

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

11th September 2024, 7.30pm
The Guildhall

Cllr C Martin (Chair)	Present	Cllr Golding	Present
Cllr Cook	Present	Cllr Perkin	Apology
Cllr Coniam	Apology	Martin Collins	Apology
Cllr Eyre	Present	Matthew Hatchwell	Apology
Cllr Gibson	Apology		

In Attendance:

Louise Bareham (Town Clerk)

111. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Cook, Cllr Perkin and Mathew Hatchwell. Cllr Golding was substituted by Cllr Saunders.

112. Declarations of Interest

None.

113. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

It was proposed by Cllr Eyre, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Environment Committee dated 10th July 2024.**

114. Benches

It was proposed by Cllr Eyre, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to install a bench in Queen Matilda Place. The bench to include a plaque commemorating Griselda Mussett subject to consultation with family.**

It was proposed by Cllr Eyre, seconded by Cllr Golding, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to install a bench in Hazebrouck Road subject to consultation in the local area.**

115. Update Reports

Updates were received on:

- Stonebridge Siltation – Cllr Cook would be compiling a report on the siltation issue and the resultant drainage issues for the November meeting.
- Graffiti Action Plan – it was noted that SBC only removed graffiti from SBC owned assets/public locations. Offensive graffiti was prioritised over standard “tags”. The service was delivered by Suez on behalf of SBC.

No update was available on Pesticide Free Status

116. Future Projects

The Town Clerk provided a summary of her report on potential future projects. All items were agreed:

• The Great Collaboration Toolkit	No cost
• Carbon Literacy Accreditation	Agreed subject to cost
• The Faversham Buzz	No cost
• Litter Picks	No cost
• Bats	Purchase of 12 bat detectors
• Crisp/Snack Packets Recycling Box	£174
• Hedgehogs	£300
• Bee Friendly Bulbs	£500-£650
• Tree Week Giveaway	£527
• Hedging	No cost
• Sun Flower Competition	£200
• No Mow May/Let it Bloom June	No cost
• Great Big Green Week	£500
• Climate Fresk	No cost
• Grass Verges	Agreed to approach KCC

117. Budget 2025-2026

It was agreed that Councillors would consider items they wanted to include in the 2025-2026 budget for the next meeting.

118. Dog Waste Bins

The Facilities Manager's report on the dispensing of dog waste bags was noted.

It was agreed that the Facilities Manager should investigate alternative locations for the existing dog waste bag dispensers at Nobel Court and The Mount.

It was agreed to carry out a project in problem dog waste hotspots such as Perry Court to highlight dog waste by spraying it and reminding people to take responsibility for removing their dog's waste.

119. The Safety of Electric-Powered Micromobility Vehicles and Lithium Batteries Bill

It was proposed by Cllr Golding, seconded by Cllr Cook, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to write to Mr Bailey to support the Bill.**

120. Tree Preservation Orders

It was agreed that the Town Clerk would investigate whether the two trees in Wells Way highlighted by a local resident had existing TPOs, and to approach the Trees Officer at KCC to request a TPO be issued covering all trees on the estate.

121. Planters

A discussion was held on the Daleks previously funded by Swale Borough Council and taken on by the Town Council and the logistical issues encountered with their watering during the Summer. It was agreed that lessons had been learned if Daleks were to be adopted again in future.

It was agreed the Facilities Manager be requested to draw up a Watering Schedule for Spring 2025.

122. Allotments

The Allotment Report was noted.

It was noted that Cllr Eyre had carried out an audit of North Preston Allotments with the Facilities Manager. Improvements were noted. An AGM was due to take place.

123. Items for Report

- Designated space for local graffiti artists.
- Mapping the telephone cabinets in town.
- Items for the 2025/2026 Budget
- Update on Pesticide Free Status from Cllr Perkin
- Sewage overflow into the Creek and a report on the current situation of the sewage works.

The Meeting concluded at 9:27pm.

