



**MINUTES OF CAM PARISH COUNCIL, RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18th February 2026, AT 6:30pm
AT CAM PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE, 4 NOEL LEE WAY, CAM**

MEMBERSHIP: G Gough (Chair), J Dormer (Vice-Chair), K Chandler, J Fulcher, T Walker, M Rees, P Griffin

PRESENT: G Gough, K Chandler, J Dormer, J Fulcher, P Griffin

APOLOGIES: T Walker, M Rees, C Wiggins,

ABSENT:

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Projects Officer, Admin Officer, MOP, Cllr Fowler

Cllr Gough opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present.

RL.25.045 To RECEIVE apologies for absence

Apologies noted as above

RL.25.046 To RECEIVE declarations of interest and requests for dispensations

None to note

RL.25.047 To RECEIVE any questions, statements, or submissions from members of the public in attendance

20 minutes will be allowed for public question time under this agenda item (open to any resident of Cam). It should be noted that no decisions may be made on issues raised, other than to make referral to a further meeting, an officer, or another agency.

Lucy Fullard from Parents and Carers Alliance gave a presentation on the need for SEND provision in Cam. The hub is envisioned as an integrated support centre for families of children with special educational needs and disabilities. This will be discussed more in the following agenda item.

RL.25.048 To APPROVE and sign minutes of the meeting September 2025 as a true and correct record
Committee APPROVED the minutes of the meeting.

RL.25.049 To NOTE any matters arising from the minutes and not covered by agenda Items, (for information only).

None to note

RL.25.050 To RECEIVE request to explore options for a SEND Family hub and sensory facility and AGREE actions

Committee discussed the merits of providing a SEND facility on the Jubilee playing field. Committee RESOLVED that the jubilee field would be the best location in principle, pending pre-application advice and planning approval. Committee RESOLVED to commit to further exploration of the SEN Complex Family Hub at Jubilee Playing Field in partnership with Parent and Carer Alliance with delegated officer support to facilitate meetings, costing exercises and initial funding research. Projects Officer to confirm some details about parking, the need for tarmacking and impact on existing car parking.

Committee RESOLVED in principle to the granting of a 100-year lease, or alternative suitable agreement, to Parent and Carer Alliance CIC for Jubilee playing fields, or for an alternative Council-owned site identified as suitable and agreed in partnership. Projects Officer to work with Parents & Carers Alliance to get professional advice and guidance to make sure any long-term lease is worded to ensure that the parish is protected.

RL.25.051 To DISCUSS options to mark the 'Day of Nature' – 18th April and AGREE actions

Committee AGREED to support an event on Saturday 18th April 2026.

Committee AGREED to allocate a budget of £50.00 to the cost of sunflower seed community growing competition from budget line 76, Community Events and to make the event in memory of Cllr Dennis Andrewartha.

Committee AGREED to delegate a maximum budget of £200.00 from budget line 76, Community Events for the purchase of event materials

Cllrs Gough & Chandler volunteered to facilitate on the day. With Cllr Fulcher, Griffin & Dormer to confirm

RL.25.052 To RECEIVE request from Gloucestershire wildlife trust to reassess Rackleaze as a local wildlife site and AGREE actions

Committee APPROVED for the Local Wildlife Site Officers, Robyn and Tina to visit Rackleaze on 24th March to reassess the site for its Local Wildlife Site status. They hope to use this opportunity as a training exercise for volunteer evaluators to view a well-managed site. They would also like to lead a team of invertebrate experts from Gloucestershire Invertebrate Group one evening in June to record invertebrates especially dragonfly activity, which if sufficient will be included in the Local Wildlife Site reassessment.

RL.25.053 To CONSIDER locations for Sustainable Urban drainage planting schemes and AGREE actions

Gloucestershire Wildlife trust has funding available for 'sustainable urban drainage.' This could include 'rain gardens' to help prevent flooding. They have secured a grant and are now looking for locations to invest.

Committee AGREED the following problem areas may benefit from a sensitive planting scheme –

- Hopton Road - the verge areas in front of the schoolhouse and along the ditch in front of 16A-16D Hopton Road
- Jubilee playing fields
- The culvert at Fairmead
- Holywell Orchard

Clerk will compile a short report and submit it to Glos Wildlife Trust for consideration

RL.25.054 To NOTE any progress made on the action plan and AGREE resulting actions

All actions and progress noted.

