



Lymington &
Pennington
Town Council

www.LymingtonandPennington-tc.gov.uk
t: 01590 630830 e: info@lymandpentc.org.uk

29 August 2023

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE, you are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Lymington & Pennington Town Council's **AMENITIES COMMITTEE** which will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lymington on **Monday 4 September 2023 6.00pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of public may speak via video conferencing in accordance with the Council's public participation scheme on anything which is in the specific remit of the Council, at the beginning of the meeting. Any request to speak must be received no less than two clear working days before the commencement of the meeting. A link to the virtual meeting will then be emailed to the member of public. In certain circumstances, for matters which are included on the Agenda, they may be specifically invited by the Chairperson to speak when the Agenda item is called. In these circumstances they may only speak before members have started to debate the item. No member of the public shall speak for more than three minutes in total at any one meeting.

Members of the public may attend via video conferencing. Upon request, a link to the virtual meeting can be sent to the member of public.

Please note that this meeting will be recorded.

Louise Young
CEO/Town Clerk

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC MAY ATTEND

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Declarations of Interest**
To receive any declarations of interest on any items on the Agenda.
- 3. Public Participation**
To note any matters raised during the public participation period.
- 4. Minutes of previous Amenities Meeting held on 17 July 2023**
To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the previous Amenities Meeting.

5. Withy Woods Phase 1

To consider the proposals from NFDC

6. Requests for use of Council land

- Respective request from Coles Fun Fair to hold a family fun fair with amusements on Pennington Common. Equipment to start arriving on Monday 4 September 2023 with the fun fair open Friday 5pm-9pm, Saturday and Sunday 1pm-9pm. They will leave the common on Monday 11 September 2023. Event will be herras fenced with multiple emergency exits. Coles to advise local residents about the event. Site manager and trained first aiders on site at all times.

To review and approve requests for use of Council land subject to compliance with the Council's Open Spaces Terms & Conditions and Town Clerk agreement, with overseeing from the Events Sub-Committee when appropriate.

7. Next Meeting

To confirm the next meeting of the Amenities Committee will be held in the Council Chamber on **Monday 16 October 2023 at 6pm.**

Members: Cllr McCarthy (Chairperson & Deputy Mayor), Cllr Jearrad (Deputy Chairperson), Cllr King, Cllr Phillips, Cllr Morgan, Cllr Frost, Cllr Loveless, Cllr Humber, and Cllr Davies (Town Mayor).



**Minutes of the Meeting of Lymington & Pennington Town Council's
Amenities Committee
held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lymington
on Monday 17 July 2023 at 6.00pm**

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillors	Cllr McCarthy (Chairperson) Cllr Davies (Mayor) Cllr Jearrad Cllr King Cllr Phillips Cllr Loveless Cllr Humber Cllr Gray substituted for Cllr Morgan
	Other Councillors	Cllr England Cllr Lewis
	Officers	Louise Young, Town Clerk Lesley Way, Deputy Town Clerk
	Also Present	2 Member of Public 3 NFDC Officers

9. Apologies for Absence

Received and accepted from Cllr Frost and Cllr Morgan.

10. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Davies declared a non-pecuniary interest in Items 5, 6 and 7.

11. Public Participation

None.

12. Minutes of Previous Amenities Meeting held on 5 June 2023.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Amenities meeting held on 5 June 2023 be signed as a correct record.

Proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Loveless. All in favour.

13. Pennington Walking Route

An officer from NFDC gave a presentation about proposed improvements to footpaths, signage, and accessibility in Pennington.

Cllr Humber commented that the proposal for kissing gates will work for people with disabilities who have access to a radar key but asked what about people with pushchairs or those who do not have access to a radar key. The NFDC officer said that a kissing gate without a radar key could be offered and will be investigated.

Cllr Humber also asked if there would be directional signs along the route. The NFDC officer responded to say the route will be marked and interpretation boards will be installed at various key locations giving information and showing the route.

Cllr Humber suggested that the footpath could be made into a cycle path. The NFDC officer said this was something that will need to be brought up with Hampshire County Council.

Cllr Jerrad asked if people will be advised when joining the route that they will need a radar key for disability access. The NFDC officer responded that this could be highlighted on the interpretation boards.

Cllr Loveless asked if there will be more bins/dog waste bins along the route and if the police will be consulted about anti-social behaviour if the route is to be made more open. The NFDC officer reported that no new footpaths are being created, it will be an upgrade to the current path to improve the standard. There are no plans for extra bins. By making the route more open to the public this will hopefully deter antisocial behaviour rather than encourage it.

