in reducing unauthorised vehicle access whilst maintaining legitimate pedestrian access.

The Deputy Clerk provided a detailed presentation outlining the various access points to Elm Park and identifying those entrances where the installation of kissing gates may be feasible. Members were advised that Elm Park currently has 13 entrances, comprising a mixture of formal access points and Public Rights of Way (PROW).

The Committee noted that any proposals would need to take account of legal restrictions relating to Public Rights of Way. Whilst kissing gates could potentially be installed at a number of Council-controlled entrances, Members were advised that gates could not be installed on entrances designated as South Gloucestershire Council Public Rights of Way. The proposal therefore focused on installing kissing gates at suitable entrances whilst restricting access at a number of unofficial entrances in order to deter motorised vehicle access to the park.

Members were informed that previous investigations undertaken during 2025 had obtained quotations based upon the installation of six kissing gates on one side of the park, with indicative costs ranging between approximately £8,314 and £12,370, depending on the contractor and specification.

However, since those quotations were obtained, further assessment had identified the presence of Public Rights of Way across the site. As a result, the revised proposal would comprise the installation of kissing gates at five official entrances together with the closure of three unofficial access points, whilst leaving the remaining entrances subject to Public Rights of Way unobstructed. Members noted that this approach would demonstrate that the Council had taken reasonable steps to mitigate unauthorised motor vehicle use of the park while reducing potential escape routes and acting as a deterrent to future anti-social behaviour.

The Committee agreed that consultation should be undertaken with the local Neighbourhood Policing Team and South Gloucestershire Council to ensure that any proposed access restrictions were appropriate and effective before implementation.

RESOLVED: That the Committee approve the proposal in principle and authorise officers to seek updated quotations from contractors for the installation of kissing gates and the closure of unauthorised access points, up to a maximum project value of £15,000. Furthermore, officers shall investigate potential external funding opportunities to support the project and should funding not be available during the current financial year, the proposal may be reconsidered in future budget years.

12. GLOUCESTER ROAD NORTH BIN STORAGE UPDATE

The Deputy Clerk provided Members with an update regarding the proposed commercial bin storage facility for Gloucester Road North.

Members were advised that, following further consideration by officers and senior management at South Gloucestershire Council, the proposal would no longer be supported or funded by the local authority. South Gloucestershire Council determined that a licence could not be granted for the proposed bin storage location due to concerns regarding the safe movement and collection of commercial waste bins, including the operational requirements of refuse collection vehicles and the transportation of bins to and from the collection point.

The Committee noted that South Gloucestershire Council had identified the existing parking lay-by as the most appropriate location should a revised scheme be pursued in the future. However, this would likely require the removal of some on-street parking spaces, together with the submission of a formal scheme request, completion of the necessary legal procedures and highway safety assessments, and the identification of future funding opportunities. South Gloucestershire Council indicated that whilst no funding is currently available, support may be possible should suitable funding streams become available at a later date.

Members acknowledged the importance of continuing to work collaboratively with local businesses and South Gloucestershire Council to identify a practical and sustainable solution to the bin storage issues affecting Gloucester Road North.

RESOLVED: That the Committee note the update and approve the Deputy Clerk investigating alternative options for commercial bin storage in consultation with South Gloucestershire Council and local traders, and report back to Members with any viable proposals for future consideration.

13. AVONSMERE ALLOTMENT PEST CONTRACT RENEWAL

The Committee considered the renewal of the pest control agreement for 'Avonmere Park Allotments' (Station Road/The Sidings Allotments) for the 2026-27 contract period. Members were advised that Filton Town Council had received the annual renewal documentation from South Gloucestershire Council for the provision of pest control services at the allotment site. The proposed agreement would provide for the treatment and control of rats through a programme of 10 annual visits, each of one hour's duration, at a total annual cost of £1,820 including VAT.

It was noted that this arrangement has been in place between Filton Town Council and South Gloucestershire Council for a number of years and has historically been renewed on an annual basis. Members discussed recent observations raised during the Council's audit process regarding the requirement to demonstrate value for money and, where appropriate, seek alternative quotations for contracted services.

The Committee expressed concern that, despite the long-standing nature of the arrangement, alternative quotations had not previously been sought and considered it prudent to test the market before committing to a further contract. Members agreed that obtaining comparable quotations would provide assurance that the Council continues to receive a competitive service and complies with best procurement practice.

The Mayor commented that there was likely to be a wider market of pest control providers capable of delivering a similar service and supported undertaking a comparison exercise before a final decision was made.

