

**Minutes of the meeting of the
PARKS, OPEN SPACES, CONSERVATION & FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE
held on Thursday 7th May 2026 at 2:30pm
at the Parish Office, Hawkwell Village Hall, Main Road, Hawkwell**

Cllrs present: Chair A MacPherson, J Dunkley, C Morris, S May & Miss M Ward.

P 26/81 Apologies for non-attendance at meeting:

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs L Massey and Mrs M Weir.

P 26/82 Declarations of any:

a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interest;

b) Other Registrable Interest; or

on any matter on the agenda for 7th May 2026:

Cllr J Dunkley declared an interest in that he was a resident of Elizabeth Close.

P 26/83 Resolution ‘that Members of the Press and Public are excluded from this agenda due to the confidential business being discussed under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 s1(2) and as extended by Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.’

The resolution to exclude the press and public was passed.

P 26/84 Elizabeth Close playground incident:

Members received an update from the Clerk about an incident that had occurred in Elizabeth Close playground and a discussion ensued.

It was agreed that the roundabout would be removed at the first opportunity, once the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) had conducted any assessment required and permission had been granted that works could go ahead. The roundabout area would be levelled and made safe, without the removal of the foundation works, and the play area would be opened as soon as possible following those works. A decision would be made about any replacement pieces at a later date.

Members agreed to conduct the site visit to address the low-level risk playground items identified in the annual inspection reports on the 18th May 2026.

P 26/85 Summary of Decisions:

- Elizabeth Close roundabout to be removed when practical and permitted.
- Members to meet on 18th May 2026 to conduct the site visit to address the low-level risk items identified in the annual inspection reports.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 3:00pm

Chair