MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

9th July 2025, 7.30pm The Guildhall

Cllr C Martin	Present		Cllr Perkin	Apology
Cllr Coniam	Present		Cllr Saunders	Present
Cllr Cook	Absent		Cllr Rowlands	Apology
Cllr Gibson	Apology		Martin Collins	Absent
Cllr Golding	Present		Matthew Hatchwell	Apology

In Attendance:

Adrienne Begent (Deputy Town Clerk) Stacey Woolf (Facilities Manager)

Public Questions

See Appendix One

189. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Gibson and Perkin.

190. Declarations of Interest

None.

191. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

It was proposed by Cllr Coniam, seconded by Cllr Saunders, and on being put to the meeting it was *RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Environment Committee dated 11th June 2025 subject to a minor correction of Cllr Coniam's name.*

It was noted that the co-option forms for Martin Collins and Matthew Hatchwell had been recorded as not been received at the last meeting and it was agreed this would be followed up.*

* Secretary's Note: Currently the only form still outstanding is Matthew Hatchwell's and this will be followed up again.

It was noted that the dog waste bag dispensers at the Rec have been installed and the one at Perry Court was due for installation shortly. Regarding the dog waste bag dispensers, it was confirmed the number of bags replenished was being recorded.

It was noted the Climate and Biodiversity Working Group would be arranged for September.

192. Facility Manager's Update

Stonebridge Allotments - No issues currently. The waiting list stood at 64.

<u>Millfield Allotments</u> – There had been some communication issues with inspections, but these have been resolved. The waiting list stood at 42.

<u>St Nicholas Allotments</u> – No issues currently. The waiting list stood at 6.

<u>Perry Court Allotments</u> – All plots were now occupied. Fencing was being installed this week.

The Town Ranger had obtained prices for bulbs for Perry Court:

£210 for 600 bulbs Summer snowflakes (March) Wild daffodils £260 for 500 bulbs

It was proposed by Cllr Golding, seconded by Cllr Coniam, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED** to purchase 500 bulbs totalling £260.

A container at Perry Court required fitting out for the plot holders.

An upcycled noticeboard was due to be installed.

Landscaping required sign off by David Wilson Homes. A number of dead trees required replacement.

A sit on lawn mower had been hired for cutting of areas of grass.

The waiting list at Perry Court stood at 10.

North Preston Allotments – All plots were now occupied.

The fan at the compostable toilet was broken and this was being dealt with through the Secretary.

The waiting list stood at 5.

Millfield Allotments – Some Poplar Trees required cutting back and a quote of £860 had been obtained to cut them down to 3 metres.

<u>Faversham In Bloom</u> – South East In Bloom would be carrying out judging on 10th July.

<u>Faversham Rec</u> – The Town Ranger had taken over the co-ordination of the volunteers at the Rec.

Following a discussion on funding, it was queried whether funding for the Recreation Ground could be allocated on an annual basis.

It was proposed by Cllr Golding, seconded by Cllr Coniam, and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Golding would consult with

Graeme Tuff and Martyn Cassell at Swale Borough Council on annual funding for the Recreation Ground volunteers.

It was noted that Cllr C Martin would be carrying out allotment inspections both generally, and for Faversham in Bloom where there would be a winner for each allotment site, and an overall winner.

Lower Road Planter – Prices were being obtained.

It was agreed that Cllr Saunders and the Facilities Manager would meet with the resident to decide on the location for the planter.

Cllr Golding advised he had received a number of compliments on the planters around town.

193. Events

The trees for Tree Week in November had been ordered.

Bulb planting at Perry Court – see Minute Item 192

A bat walk was being carried out by Cllr Gibson, and Liz Vinson of Kent Bat Group on 11th July. This had sold out quickly and a further walk was being planned for September – date TBC.

A series of Hedgehog activities had been scheduled for November including a talk on the evening of Thursday 13th November in The Guildhall.

194. Items for Report

• Carbon usage – survey work

The meeting closed at 8:04pm

Appendix One

A member of the public (Secretary of the St Nicholas Allotment) requested the St Nicholas Allotment waiting list.