Resolved: Councillors noted report

14. Grove Gardens

An officer from NFDC gave a presentation about the proposed improvements to signage, amenity, and biodiversity at Grove Gardens.

Cllr Gray asked if picnic style benches could be considered. The NFDC representative said this was something that could be looked into.

Cllr Jerrad asked if more bins were part of the improvements. The Town Clerk explained that the bins at Grove Road were being updated under the current replacement bin project.

Cllr Gray asked about the ongoing maintenance cost to Lymington and Pennington Town Council to manage these improvements, once completed. The Town Clerk reported that the cost shouldn't increase as there should be less maintenance. The Town Council would have needed to plan for future investment into the area, including replacing lost trees, so it is actually a gain for us.

Cllr Humber asked if there will be more parking. This Town Clerk responded there would be no change to the current parking.

Questions were raised about plans to leave some uncut grass areas as it will encourage more litter to gather and dog mess to be left, especially in certain corners where the wind causes rubbish to collect. The area is also prone to rats and more litter from extra benches will encourage this. The Town Clerk said this is something that will be monitored.

Cllr Phillips asked if improved lighting was included in the plans. The Town Clerk said there were no proposals for this.

Resolved: That the scheme, presented by New Forest District Council, to make improvements to Grove Gardens is approved.

Proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr King. 7 in favour, 1 abstained.

15. Woodside Park

An officer from NFDC gave a presentation about the proposed improvements to Woodside Park.

Cllr Davies commented that it is a fantastic idea but asked about the cost of maintenance for the dog agility area. The NFDC officer said he would look into the maintenance cost of other schemes that had been installed in the district and report back.

Cllr Davies asked if improvements to the car park were included. The NFDC officer answered that there is not sufficient budget to include any changes to the surface of the car park.

It was asked if the public would be informed of the changes as this is crucial. It was reported that the improvements will be included on interpretation boards, on websites and social media.

Cllr Humber asked if kissing gates with radar key access were required, could they not just be kissing gates alone. This is something the officer took on board to take away and to investigate further.

Cllr Humber was concerned about the proposed position of the dog agility area being close to the pond and the environmental impact. The NFDC representative said the ecologist will be consulted about this.

Cllr Gray asked if the scheme would encourage more wildlife or just improve what is there and perhaps nesting and bat boxes could be incorporated into the scheme. The NFDC representative reported that native trees are currently being used to encourage the wildlife. However, wildlife boxes are something that could be used, and he would speak to the ecologist for further advice.

Cllr Loveless raised concerns about the screening of the park by planting more trees and how this will affect the rugby club, and screen anti-social behaviour in the skate park.

Resolved: That the scheme, as presented by New Forest District Council, with minor changes, including further discussions about the gates used and a reduction in the number of trees used as screening along the rugby pitch, is approved.

Proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Humber. 6 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstained.

16. Requests For Use of Council Land

Councillors discussed requests received from

1. Request received from St Barbe Museum to hold Summer Holiday activities at Emsworth Road Recreation Ground from 1st – 30th August 2023, 10.30am- 3.15pm. Summer holiday arts and craft activities for children from 1 to 11 years. Mini Gazebo, table and ground sheets being used. Free event all welcome.

Resolved Items

- i. That the request for use of Council land be approved subject to compliance with the Council's Open Spaces Terms & Conditions and Town Clerk agreement, with overseeing of the Events Sub-Committee when appropriate.
- ii. That the Town Clerk has delegated authority to liaise with event organisers to amend dates of the proposed events as appropriate.

Proposed by Cllr Humber, seconded by Cllr Davies. All in favour.

2. Request received from V Wigeley to hold a bootcamp at Woodside Park on Wednesday evenings 5.30pm – 8.30pm and Saturday mornings 6.30am – 9.00am. Group fitness classes with equipment run by personal trainer with first aider on hand. To run until 14 September 2023.

Resolved Items

- i. That the request for use of Council land be approved subject to compliance with the Council’s Open Spaces Terms & Conditions and Town Clerk agreement, with overseeing of the Events Sub-Committee when appropriate.
- ii. That the Town Clerk has delegated authority to liaise with event organisers to amend dates of the proposed events as appropriate.

