

Coe's Meadow Management Committee (CMMC) Meeting Minutes



7pm, Wednesday 8th July 2026 at Coe's Meadow

Minutes taken by Laura Little.

Present:

Cllr Antonia Crawshay, Emma Hamilton-Russell, Jenny Kenson, Laura Little, Cllr Sam Rowe,

1. **Apologies for absence:** none.
2. **Approval of minutes from AGM held 6th May 2026:** approved.
3. **Matters arising from the last minutes:** None.
4. **Finance**
 - a. Updated accounts reviewed for 31st March 2026 and year to date 30th June 2026.
 - b. Proposal to change bank account with lower bank charges and present to Council.
Emma will look at CAF. September PC meeting.

5. Habitat Management and Grounds Maintenance

- a. Stour Valley Volunteers cut and rake is booked for 30th Sept. Jenny will ask if the volunteers would like to help on another date with removing the matting in the area near to the willow tunnel.
- b. Lime Avenue - Graham Nichols has quoted £1600 to reduce the 22/24 replacement limes by 1.5m in line with Braintree District Council's (BDC) decision. The decision has been discussed with BDC who explained that it is too late to pollard the trees so a reduction is only possible now. If anyone would like this to be appealed, professional reports will be required to give good reason and recommend an alternative treatment.
- c. Use of S106 funding for new gate(s) - the CMMC agreed to apply for a gate from S106 funds. The Bulmer Parish Council will need to approve the use of funds at their next meeting. The gate could then be purchased and the funding claimed.

6. Playground Update

- a. Purchase and installation of 7v7 football goals – the CMMC agreed to go with the Network Sports quote for £930. Laura will place the order for delivery at the end of July. Sam and Tim will arrange installation.
- b. Planning application for playground replacement – the CMMC agreed to include the path in the planning application. Sam and Laura will liaise with PlanFree to update the plan. The plan will then be shared with Bulmer Parish Council for approval.
- c. National Grid grant application for playground equipment - the CMMC agreed to submit an application for an agility trail and seesaw with a budget of approximately £20,000 for supply and install. Laura will continue to source quotes ready for approval by Bulmer Parish Council.
- d. The CMMC also discussed applying to National Lottery Awards For All fund for a new climbing frame with a budget of approximately £20,000 for supply and install. Laura will



continue to source quotes ready for approval by Bulmer Parish Council at their next meeting.

- e. The CMMC also agreed to approach Bulmer Parish Council as to whether the grant and purchase of equipment could be made by the council so that the VAT may be reclaimed.

7. Website, social media and engagement

- a. Now that a website is set up, the committee agreed to register a domain name, possibly www.coesmeadow.org.uk . The committee will explore the options.

8. Fundraising events

- a. The plant sale and pop-up plant sale have raised in excess of £1350 in total and the beer festival raised £2385 for Coe's Meadow. A huge thanks goes to Jenny, Sam and Taylor for organising the events.
- b. Sam and Taylor are planning a Bulmer Golf Day for 15th August 2026.
- c. Sam and Taylor are planning a wine tasting event for September.
- d. The band night in October has been postponed.
- e. Jenny is planning a yard sale for 3rd October 2026.

9. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 15th September, 6pm.

10. Any other business

- a. The committee discussed the laurel hedge and the request from St Jude's to reduce it to one row of plants. The committee agreed to proceed with the plan to remove one row immediately adjacent to the path and believe the Lime Avenue will benefit from a wider verge. A working party will be organised for the Autumn to remove the front row.
- b. Signs have been purchased to be placed on the bins at the back of the park to discourage dog waste vapes being placed in the bins. There are red bins for dog waste located at each entrance to the park and vapes should be disposed of at a collection point. Thank you to Jess Soper for continuing to empty the bins.