



Facilities Committee Meeting
Facilities Manager's Report
Monday 29th June 2026

FA27 05 ONGOING PROJECT UPDATES

(i) Church End Pond

We are unfortunately still waiting for the last permissions for the installation of the bore hole. The project was put before them late 2025 and we are still waiting. I am chasing the architect weekly and hope to have this finalised soon.

(ii) St Mary's Lych Gate

We are waiting for the completed survey of the lych gate. Again I am chasing for this on a weekly basis. Once received, we can start to get quotes for the work that will be needed.

(iii) Aston Road Cricket Ground

We are still in close contact with Dandara, Agri Power and Haddenham Cricket Club to ensure that the new cricket ground will be fit for play for the 2027 season. Regular watering is now taking place and the square is starting to look good. The tender for the new pavilion building has just been awarded and we meet with the contactor tomorrow (30th June).

FA27 06 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

The team are busy cutting grass and hedges which seem to be growing quicker than we can cut them this year. Unfortunately, one of our mowers has a broken gear box which will cost almost the same amount of money to fix as it would to buy new. For this reason, a new mower has been bought with delegated authority from the Clerk and the Chair.

The team have expressed a concern regarding the no mow May policy. It is felt that the longer grass looks scruffy and causes problems when trying to catch up in July.

A discussion and agreement needs to be made.

We are very close to agreeing the take over from Cala Homes of the Phase 2 land. This will include the pond area, the SUDs and amenity areas in front of the houses on both Tibbs Road and Handley Drive. A mix of wilding and seating areas will be kept here.

Staff have been working some extra hours on overtime at the moment as we catch up with extra work taken on this year. They are happy to do this as it raises a little extra money for them.

The Council needs to discuss if they are happy with this arrangement going forward or if we should look to employ a fourth person.

At the last facilities meeting we briefly discussed the idea of employing a sports pitch specialist. Within the papers is a detailed paper regarding this subject.

FA27 07 DEVOLVED SERVICES

The new memorandum of understanding from Buckinghamshire Council for 2026/27 has been signed following legal advice. This means that we will be looking after BCC verges etc for at least another year.

Legal advice:

There has been a general change by principal authorities away from the previous type of delegation agreement, particularly in respect of delegation to local councils.

A clause by clause analysis of the two agreements will take some hours.

The general position is however that the new agreement imposes upon the local Council full authority and liability in respect of the works specified in the Agreement. The local Council indemnifies the principal authority in respect of the works and has to effect adequate liability insurance. These provisions replicate those in the original agreement. There is an obligation to employ competent staff or contractors and the Schedule to the Memorandum of Understanding provides a detailed schedule of the Works that are delegated and how they are to be undertaken. This is largely a replication of existing obligations but in a tabulated (and more easily read) form. The schedules need to be reflected in the instructions given to the member of staff or the contractors employed to carry out the relevant task.

The indemnity provision in the Agreement are those to be expected where the principal authority is handing over responsibility to the local council. The indemnity is substantial but should not be a problem provided that the local Council ensures that the required working practice is actually carried out.

We do not find that there is any provision in the new agreement that we would not expect to find having regard to the provisions of the previous agreement.

FA27 08 STREETLIGHTS

We have had the Electrical Installation Condition Report (EICR) back from Eldridge for all of our street lights. This needs to be done every 6 years and there have been some changes to the requirements since the last one was carried out, resulting in a greater number of issues being identified. As yet, prices are unknown but we are working with Eldridge to prepare a quote for all of the work to be prioritised and phased over 3 years.

FA27 09 PLAY AREAS

We are in the process of obtaining other quotes for our playground inspection quarterly reports and repairs. Our present inspectors tend to find problems that they like to quote to fix. Quotes are coming back as we speak so our June report should be carried out in July or August at the latest. We continue to carry on with our weekly visual inspections.

FA27 10 ASTON ROAD YARD

PCMS Design have prepared draft plans for the layout of a new yard at Aston Road, these are in the papers. If the Council are in agreement, we will acquire quotes for the works and submit for planning permission.

As part of the work, it has been recommended to remove and replace the asbestos roof as soon as possible. We are looking to the Council to delegate responsibility for this work to the Clerk once three quotes have been obtained, in order to get the work carried out before winter.

FA27 11 GRANITE SETTS AT CHURCH END

Church End Green continues to be eroded by vehicles passing tightly and parking on the highway boundary where there are no granite setts to define the highway boundary and protect the village green. Some older granite setts have been dislodged, particularly around the war memorial. This historic area in the centre of the conservation area needs to be preserved. The cost of granite setts is high, so the proposal has been broken down into phases and should the Committee decide to go ahead, the cost could be split over future financial years. Three quotes are in the papers for consideration.

FA27 12 DEFIBRILATOR

The Parish Council have been approached by the installers of the defibrillator at the library to ask if we would consider taking on responsibility for ongoing checks and replacement parts. Heartbeat Haddenham are happy to add it to their schedule with the other defibrillators.

FA27 13 COMMUNITY ORCHARD COMMITTEE

Minutes of the last committee meeting are within the papers.

FA27 14 SNAKEMOOR

Latest report in the papers.