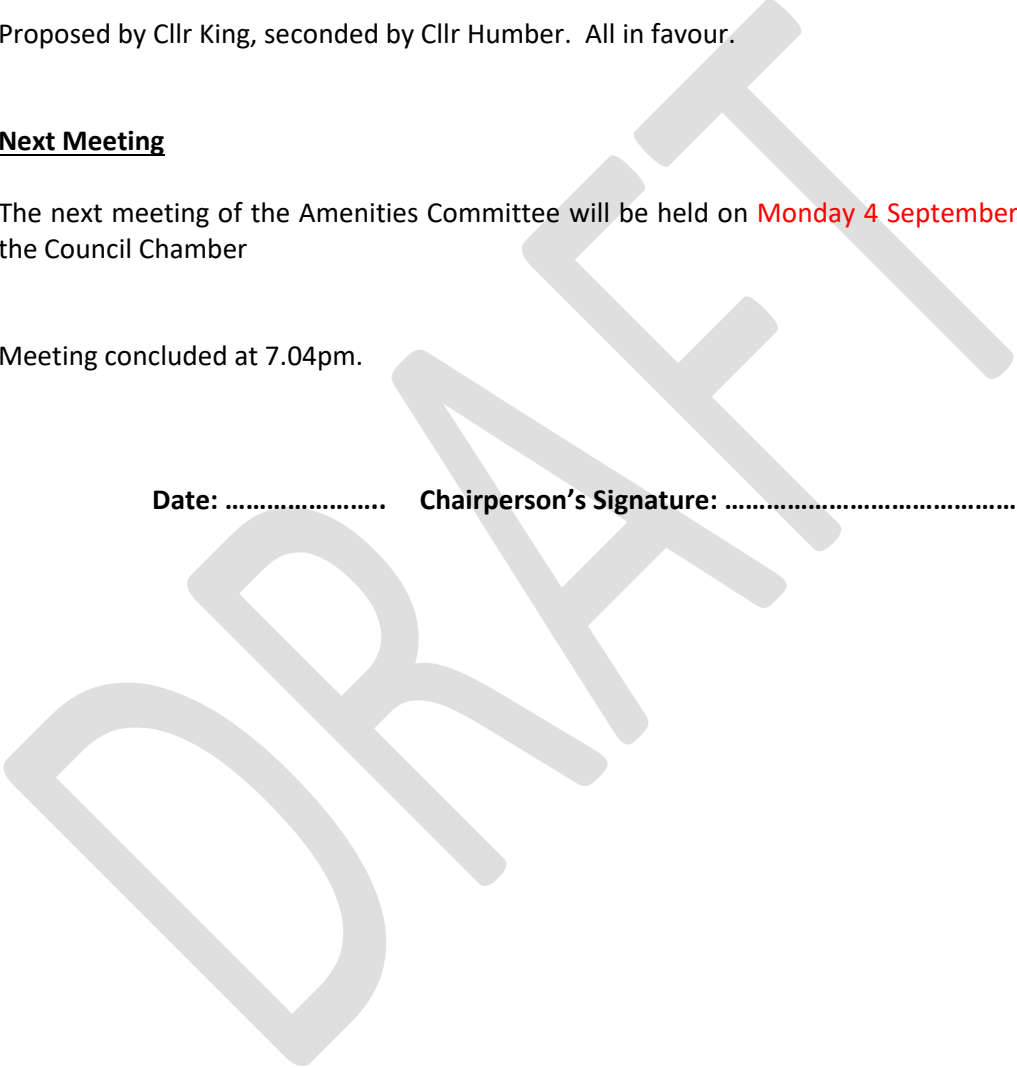
Proposed by Cllr King, seconded by Cllr Humber. All in favour.

17. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Amenities Committee will be held on **Monday 4 September 2023 at 6pm** in the Council Chamber

Meeting concluded at 7.04pm.

Date: **Chairperson’s Signature:**





Withy Woods Phase 1

Proposed improvements to footpaths, signage,
and amenity

Project outline

[Version 1](#)

23rd August 2023



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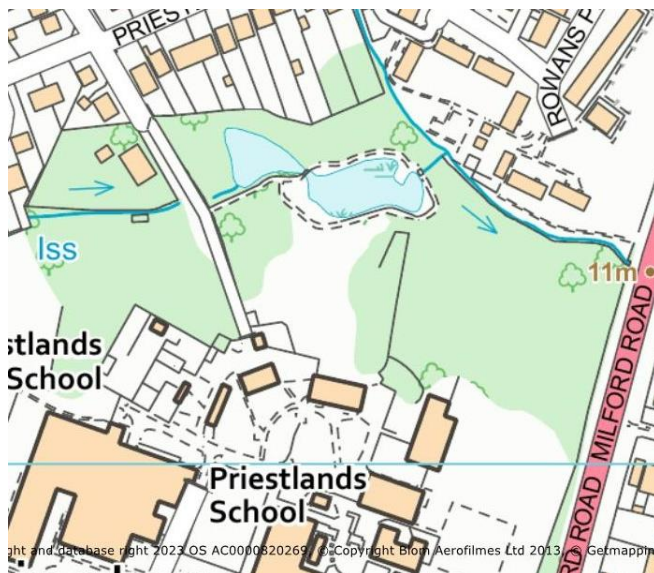
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1. Introduction

New Forest District Council (NFDC) are required by Natural England to deliver a programme of recreational mitigation works across the district to relieve pressure on the ecologically sensitive areas of the New Forest National Park caused by increasing visitor numbers associated with planned residential developments, and in particular, increased dog walking. By enhancing local greenspaces and recreational amenities, it is anticipated that some recreation can be encouraged to take place closer to home and outside the National Park. This will also have an added carbon reduction benefit by reducing car journeys.

