

# **HADDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

## **PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL AMENITY AREAS**

### **POLICY AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

#### **Background**

Over the years, the Council has arranged a variety of agreements with various parties to advise on and manage the activities required to comply with the Council's aims and objectives for these sites.

In particular, these cover Fairchilds Meadows, The Pond and the Closed Cemetery.

Each agreement lists the aims and objectives to be achieved by the management body.

There is a degree of common membership of the various bodies, with HPC representation on all of them to ensure that their activities are aligned with Council policy and strategy with respect to these public areas.

This document outlines the Council's overall policy, strategic aims and objectives, which these various groups should aspire to meet.

Other amenity areas are managed directly by the Council, such as Feasts Green, The Green and the Recreation Ground. Again, the management of these areas should align with Council policy and strategy.

All activities concerning environmental amenity areas are reviewed by the Council's *Environmental Overview Group* in order to ensure that this is the case.

#### **Policy**

As a matter of Council Policy, these public amenity areas shall be kept for the enjoyment of the public in perpetuity.

As responsible owners, the Council shall ensure these areas are maintained in good order, using Council and/or other funds for the purpose where required.

#### **Strategic Objectives**

- Protect and enhance the environment of the public amenity areas for the benefit of the indigenous flora and fauna
- Improve public access to the various sites, having due regard to the previous objective
- Improve public education in respect of the areas, sharing knowledge of the flora and fauna via various communication channels
- Maintain and enhance the quality of the public recreation and amenity spaces
- Minimise harm to the environment through our activities

**David Lyon**  
**Chairman**  
**17.11.18**

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#### **Management Actions**

The current management actions to achieve the strategic objectives may be described as follows:

- Devolution of day-to-day management of some amenity areas to special interest groups with Council representation
- Large-scale grass maintenance carried out by a competent contractor under a term contract, which is renewable every three years.
- Tree maintenance is carried out by specialist services
- Play areas are inspected and maintained in good order, using specialist contractors as required.
- Environmental enhancements are carried out on the advice of the various management groups using specialist or voluntary input.

*Future* management actions may include:

- Provision of village-wide mapping to show the environmental areas and connecting footpaths
- Provision of better signposting to major sites of interest
- Enhancement of recreation ground pitch quality by regular improvement works
- Execution of environmental works resulting from CambsAcre project recommendations – “New Life on the Old West”
- Public appeal via The Voice and Facebook for new volunteer members of the various devolved management groups in order to revive interest.