Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held on 11th November, 2026 at 7.00pm at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, King Alfred's Road, Sedbury.

Present: Councillors: Burgess, Stead, Swambo (chairman) and Walsh.
Officers: D Stevens (Assistant Clerk).

1. ATTENDANCE

- **a. Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend, from Councillor Russell and Tullett.
- **b. Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence, from Councillor Russell and Tullett.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers and in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members. None received.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- **a. Resolved to approve** as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 16th September, 2026.
- **b. Resolved to consider** any matters arising from those minutes. There were none.

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

There were no members of the public present.

5. ASSISTANT CLERK'S REPORT

- **a. Resolved to accept** the Amenities budget sheet. The Assistant Clerk advised the Amenities spend is tracking in line with the budget.
- **b. Resolved to note** the Beachley and Sedbury defibrillators were requested by South West Ambulance Service on two occasions but not used since September. The defibrillators were checked and put back on line on The Circuit app.
- **c. Resolved to note** no further feedback from Barratt / David Wilson Homes with regards a dog bin on the Wyedean Fields development.
- **d. Resolved to note** the regular playground safety checks were completed in October and a report issued.

6. TO CONSIDER CHURCHYARD WORKS AND ISSUES

- **a. Resolved to accept** that Councillors prefer headstone / monument topple testing to be conducted by a contractor rather than by Councillors and for the Assistant Clerk to obtain quotes for consideration at a future meeting. Councillors discussed the feedback from Scribe (online tutorial), Coleford Town Council (topple testing procedures) and the local church warden (topple test performed) and considered the Council doesn't currently have the resources or skills to undertake topple testing. Councillor Walsh forwarded some suggested local stonemasons who could be contacted. Councillors also discussed an ICCM training course and the costs to have one or more people trained with regards the management of memorial procedures and to consider at a future meeting.
- **b. Resolved to accept** that quotes should be obtained to cut down and make safe the overgrown tree growing from a grave / monument at St John's churchyard, Beachley.

7. TO CONSIDER OPEN SPACE ISSUES

- **a. Resolved to accept** the cheaper quotes for the trimming of hedges, bushes, etc around the perimeter of the playing field behind the Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall. The overgrown hedges, bushes, etc on the south side by the two bungalows are encroaching on the playing field and growing over the

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boundary fence. The hedges, bushes, etc on the west side by the garages should be cleared as part of the condition of the original land transfer.

i. **Resolved to not accept** - TrunkArb Ltd – hedges, bushes, etc by the two bungalows.
£750.00 + Vat = £900.00.

ii. **Resolved to not accept** - TrunkArb Ltd – hedges, bushes, etc by the garages.
£175.00 + Vat = £210.00.

iii. **Resolved to accept** - David Kirkham – hedges, bushes, etc by the two bungalows.
£300.00 no Vat.

iv. **Resolved to accept** - David Kirkham – hedges, bushes, etc by the garages.
£300.00 no Vat.

b. **Resolved to not accept** request from a resident of Mopla Road and the War Memorial Hall and Recreation Ground Trust to further reduce the hedge height to 1.6m-1.8m (5-6 feet). Councillors considered the annual hedge trimming completed in September has left the hedge very tidy and at an acceptable height for the surroundings.

i. **Resolved to not accept -** D S Cracknell Contracting. Power saw to lower further if required when hedge is dormant. £450.00 + Vat = £540.00.

c. **Resolved to accept** the cost to install a GSM Smart Switch on the WCCTV camera on King Alfred's Road to reboot the CCTV camera remotely should the camera present connection problems in the future. Councillors resolved to accept but wait until next time the CCTV has connection problems.

i. **Resolved to accept -** W&A Adams. To supply a crew to install GSM Smart Switch
£210.00 + Vat = £252.00.

ii. **Resolved to accept -** WCCTV. Supply and delivery of GSM Smart Switch.
£405.00 + Vat = £486.00.

d. **Resolved to not accept** quotes for the replacement of the Solar Boost and connecting cable to the AutoSpeedWatch camera in Woodcroft. Councillors concluded the repair should wait until results of the speed survey on Beachley Road are available and if there is a motion to relocate this camera.

i. **Resolved to not accept -** W&A Adams. To supply a crew to remove/install Solar Boost and connect to AutoSpeedWatch camera. £250.00 + Vat = £300.00.

ii. **Resolved to not accept -** AutoSpeedWatch. Solar Boost + connecting cable inc. postage.
£121.80 + Vat = £146.16.

8. **<u>TO CONSIDER PLAYGROUND ISSUES</u>**

a. **Resolved to accept** the cheaper quote for the annual playground inspections which is due in July 2027, seven playgrounds in all. Three contractors were asked to quote.

i. **Resolved to accept -** Play Inspection Company – £75.00 + VAT per playground.
£539.00 + Vat = £646.80.

ii. **Resolved to not accept -** ROSPA Play Safety – £74.70 + VAT per playground.
£696.60 + Vat = £835.92.

b. **Resolved to accept** spending the remaining Amenities budget at end of year replacing Tutshill recreation ground play equipment identified as medium risk in the annual playground report. Quotations to be considered at a future meeting.

9. **<u>TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED</u>**

There were none.

10. TO CONSIDER THE AMENITIES BUDGET FOR YEAR 2027/28

Resolved to accept the proposed Amenities budget for 2027/28 as prepared by the Assistant Clerk. The proposed budget is based on the 2026/27 budget and actual spend with a 3.3% contingency for inflation. Total proposed Amenities budget for 2027/28 is £70,341.

11. TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS' LOCAL REPORTS AND MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

There were none.

12. FUTURE MEETINGS

Resolved to note the date of the next meeting and future council meetings:

a. Full Council meeting – 18th November, 2026.

b. Amenities Committee meeting – 13th January, 2027.

The meeting closed at 19:50 hours.

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