Following discussion, Members agreed that officers should seek a minimum of three quotations from alternative pest control providers, using the South Gloucestershire Council proposal as the benchmark for comparison. The Committee agreed that any future recommendation should take into account not only cost but also service quality, experience, qualifications and contractual arrangements.

RESOLVED: That the Committee defer renewal of the pest control contract pending a market assessment and instruct officers to obtain a minimum of three quotations from suitable pest control providers for comparison with the South Gloucestershire Council

proposal of £1,820 per annum (including VAT), with a further report to be brought back to Members for consideration.

14. NO MOW MAY

The Committee received an update on the No Mow May initiative at Millennium Green and considered the appropriate duration for maintaining the area as uncut following the conclusion of the initial campaign period.

Members discussed the environmental benefits associated with allowing grass and wildflower areas to grow for an extended period in support of biodiversity objectives. Consideration was also given to the practical management of the site during the summer months, particularly in light of recent periods of hot and dry weather.

The Committee noted concerns that excessively long, dry grass could present an increased fire risk during periods of extreme heat. Members acknowledged that, where vegetation is eventually cut and not removed promptly, dry grass cuttings may contribute to the risk of accidental fires and potential damage to the green space.

Following discussion, Members considered the balance between supporting biodiversity and maintaining the site safely and effectively. It was proposed that the current management approach continue through the remainder of the growing season before a review of its effectiveness is undertaken.

RESOLVED: That the Committee continue the No Mow May management scheme at Millennium Green until 31st July 2026, and that the Ecology Ranger provide an annual report to the Committee reviewing the effectiveness of the scheme and making recommendations on the most appropriate duration for future years. The motion was proposed by Councillor Molloy and carried, with Councillor Elmorssy abstaining.

15. RECYCLING BAG HUB UPDATE

The Committee received an update regarding the proposal to establish a temporary Recycling Bag Hub, enabling residents to deposit damaged recycling boxes and unwanted recycling bags for collection by South Gloucestershire Council.

Members noted the proposal, which had originally been put forward by Councillor Molloy, and discussed the potential benefits of providing a convenient local collection point for residents. The initiative was considered a practical measure to support recycling services and encourage responsible disposal and replacement of recycling containers.

The Committee agreed that, should the scheme proceed, it would be important to ensure that residents are made aware of the opportunity through the Council's communication channels to maximise participation and community benefit.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted and that a social media campaign be undertaken to promote the proposed Recycling Box Amnesty and inform residents of the arrangements for the temporary Recycling Bag Hub.

16. MILLENNIUM GREEN TREE PLANTING REPORT

The Committee received and noted a report from the Ecology Ranger regarding the recently completed tree planting project at Millennium Green, which was presented by the Deputy Clerk. The report outlined the successful delivery of the project, including the planting of 41

trees comprising a diverse mix of species, including Small-Leaved Lime, English Oak, Bird Cherry, Sweet Chestnut, Wild Service Tree and Silver Birch.

Members were advised that the project had been fully funded through a grant awarded by the Forest of Avon Trust, which covered all costs associated with the purchase, planting and protection of the trees, including the sundries required to support their establishment during the early stages of growth. It was further reported that the grant funding had been received by the Council on 14th June 2026.

The Committee noted that the project had been delivered through a collaborative effort involving the Council's Ranger Team, volunteers and local partners. Particular recognition was given to the contribution of University of the West of England (UWE) students, who participated in the project as part of their work experience opportunities, and the Friends of Millennium Green, who provided practical support and contributed two additional trees to the scheme.

NOTED: Councillor Elmorssy commended the Council's efforts in engaging student volunteers and highlighted the value of such initiatives in providing practical experience and skills development opportunities. He encouraged officers to continue exploring opportunities to involve students and volunteers in future open spaces and environmental projects across the town.

17. ASSETS & OPEN SPACES MAYORAL PROJECTS UPDATE

The Committee received and noted a report outlining a range of environmental, biodiversity and community engagement ideas submitted by the Mayor for consideration by the Council. The proposals focused on opportunities to enhance the Council's open spaces, encourage greater community involvement and support local biodiversity initiatives.

Members discussed the potential creation of a wildlife pond within Millennium Green as a means of increasing habitat diversity and supporting local wildlife. It was acknowledged that ponds can make a significant contribution to biodiversity; however, Members also recognised that any such proposal would need careful consideration of maintenance requirements, health and safety implications, insurance considerations and ongoing management responsibilities. It was noted that similar ideas had previously been discussed by officers as part of potential future enhancement projects for Millennium Green.

Councillor Elmorssy expressed support for the concept of establishing apiaries and beehives as part of the Council's environmental initiatives and suggested that the roof of the Elm Park Leisure Centre could provide an opportunity for such a project. Members discussed the potential educational and environmental benefits, as well as the possibility of producing locally sourced honey that could help promote biodiversity initiatives within Filton.

