Minutes of the Recreation Committee Meeting held on Monday 28 September 2026, commencing at 7.40pmpm when there were present:

Mrs B Clarke in the Chair

Mr N Dack	Mrs J Latchford
Mrs C Karimi-Ghovanlou	Mr S Matthews

Also present: Clerk

Apologies for absence: None

Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda: None

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2026 were confirmed by the Meeting and signed by the Chairman.

Report items

Thorpe Marriott Green Play Area: Access for delivering the new play equipment was improved by cutting back hawthorn overhanging the path. An arborist also inspected a nearby tree after it shed a branch due to summer branch drop. Branches overhanging the road and obstructing vehicle access were cut back, and dead wood was removed from the canopy. The stumps in the play area and the front garden of Taverham Village Hall were ground out in preparation for the new play area and future replanting.

The play area project had commenced. Three existing benches were kept from the rip out, and 2 had been used to replace broken benches elsewhere on Thorpe Marriott Green.

CCTV: A site meeting had been held with the contractor installing CCTV at Thorpe Marriott Green Play Area. It was agreed that the CCTV tower would be positioned away from hedges, fences and walls to prevent youngsters climbing it and vandalising the cameras. Anti-climb paint and signage would provide additional deterrents.

Skatepark: In June, youngsters vandalised the skatepark by spilling engine oil on the ramps. As the skatepark drains directly into the nearby stream, there were concerns about the environmental impact. Tarpaulin and sand were used to divert and absorb as much oil as possible, and the facility was closed for several days while the area was cleaned.

Tree works at Sandy Lane: Two unstable trees in the top-left corner of Sandy Lane Playing Field were removed urgently at a cost of £100. The felled trees were left on site for their habitat value.

Vandalism at Thorpe Marriott Green: The newly installed bench near the rear of Isbets Dale was vandalised. Replacement armrests were sourced from the original supplier, and the damage was reported to the local police.

The current budget picture was received.

To consider request for permission to reduce the height of silver birches at Sandy Lane Playing Field

A resident wrote to advise that they had instructed a tree surgeon to reduce the height of the silver birches on Sandy Lane Playing Field adjacent to their property. The Clerk informed the tree surgeon that the Council had not authorised the work and that he was not to proceed. The Council's arborist inspected these trees and those beside the property opposite, advising that the proposed reduction would harm the trees' health. The Council could reduce some overhanging branches, but the resident did not accept this compromise. As unauthorised work had previously been carried out on the trees, it was **RESOLVED** to ask the District Council to place Tree Preservation Orders on the oak and birches along the

upper boundary of Sandy Lane Playing Field; refuse the resident permission to cut the trees; and obtain quotations from the Council's arborist to reduce the overhang, with the Council meeting the cost.

To receive the annual safety survey and to consider quote for work
The safety surveys for Thorpe Marriott Green, Sandy Lane Playing Field, Alder Way and The Drove were received. Quotes for safety work in the total sum of £4830 were **ACCEPTED.**

To consider quotes for the at height risk inspection for the zipwire
The Clerk advised the meeting that the at height inspection was an annual requirement. Councillors accepted the quote for the inspection from Kompan in the sum of £730.15 being the cheaper of the quotes received. The Clerk was instructed to arrange the inspection annually and to report the findings to the Committee after the inspection had taken place.

The Meeting closed at 8.21pm.

Signed……. Dated……..