

**MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE, ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY**  
**held at Tetbury Library, Close Gardens, Tetbury, GL8 8DU on the**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026**

Present:

Town Councillors: Z Baker (Chair), S Sanderson (Vice Chair), I Watson, C Pearce and R Smith.

Officers: V Bolwell (EO)

Public: Three

**HEC01. 03/26 To receive and accept any apologies for absence:**

Cllr N Ind – received and accepted – Holiday.

Cllr A Figueredo - received and accepted – Medical.

**HEC02. 03/26 Public Consultation:**

Cllr K Painter, speaking in his personal capacity, expressed thanks for the letter regarding chamber collaboration and confirmed his acceptance of the offer of support, subject to appropriate confidentiality protocols due to the ongoing relaunch process.

Cllr Painter also requested the Council’s in-principal support for hosting a Comic Con event on 30 May. As the matter was not included on the published agenda, Members agreed that it should be deferred to the April committee meeting or referred to Full Council for consideration.

A member of the public raised concern that the Council was “spending thousands of pounds of taxpayers’ money” on matters relating to the burial ground. It was noted that the burial ground project had been previously recommended by the HEC Committee and was now at Full Council for decision.

The Chair clarified that £50,000 had already been reserved for this purpose, having been pre-budgeted several years ago, and therefore no additional cost to the taxpayer was being incurred at this stage.

It was further noted that a public meeting held in September sought views on future spending relating to the search for a new burial ground. A survey undertaken as part of this process had identified potential sites within Tetbury and Tetbury Upton for further consideration.

**HEC03. 03/26 Declarations of Interest:**

None.

**HEC04. 03/26 To approve the Minutes of the Heritage, Environment and Community meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026:** It was proposed by Cllr Z Baker seconded by Cllr R Smith to approve the minutes of the Heritage, Environment and Community meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026.

Voting record	For 3	Against 0	Abstain 2	Absent 2
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A Member of the Public (MOP) attended the meeting to respond to questions relating to Agenda Item 12.

It was proposed by Cllr Z Baker and seconded by Cllr I Watson that Standing Orders be suspended to bring forward Agenda Item 12, permitting the MOP to address the Council and answer questions.

Voting record	For 5	Against 0	Abstain 0	Absent 2
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**HEC12. 03/26 To consider and approve resident volunteer support for the Big Green Spring Clean:**

It was proposed by Cllr Z Baker and seconded by Cllr S Sanderson that the Council support volunteers participating in the Big Green Clean and other litter-picking activities within Tetbury.

Voting record	For 5	Against 0	Abstain 0	Absent 2
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EO to send organisers the Tetbury Town Council Risk assessment.

Representative confirmed the date of 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 and EO will circulate this with Council Members.

**HEC05. 03/26 To note Budget, spend to date and forecast spend:**

Noted.

Cllr I Watson informed Members that he is aware of a department within Gloucestershire County Council that specialises in the removal of Ash Dieback-affected trees. Cllr Watson confirmed that he will make further enquiries and report back with information.

**HEC06. 03/26 To note Heritage, Environment community Action Plan from previous meeting:**

Noted.

Concerns were raised by Cllr C. Pearce regarding the future of the Court House, and it was noted that a view was expressed that decisions were being delayed and needed to be addressed.

It was further noted by Cllr S. Sanderson that the Court House Working Group had met prior to Christmas and that a report would be brought forward in due course.

**HEC07. 03/26 To note Visitor Information Centre report:**

Noted.

**HEC08. 03/26 To receive the Police Museum Report:**

No report received.

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**HEC09. 03/26 To note Grounds Team monthly Play Park Inspection:**

Noted.

Play Park at the Goods shed - Concerns were raised by Cllr R Smith regarding the condition of the area used by Parkrun, noting that it was becoming unusable. It was suggested that the area be taped off to allow the grass to recover and regrow.

Further concerns were also raised by Cllr R Smith regarding the operation of the “car park full” signs and how their activation and monitoring were being managed.

It was additionally noted by Cllr I Watson that discussions could be held with Parkrun to request that, during the recovery period, participants congregate on the tarmac instead.

**HEC10. 03/26 To discuss accommodation preferences and logistical arrangements for the Zwingenberg Delegation attending the Christmas Event 2026:**

It was noted by Cllr C Pearce that there was no allocated budget for Officers to provide the level of assistance being discussed. The Executive Officer advised that the visitors had expressed a preference to stay locally, and that if suitable accommodation could not be arranged with local families, they would secure hotel accommodation at their own cost.

It was noted by Cllr I Watson that there is a group of volunteers who have expressed an interest in becoming involved in the Twinning Project he will contact them to discuss.

It was proposed by Cllr Z Baker and seconded by Cllr R Smith that the Zwingenberg members be invited to attend the Christmas Lights Switch-On event.

Voting record	For 5	Against 0	Abstain 0	Absent 3
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**HEC11. 03/26 To consider and approve a request for financial support towards purchasing a plaque at Bath Bridge:** It was proposed by Cllr Z Baker seconded by Cllr C Pearce to support the shortfall of £119.20 to purchase historic plaque for Bath Bridge.

Voting record	For 5	Against 0	Abstain 0	Absent 3
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**HEC13. 03/26 To seek Council approval for the Executive Officer to submit a nomination for Tetbury to the Bee Friendly Trust Awards:** It was proposed by Cllr C Pearce seconded by Cllr Z Baker to approve the EO to submit a nomination for Tetbury to the Bee Friendly Trust Awards.

Voting record	For 5	Against 0	Abstain 0	Absent 3
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**HEC14. 03/26 To consider correspondence:**

**St Saviours – War Memorial –** EO noted an organisation has offered to maintain the upkeep of the War Memorial. EO will respond to resident.

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**HEC15. 03/26 To receive members report:**

**Cllr C Pearce** - Concerns were raised by Cllr C. Pearce regarding the poor condition of roads within Tetbury, particularly in relation to potholes. It was noted that Cllr Pearce questioned, in respect of Cllr I. Watson’s county council capacity, whether current spending priorities were appropriate and whether the works being undertaken were fit for purpose. Further concern was expressed regarding reductions in road maintenance funding and the reasons for such cuts.

Concerns were raised by Cllr C. Pearce regarding the parking situation on Gumstool Hill, noting that the current arrangements are unsuitable and that vehicles are unable to pass safely when cars are parked in this area. It was further noted that the parking bay markings have faded and require reinstatement.

**HEC16. 03/26 Items for inclusion on the April 2026 agenda:**

Please email EO

**HEC17. 03/26 To note the dates and time and date of the next Heritage, Environment and Community meeting 7pm Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at Tetbury Library – Close Gardens – Tetbury:**  
Noted.

Chair.....

Date.....

Meeting ended 1938