The Deputy Clerk reported on a recent feasibility review undertaken by the Ecology Ranger regarding the potential siting of beehives on the Leisure Centre roof. Members were advised that the proposal was not considered practical in its current form due to access constraints. In particular, the restricted roof access arrangements would make it difficult for a qualified beekeeper to transport equipment safely and undertake the regular inspections, maintenance and honey collection activities required for hive management.

Councillor Molloy highlighted the importance of continuing to support local wildlife and suggested that the Council consider promoting public awareness of hedgehog conservation. Members discussed the potential for educational campaigns encouraging residents to create

small access gaps at the base of garden fences, enabling hedgehogs to move more freely between gardens and access suitable habitats across the town.

The Committee also noted several ongoing biodiversity initiatives already being undertaken by the Council, including the recent planting of fruit trees within Millennium Green and the successful distribution of wildflower seed packets to residents as part of wider community engagement and nature recovery projects. Officers advised that the seed distribution initiative had proven particularly successful and may be expanded in future years.

NOTED: The Town Clerk welcomed the range of ideas submitted and thanked the Mayor for bringing them forward. Members agreed that the proposals provided a valuable source of future project opportunities and demonstrated Members' commitment to environmental improvement, community participation and biodiversity enhancement across the town. It was noted that such contributions assist in identifying locally supported initiatives and complement the work already being undertaken by Council officers and the Open Spaces Team.

18. FILTON FESTIVAL UPDATE

The Committee received an update from the Deputy Clerk on the ongoing preparations for the Filton Festival 2026, scheduled to take place on Sunday, 5th July 2026. Members were provided with a summary of the latest arrangements, including the event programme, confirmed attractions, activities and stallholder bookings.

The Deputy Clerk advised that planning for the event was progressing well and highlighted the diverse programme of entertainment and community activities that had been secured. These include performances by local music groups and community organisations, children's entertainment, workshops, a bird of prey display, model aircraft demonstrations, hot air balloon displays, zorbing activities, a fairground and a community-led world record attempt.

Members noted that a wide range of community organisations, charities, businesses and local groups had confirmed their attendance, including South Western Ambulance Service, Avon Wildlife Trust, South Gloucestershire Police, Avon Fire & Rescue Service, Citizens Advice South Gloucestershire, FACE Youth Services, Aerospace Bristol, Men in Sheds, Elm Park Leisure Centre and Southmead Hospital Charity, alongside a variety of food vendors, retailers and craft stallholders.

The Committee acknowledged that the Festival would provide an excellent opportunity for Councillors to engage directly with residents and visitors throughout the day. Members were also advised that South Gloucestershire Council's "Your Voice" engagement event would be taking place at the Festival. It was noted that Councillors could support this initiative and engage with South Gloucestershire Council officers; however, consideration may also be given to providing a dedicated Filton Town Council and Elm Park Leisure Centre gazebo, similar to arrangements made at previous festivals.

Members reviewed the updated programme timetable, which includes the Festival opening by Liam Holden at 11am, performances throughout the day from local musical groups and entertainers, and the concluding world record attempt and evening music performances.

NOTED: The Committee noted the updated programme, confirmed stallholder list and event timetable for the Filton Festival 2026.

19. FILTON HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL SUMMER FETE AND CONYGRE REGENERATION PROJECT LAUNCH

The Committee received an update from the Town Clerk regarding Filton Hill Primary School's Summer Fête, scheduled to take place on Sunday, 28th June 2026 from 11am.

Members were advised that Filton Town Council had secured a stall at the event and would be using the opportunity to undertake a soft launch of the Conygre Regeneration Project, while also promoting and supporting Filton's UK Town of Culture 2028 bid. The Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk will be attending on behalf of the Council to engage with residents, provide information on the developing regeneration proposals and gather initial community feedback.

The Committee noted that the event would provide an excellent opportunity for Councillors to meet local residents, raise awareness of current Council initiatives and encourage community participation in future projects. Councillors were therefore invited to attend and support the Council's presence at the event.

Members also received feedback from the Deputy Clerk regarding a recent visit to the School Council, where pupils had been engaged in discussions relating to local projects and community improvements. The Committee welcomed the continued involvement of young people in shaping future initiatives within the town.

NOTED: Councillors were requested to notify the Town Clerk or Deputy Clerk of their availability to attend the Summer Fête as soon as possible to assist with event planning and staffing arrangements.

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Tuesday, 21st July 2026 at 7PM.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8:50PM