Meriden Parish Council

The Pavilion
Meriden Sports Park
10 Main Road
Meriden
CV7 7SP

Minutes of the Meriden Sports Park Committee held at 6.45pm on Monday 7 September 2026 at the Sports Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park.
Councillors Present: Cllr Marshall (Chair), Cllr Whitehead, Cllr Ritchie and Cllr McGrath
Clerk: J. McDougall
Deputy Clerk: C. Cooper
Apologies: None
Public Attendees: None

Min No.	Item	Action
35/2627 35/2627.1	**Apologies and Substitutions** None.	
36/2627 36/2627.1	**Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest** None.	
37/2627 37/2627.1	**Public Participation** No members of the public in attendance.	
38/2627 38/2627.1	**Minutes** The minutes from the Meriden Sports Park committee meeting held on 27 July 2026 were approved as a true and accurate record and signed by Cllr Marshall. **All in favour**	
39/2627 39/2627.1 39/2627.2	**Play Area Repairs** The Clerk provided an update on the progress of the play area repairs. Cllrs were advised that Greyhound Leisure has been instructed to undertake the required works. The Clerk is currently awaiting confirmation of a start date and confirmed that a follow-up email had been sent to the contractor today. A damaged bucket swing seat has been removed by the Clerk.	
40/2627 40/2627.1 40/2627.2	**Sports Pavilion Repairs** The Clerk confirmed that the required replacement of lighting within the Sports Pavilion and beneath the external canopy had been completed to ensure compliance. The Clerk confirmed that volunteers from JLR will be repainting the Sports Pavilion. The Committee agreed that the new paint colour should closely match the existing finish and be both matt and wipeable. The Clerk is awaiting confirmation from JLR regarding a start date for the works. Cllrs enquired whether JLR held appropriate insurance cover, and the Clerk confirmed that the works would be covered under MPC's volunteer insurance policy. Meriden Sports Park will provide the paint, while JLR will supply all other equipment required to undertake the works.	

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41/2627 41/2627.1	**Tree Survey** The Clerk is awaiting a third quotation before proceeding with the required tree works at the Sports Park.	Clerk to action
42/2627 42/2627.1	**BT Phone Line/Broadband Contract** The Clerk confirmed that a new BT package would be purchased and that a new telephone number would be provided. The Clerk also suggested that the MS&RT contact BT to discuss the current contract and any termination fees.	Clerk to action
43/2627 43/2627.1	**Signage for the Sports Park** The Clerk and Deputy Clerk presented draft designs for two new signs, one for the main entrance to the Sports Park and the other for the play area entrance. Cllrs were satisfied with both designs and suggested that a third sign could be installed on either the Pavilion or the tennis court railings. It was also noted that several smaller "No Dogs" signs around the Sports Park require replacement. Cllr Marshall suggested contacting Vital Signz for quotations. The Deputy Clerk will continue to progress the project and obtain the necessary quotations.	Deputy Clerk to action
44/2627 44/2627.1	**Sports Park Lettings** The cricket season has now concluded, and the football season has commenced. One cricket team has confirmed its return for next season, while the other has yet to do so. Both football teams have returned for the new season but advised that they were not interested in the package offered by MPC, due to a lack of home fixtures and uncertainty over year-round training. A separate fee for training sessions has now been introduced.	
45/2627 45/2627.1	**Planting on the Grass Verge** The Committee agreed that the hedging on the grass verge outside the Sports Park, which had been affected by box blight, should be replaced with lavender planting. A quotation of £550 plus VAT had been obtained from Fairways for the proposed works.	Clerk to action
46/2627 46/2627.1	**External and Internal Storage Areas** The Committee discussed the need to improve the organisation of both the internal and external storage areas. It was noted that both football teams currently utilise the external storage area. Cllrs considered the purchase of large wheeled mesh storage trolleys to help keep equipment organised, with an initial proposal of two trolleys for each football team and two for MPC. The Clerk was asked to obtain prices and report back to the Committee.	Clerk to action
47/2627 47/2627.1	**Meriden Sports and Recreation Trust** The Committee revisited a previous agenda item concerning funding and noted that a specific project would need to be identified before funding opportunities could be pursued. Cllrs discussed the potential purchase of a bleed kit and the possibility of securing funding towards its cost. The Clerk advised that a bleed	

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	kit would cost approximately £450 plus VAT. The Committee requested that the Clerk contact local businesses to enquire whether they would be willing to make a donation towards the purchase of the kit. It was suggested that a plaque could be installed beneath the bleed kit to acknowledge and thank any businesses that contribute to its funding.	Clerk to action
48/2627	**Correspondence**	
48/2627.1	Fortress, the contractor responsible for emptying the large blue bin at the entrance to the Sports Park, has advised that its charges will increase from £13.61 to £16.98 per collection. A new contract was signed in April. The Clerk will review the contract to confirm the position and will also contact Biffa to obtain a comparative quotation.	Clerk to action
48/2627.2	A member of the public raised a concern regarding a lack of available parking at the Sports Park during a football team training session. The Committee noted the comment and acknowledged that parking capacity can be limited when sporting activities are taking place on site.	
48/2627.3	A member of the public raised concerns regarding the condition of the play area and noted that there was no bucket seat fitted to the swing. The Committee noted the comments and advised that repairs to the play area are being progressed.	
48/2627.4	The Clerk confirmed that a sign previously displayed on the railings at the Sports Park has been removed and collected by its owners.	
48/2627.5	A request was received regarding two table tennis tables currently stored in the external storage area and not in use. The applicant proposed making a donation to Meriden Parish Council in exchange for the tables. Cllrs discussed the request and sought clarification on the intended use of the tables, specifically whether they would be donated to a voluntary organisation or used for personal purposes. The Clerk's understanding was that the request related to personal use. Cllrs agreed that the condition of the tables should be assessed in the first instance. It was further considered that, should the tables be deemed surplus to requirements, they should be offered to local voluntary organisations before being made available through a public process to ensure fairness and transparency.	Clerk to action
49/2627	**Chair and Councillor Reports**	
49/2627.1	Cllrs noted that a van continues to be parked in a gateway obstructing an exit from the Sports Park. Although the vehicle is moved periodically, concerns were raised regarding the ongoing obstruction. It was agreed that a sign would be placed in the window of the van to ask for it to be removed.	Clerk to action

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50/2627 50/2627.1 50/2627.2 50/2627.3	**Clerk's Report** Following a advert posted in the latest edition of the Meriden Mag; no enquiries have been received regarding hire of the Sports Park. The disabled toilet in the Sports Pavilion has been fixed. The Clerk met with Kompan to discuss the play area and potential additional equipment that could be installed. Cllrs considered a number of options and agreed that any new equipment should be inclusive and accessible to all users. Cllr Whitehead will investigate available grant funding opportunities, and once suitable grants have been identified, a decision will be made on which items of equipment to purchase.	Cllr Whitehead to action
51/2627 51/2627.1	**Date and Time of the Next Meriden Sports Park Committee Meeting** The next MSP Committee meeting was scheduled for 6:45pm on Monday 2 November 2026 at the Sports Pavilion.	

Signed: Cllr Marshall **Date: 2 November 2026**