RL.25.055 Play Areas

A) To NOTE inspections and AGREE actions

Committee NOTED the routine inspections for the playparks carried out on 13th November 2025. No Red warnings were given. Amber (moderate) warnings were given to the skate park pieces at Jubilee; 'The damage on the riding surface and internal framework has deteriorated or worn exposing the metal underneath which is rusting/corroding'.

The majority of the inspections are blue (low risk) but with lots of small maintenance issues that need sorting (build-up of silt/compacted grass mats, worn chain links etc) so a list has been compiled to work through in the spring months before the heavy use.

B) To RECEIVE audit of Woodfields play area and AGREE actions for

i) Fence bordering the car park

Upon the Winter maintenance walk around, it was found that the fencing at the far end of Woodfields park has become rotten, very loose and needs replacing.

Committee considered 4 quotes. Committee RESOLVED a delegated budget of up to £1,500 for the Deputy Clerk to either purchase the posts independently or through the handyperson pending confirmation of groundwork costs.

ii) Roundabout repairs

Upon the Winter maintenance walk around, it was found that the roundabout is in need of some maintenance. Earlier in the year one of the seats had become loose (fixtures on one side had become inefficient due to the rotting boards) so with it only being held on by one side the decision was made to remove the seat altogether.

Committee considered 3 quotes and compared the price for repair versus replacement. Committee RESOLVED to accept the quote from DR Howse to repair at a cost of £2,856

iii) Replacement spring on toddler fence (£122)

The gates at Woodfield toddler park were broken and needed repairing as they did not shut in the required legal timeframe and meet the H&S requirements. Committee APPROVED the purchase from Online Playgrounds for £122.

iv) Additional picnic benches

During R&L in May it was discussed that we need more accessible picnic benches around various parks and green spaces in Cam. Starting with replacing the lost one at Rackleaze and introducing two at Woodfields. Committee RESOLVED to purchase 3 Bradshaw Recycled Plastic Wheelchair Accessible Picnic Tables at a total cost of £1,494.23 plus the additional shipping costs.

C) To RECEIVE audit of Cam Green, RECEIVE recommendation from working party for development options and AGREE actions

Committee APPROVED the recommendation from working party to explore putting a very small parking area at Cam Green with a height restriction barrier. Then use a budget of up to £16,000 to create a sensory garden/ play area.

Deputy and Projects Officer to investigate costings, planning permission and designs.

D) To RECEIVE audit for Jubilee playing fields and AGREE actions for

i) Replacement adult gym equipment

Committee APPROVED the working party recommendation that no further investment will be made to these pieces. Once they go red on the inspection, they will be removed for safety reasons. The future replacement will be incorporated into the further development of the play areas as part of a strategic plan for green/ recreational spaces.

ii) Improvements to the teen zone

Committee APPROVED the working party recommendation that the existing piece will be sanded down and painted by the handyperson. The wider development of a teen space will be incorporated into the further development of play areas as part of a strategic plan for green/ recreational spaces.

iii) Additional groundwork needed for the perimeter pathway

Committee APPROVED a delegated budget of up to £2,500 to improve the perimeter pathways

iv) Signage requirement (No Parking in passing bay)

Committee APPROVED the purchase of 4 signs – no parking in the passing place, Parking at your own risk/ no overnight parking etc (exact wording to be taken from the sign in the main car park) and 2 large signs to go above the free dog bags to encourage people to pick up their dog poo.

v) Pathway surfaces within the play areas

Committee RESOLVED to sweep and remove all debris from the paths. Projects Officer to get formal quotes for the resin mulch option.

vi) Entrance sign to the playing fields

Committee RESOLVED not create a large entrance sign but to keep it simple and with just a generic replacement of the road sign through P&H.

RL.25.056 Allotments

A) To RECEIVE allotment report from Admin Officer/ Deputy Clerk, NOTE new staffing arrangements for managing the allotment sites and AGREE actions

The winter allotment inspections were held by Beth Weeks, Rachael Franks and Jo Lewis on Wednesday 4 February. Beth and Rachael will be taking over the overseeing of the allotments going forward.