An initial list of 'Green Way' projects are included within the NFDC *Mitigation for Recreational Impacts on New Forest European Sites, Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)* in 2014. Withy Woods (then listed as 'Rowans Park') was identified as an area that could benefit from improvements.



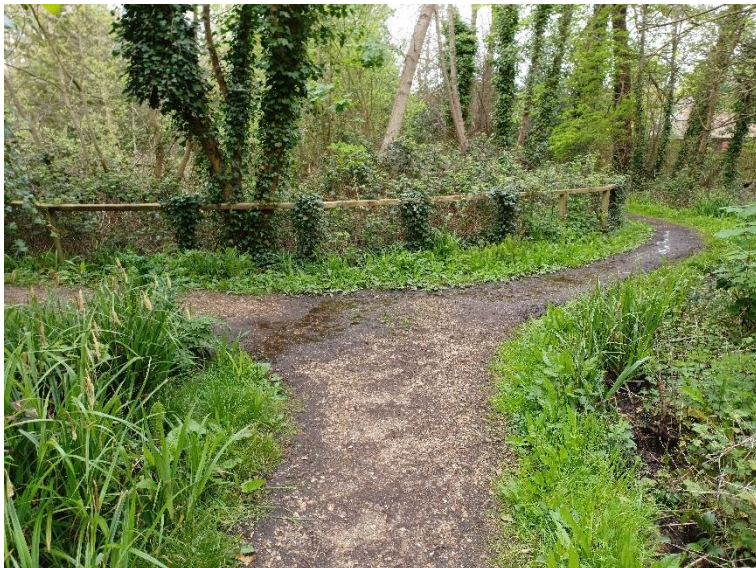
(Above) Location plan.

2. Proposals

NFDC are seeking permission from Lymington and Pennington Town Council (LPTC) to undertake landscape enhancement works at Withy Woods.

To ensure year-round access and encourage walkers it is proposed to undertake works to repair footpaths and make minor improvements to drainage. Signage and bins will be located at both entrances and additional wayfinding posts within the woods.

Due to the complexity of issues involving the ponds and ecology and the need for further stakeholder engagement, works to these areas are proposed to form a later, second phase.



(Above) Muddy paths within Withy Woods



(Above) Flooding of decking/pond-dipping platform caused by drainage failure.



(Above) Garden waste to be cleared, subject to Ecologist recommendations

3. Signage and wayfinding

To encourage visitors, we are proposing two interpretation boards, one to each entrance, which will include a map of the local area, emergency information, guidelines for behaviour, and some facts about the area. In addition, small roundels and posts will be used to help guide walkers.



(Above) Example interpretation board and roundel

4. Bins

Combined bins (for litter and dog waste) and proposed at both site entrances to be encourage thoughtful disposal of waste. The bins will be of hardwood to minimise their visual impact and ensure durability.



