

WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL
A MEETING OF THE PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE
WAS HELD ON THURSDAY 5TH JUNE 2025 AT 6.00PM

PRESENT Councillors Speksnyder, Hodson, Jackson, Crouch and Scott.

POA/100/2025 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & RECORD REASONS FOR ABSENCE
None

POA/101/2025 TO APPROVE PREVIOUS MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS
To approve the minutes of the Parks, Open Spaces and Allotment minutes from 1st May 2025 – **AGREED.**

POA/102/2025 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS
None

POA/103/2025 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC
None

POA/104/2025 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
None

POA/105/2025 TERMS OF REFERENCE
The amendment to the Terms of Reference to include the election of a Vice-Chair was **UNANIMOUSLY** agreed.

POA/106/2025 ALLOTMENTS
The Assistant Clerk provided an update on plots 51 and 56, noting that a new tenant has taken over the plots.
Cllr Scott proposed that the allotment be offered free of charge until February 2027, Cllr Crouch seconded.
UNANIMOUSLY agreed.

Cllr Hodson then proposed that the two plots be treated as a single plot and that the charge reflects this. This was seconded by Cllr Speksnyder.
UNANIMOUSLY agreed.

POA/107/2025 PLANS
It was suggested to hold an Allotment Open Day for the public, possibly to coincide with the presentation of allotment awards. Allotment holders could be invited to contribute produce or displays to create a small community event. Proposed dates include September 2026 or 2027.

A suggestion was made to install outdoor gym equipment in Throstle Park, similar to that in Silloth. The Assistant Clerk will investigate costs.

Committee members discussed conducting a walk-around inspection of the town's play parks to identify any equipment in need of repair or replacement.

The future maintenance of Cllr Hamblin's flowerbed was raised. A plan is needed to ensure its ongoing upkeep.

Concerns were raised that only half of the daffodils on the roadside off the A596 planted have flowered. Replanting was suggested, along with planting daffodils at all town entrances. The addition of snowdrops was also proposed.

The idea of planting wildflowers on green spaces around Wigton (Council-owned land only) was discussed. The Assistant Clerk will obtain a map to clarify which areas the Council is responsible for regarding grass and green space maintenance.

It was suggested to use perennial plants in the town planters instead of annuals, as they return each year and could offer cost savings over time.

Cllr Speksnyder raised the possibility of the Council declaring a climate emergency. It was agreed that this should be researched and discussed further at Full Council.

A suggestion was made to name the cycle path through Throstle Park and Phoenix Park "Binky's Way" in recognition of his efforts in securing the land. It was noted that Binky already has a memorial. It was agreed to consider naming other unnamed paths at the next meeting, with members to bring forward ideas.

Meeting closed 7:16pm

Date of next meeting: 15th July and 22nd July 2025