



Kington Recreation Ground Trust

Charity No. 520963.

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Minutes of a meeting of Kington Recreation Trust held on Monday 19th January 2026 at The Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington

Present: Cllr. P. Sell – Chair
Cllr. E. Banks
Cllr. B. Bishop
Cllr. N. Cornish
Cllr. M. Fitton
Cllr. R. Widdowson
Cllr. M. Woolford

In attendance: Liz Kelso – Town Clerk
Ruth Robinson - Assistant Clerk

001-26 Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

Apologies were noted from Cllrs. T. Bounds, R. Banks, J. Gardner and E. Rolls. There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensation.

002-26 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2025, which had been previously circulated, were accepted and the Chair was authorised to sign the minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.

003-26 Clerk's Report

There were no items to report other than items discussed elsewhere on the agenda.

004-26 Financial Matters

a) Financial Report to 31.12.25

The report was noted and accepted.

b) Recreation Ground Trust Budget for 2026-7

The Clerk presented the draft budget for 2026-7 for the Trust, including Crooked Well expenditure for the forthcoming financial year, detailing items to be met by the town council directly. After due consideration, the budget, as attached to these minutes, was accepted and adopted.

c) Grant request to Kington Town Council

It was agreed that a request be made to Kington Town Council for a grant of £44,500.00 for financial year 2026-7, to include support for staff salaries, capital items and operating expenses for the Recreation Ground and Crooked Well meadow.

005-26 Recreation Ground Matters

a) Update on work on trees following safety survey.

Assistant Clerk reported that planning consent for tree work identified within the tree safety survey has been received and work will begin shortly.

b) Update on repair to public right of way through the Recreation Ground

Assistant Clerk reported that repair work has now been completed. As requested a quotation to line the speed bumps with paint has been obtained but after due consideration it was agreed not to proceed with this work which, it was felt, would not be in keeping with the rural nature of the area and would not provide any additional benefit to public using the footpath in either daylight or in the dark.

This would be reviewed by the management group during its next walk around.

c) Recreation Cottage Update

The Clerk commented that council tax is now payable on the cottage and a proposal to pay this will be put to the town council at a later meeting.

Acknowledging that a sale of the cottage is likely to be delayed as a result of the work required on the Trust Deed Cllr. Woolford indicated that he has obtained an estimate of the cost of bringing the property back to standard would be in the region of some £50,000.

The Clerk also noted that advice from the solicitors acting on behalf of the Trust indicated that any proceeds of disposal of property by a charity would need to be put initially towards replacement of land disposed of.

d) Update on legal work in connection with Trust Deed re-instatement

A report has now been received from solicitors acting on behalf of the Trust into the reinstatement of the Trust Deed, the original of which has been missing but will be required before any sale of the cottage. Evidence of the management of the recreation ground over a period of time will be required and is available and statements by councillors who have been members of the council for some years has been requested supporting the assertion that the original documentation has been lost by the bank. It was agreed that Cllrs. E. Banks and R. Widdowson be authorised to complete these statements on behalf of the town council.

006-26 Crooked Well Meadow

a) Update on work identified in play equipment safety report.

It was agreed that repair work on one item of equipment on Crooked Well Meadow be authorised at a price of £150.00 (+VAT).

b) To consider quotations for tree safety work at Crooked Well meadow

Following on from the tree safety survey carried out last autumn at Crooked Well meadow, members considered quotations from two tree surgeons for the work identified as required within 3 months by the report. After due consideration, it was agreed to accept the quotation from tree surgeon Owen Whittall, to include removal of all arisings, at a cost of £4,880.00 (+VAT).

c) Additional tree safety work

It was agreed to accept a quotation for a further tree safety survey to cover the small triangle of land previously gifted to the town council at Crooked Well meadow at a cost of £350.00 (+VAT).

007-26 Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 20th April 2026 at 5.00pm in the Old Police Station. The following items were requested for the agenda:

- A review of the term of lease for the Cricket Club
- Replacement of bins and notices at Crooked Well

KINGTON RECREATION GROUND TRUST

Budget 2026-7

Agreed at a meeting of the Recreation Ground Trust held 19.1.2026

Summary payments & receipts account

	Year to 31.3.2025	Budget 2025-6	Forecast 2025-6	AGREED budget 2026-7	Comments/notes
Receipts					
Cottage rental	£ 5,100	£ 4,500	£ -	£ -	
Bank Interest	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Other income (see below)	£ 5,845	£ 15,841	£ 16,285	£ 14,045	Note 1
Total income	£ 10,945	£ 20,341	£ 16,285	£ 14,045	
Payments					
Salaries	£ 13,588	£ 20,000	£ 13,000	£ 16,000	Note 2
Other	£ 75	£ 72	£ 78	£ 85	Bank charges
Total expenditure	£ 13,663	£ 20,072	£ 13,078	£ 16,085	
Income less expenditure	-£ 2,718	£ 269	£ 3,207	-£ 2,040	
Movement on reserves					
Opening balance	£ 4,819	£ 2,101	£ 2,101	£ 5,308	
Add: net expenditure	-£ 2,718	£ 269	£ 3,207	-£ 2,040	
Closing balance	£ 2,101	£ 2,370	£ 5,308	£ 3,268	

Notes:	1	Other income:	Year to 31.3.2025			Budget 2025- Forecast		AGREED budget 2026-7
			6	2025-6				
	Vintage		£ 1,000	£ 450	£	450	£ 450	£ 450
	Cricket Club		£ 41	£ 41	£	45	£ 45	£ 45
	Western Power		£ 350	£ 350	£	350	£ 450	
	Danters		£ 1,000	£ -	£	-		
	Donation		£ 4,000	£ 15,000	£	15,000	£ 13,000	
	Salary support grant - KTC							
	Other		£ 6,391	£ 15,841	£	430	£ 100	
	Totals					16,275	£ 14,045	
2	Salary payments assume groundstaff cover of 25 hours per week to include Crooked Well							
FOR INFORMATION:								
	3	Town Council Grant Payment - Direct payments						
		Cottage Maintenance	£ 519	£ 50,000	£	1,500	£ 5,500	<i>includes council tax on cottage</i>
		Grass Cutting	£ 3,736	£ 11,000	£	4,500	£ 7,500	
		Green Spaces maintenance	£ 2,726	£ 15,000	£	15,000	£ 15,000	<i>includes planned tree works</i>
		Green Spaces Running Costs	£ 1,545	£ 4,000	£	2,000	£ 3,000	
		Equipment purchase	£ 11,649	£ 500	£	100	£ 500	
		Salary support	£ 5,000	£ 15,000	£	15,000	£ 13,000	
			£ 25,175	£ 95,500	£	38,100	£ 44,500	