Vacant plots: Woodfield: 1 x half plot; Ashmead 1: 2 x full plots; Ashmead 2: 2 x full plots; Westend: 2 x full plots; Upthorpe: 0

Waiting list: one person wanting a plot at Woodfield but not the one which is available. Two people wanting to take on the second half of their existing allotments if they become available.

B) To DISCUSS the potential of new allotment sites within developments

There are potentially a lot more allotments coming with the new development. Committee discussed the current demand profile of existing plot holders -

- Cam has 96 available allotments, made up of full and half plots of various sizes. We have 7 plots available, so 7.3% of our stock is available for rental.
- Nine people out of the 89 allotment holders live in new houses, so 10.1% of our current allotment holders live in newly built properties.
- Cam has 3,871 households, therefore 2.3% of Cam's households currently take on an Allotment - But with 96 allotments available, we could only provide allotments to 2.5% of our households even if all households wanted one.

Clerk to investigate if there is an average percentage of allotments per resident and if so, how does 2.5% compare.

C) To DISCUSS any issues of concern and AGREE actions

None to note

RL.25.057 Rackleaze

A) To RECEIVE maintenance progress report and AGREE resulting actions

Sessions have continued despite the rain. Committee APPROVED 2 events, a bat walk and one other to be confirmed by SVP.

B) To CONSIDER a welcome to Rackleaze – Area of Nature sign and AGREE actions

Committee considered 3 quotes for a Rackleaze sign. Committee APPROVED the third quote for £215 through Rustic and Refined.

Signed.....
Date.....

RL.25.058 To AGREE to carryout a tree survey through SDC approved contractor Glendale Countryside Limited at a cost of £600+VAT and AGREE actions

Last tree survey was carried out in 2023. Cam Parish Council is able to benefit from a shared procurement process through Stroud District Council to use their preferred surveyor. Glendale Countryside who has quoted £600+VAT. Committee RESOLVED this spend.

RL.25.059 To REVIEW budget expenditure to date and AGREE actions

Recreation & Leisure

Code	Title	Receipts			Payments			Net Position
		Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
23	Allotments	2,000.00	4,378.50	2,378.50	3,000.00	11,415.15	-8,415.15	-6,036.65 (-120%)
24	Amenity Furniture				1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00 (100%)
26	Changing Rooms				2,000.00	419.04	1,580.96	1,580.96 (79%)
27	Grass Keep Rent	500.00	550.00	50.00				50.00 (10%)
28	Grounds Maintenance				18,000.00	15,720.90	2,279.10	2,279.10 (12%)
29	Jubilee Field Development				20,000.00	49,950.00	-29,950.00	-29,950.00 (-149%)
30	Play Areas & Equipment				15,000.00	8,603.81	6,396.19	6,396.19 (42%)
69	Verge cutting				1,600.00		1,600.00	1,600.00 (100%)
84	Playground Inspection contract				1,800.00	3,804.00	-2,004.00	-2,004.00 (-111%)
103	Sports Pavilion Income	2,000.00	2,379.17	379.17				379.17 (18%)
106	War memorials				200.00	130.74	69.26	69.26 (34%)
107	Landscaping, tree management				2,000.00	3,834.00	-1,834.00	-1,834.00 (-91%)
112	Joint Woodland				1,500.00	1,500.00		(0%)
117	Blooming Cam				500.00	446.85	53.15	53.15 (10%)
SUB TOTAL		4,500.00	7,307.67	2,807.67	67,100.00	95,824.49	-28,724.49	-25,916.82 (-36%)

Allotments – Grant payment for Westend footpath to offset expenditure

Amenity furniture – bench purchase agree at this meeting to come off

Jubilee Field – EMR for groundworks to Everside Lane to offset expenditure

Verge cutting – invoice from SDC now received

RL.25.060 Any further R&L issues for INFORMATION or REFERRAL ONLY

Dog fouling is an issue on Woodend Lane – refer to SDC

With no further business to discuss, the Chair brought the meeting to a close at 21.04