(Above) Example hardwood bin

5. Delivery

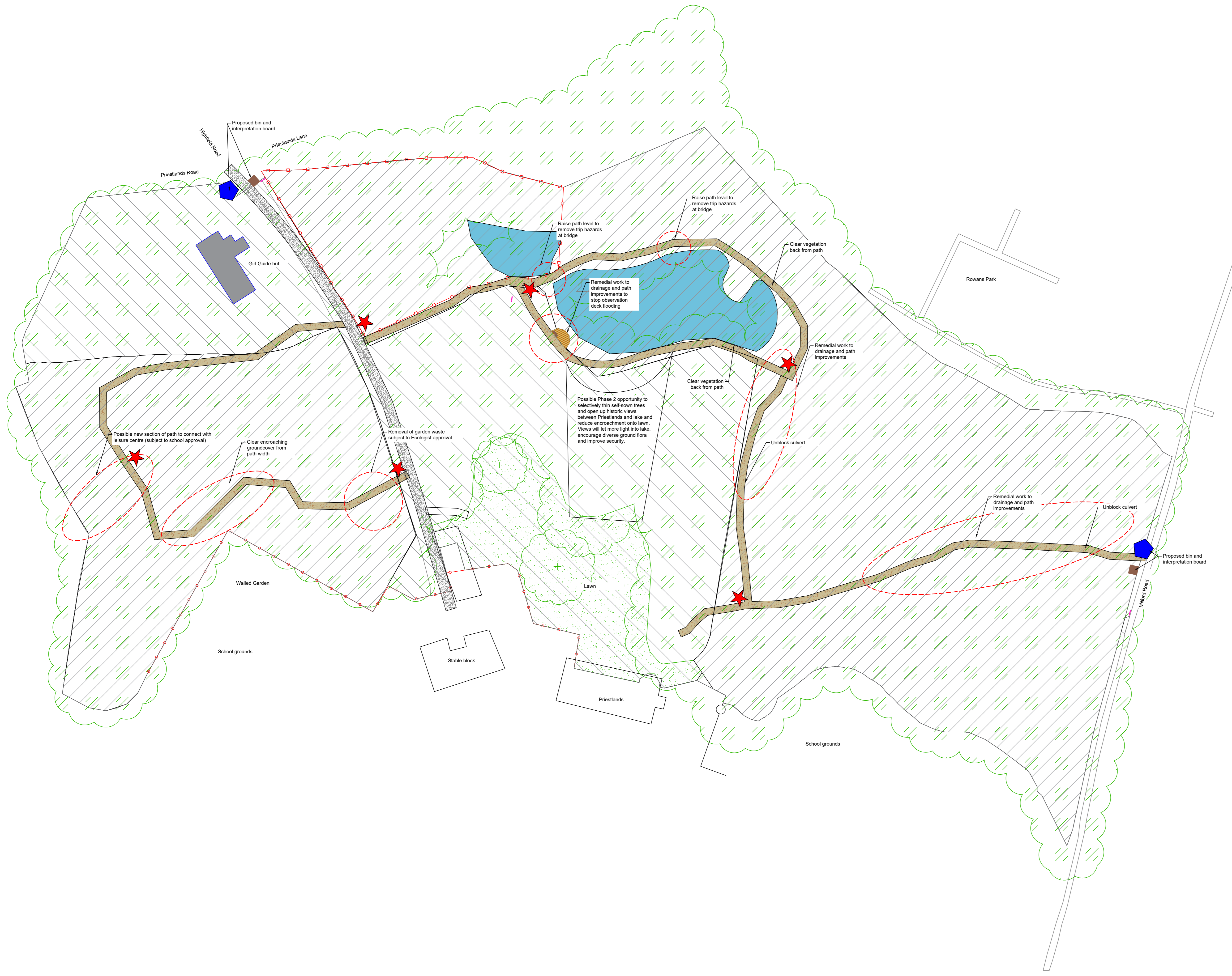
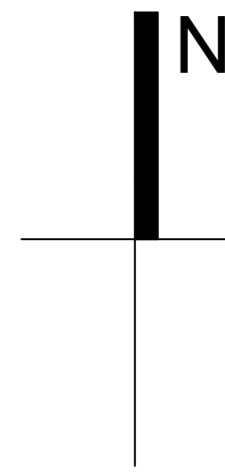
Delivery of the project will be financed by NFDC from the Community Infrastructure Levy. The works will commence after LPTC and Priestlands School confirm their agreement for the works to proceed.

It is proposed that the construction work is managed by HCC on behalf of NFDC using a specialist contractor selected from the HCC landscape framework. Every effort will be made to minimise disruption of the routes to school.

6. Maintenance

Upon completion of the works the ongoing maintenance will need to be undertaken by LPTC in perpetuity (for a period of at least 30 years) as set out in a no-charge Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between NFDC and LPTC.





	Land leased to L&PTC (approximate extent)
	Land leased to Priestlands School (approximate extent)
	Existing retained lawn
	Existing ponds
	Existing retained historic driveway opportunity to clear under parts of but driveway to remain
	Existing paths To be removed and replaced or areas retained. Location to change improvements where required.
	Existing fence To be retained
	Existing tree canopies (indicative) To be retained
	Existing decking to be repaired and replaced
	Proposed map and interpretation board
	Proposed combined bin
	Proposed wayfinding signs

Rev.	Description	Date
V.01	Minor changes to street furniture. Note re ecologist	28.8.23

Service
New Forest District Council - Environmental Design

Stage
TENDER

Location
Withy Woods, Pennington

Drawing Title			
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT - Phase 1: Access improvements			
Scale	Drawn	Date	Checked
1:500 @ A0	KB	AUG 2023	FR
Contract no.	Drawing no.	Revision	
LYG01		V.01	

DO NOT SCALE FROM THIS DRAWING