



# Broadstairs & St Peter's Town Council

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the meeting held at 7pm on Monday 22nd September 2025.

Cllrs Present: Chair Joanne Bright, Vice Chair Steve Roberts, Cllr Collin Kemp  
Cllr Alan Munns.

Officer: Civic and Support Officer: Abi Barton

Member of the public: Kerry of RSPB Thanet

#### **73. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for Civic Year 2025/26**

Cllr Joanne Bright was elected as Chair.

Cllr Steve Robberts was elected as Vice chair.

#### **74. CHAIRS WELCOME: OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY**

Cllr Bright reminded those present of the following: The right to record, film or broadcast any meetings of the Council, committees and subcommittees is established following the Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014

#### **75. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies with reason from Cllrs Paul Moore and Kevin Pressland were given and accepted.

#### **76. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received.

#### **77. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Members received the terms of reference with recommended officer changes.

Resolved:

That the terms of reference be approved for use with the changes of Dates, removal of mention of Tree Warden.

#### **78. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025 can be approved and duly signed as a true record by the Chairman.

#### **79. MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THE AGENDA**

None.

## **80. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF BROADSTAIRS AND ST PETER'S**

Kerry Dowson of Thanet RSPB was give 3 mins to discuss the importance of swift protection and a request to push education in the local area.

It was noted that 'Thanet swift' group log locations and nesting sites on the 'Swift mapper' app.

## **81. SWIFT BOXES**

This item was moved up on the agenda to coincide with Kerry Dawaons talk. Members received information from the C&SO regarding previous Swift related projects in recent years.

It was noted that C&SO had previously investigated Pierremont and Retort house as locations to install swift boxes. The outcome of investigations was that neither building is suitable. Pierremont Hall is a grade 2 listed build with no suitable area for install. Retort House roof and walls will not take the weight. At the time of the previous investigations, donations were made to EKC and Dane Court Grammar School to install swift boxes onto their buildings and several residential swift boxes were purchased and offered to local residents who lived in a 1-mile radius of known swift nesting location, Culmers amenity land. The Town Council Still have 5 Residential boxes available for members of the public.

### **RESOLVED:**

**After considering the information supplied by Kerry and the C&SO it was agreed by all members of the council that information signs are to be erected on Culmers amenity land near the meadow and other locations are to be investigated for install. The C&SO/ Kerry are to contact Bleak house, North Foreland golf club and local Shepard Neame Establishments along the Broadstairs Coast for permission to install swift information boards and the possibility of nesting boxes on the higher buildings.**

**Kerry is to Contact Dane Court for an update on their large swift box and register it on swift Mapper if it hasn't been already.**

**C&SO if to contact residents who have previously received Swift boxes to ask them to log their boxes on swift mapper.**

**Kerry is to help the C&SO find new locations for the left over residential swift boxes if required.**

## **82. LAND AT OSBORNE ROAD**

Members received an update regarding the meadow this year. Osborne in general has been successful this year with reflowering. Through the summer there were Fox eye daisy's, Poppies, Corn flowers and Yarrow. They had noticeably been more perennials this year than annuals. This shows that the area is establishing well and creating its own natural seed bank.

It was noted that an area of the land had been tampered with, sprayed and then replanted with grass seed by unknown persons.

Due to this, half of the meadow has not flowered this year and is still covered in the grass.

Members received a quote to remove the grass area and reseed the whole meadow, to fight against the lawn grass.

**RESOLVED:**

**Members agreed to note Officers verbal report. It was requested by members that the C&SO is to contact KCC to remind them that this is a rewilding area and glyphosate in this area should be avoided.**

**Members agreed the proposal quoted of works supplied by preferred contractor to reseed the meadow.**

### **83. TREE PLANTING PROJECT WITH TDC**

At the last meeting it was noted by the C & S Officer that most of the Town Council's photo content had been used to promote the TDC Tree Planting Project. Unfortunately, despite the Civic and Support Officer's continuous conversations the Media Team to create a joint press release as the Town Council had donated £10,000 to this project that in turn won TDC further match funding, the Town Council had not been thanked or even mentioned in any content.

Council requested that a formal complaint was to be made to the head of department. This was sent to the head of department where an apologetic response was received. The TDC Media Department then worked with the Town Clerk and C & Support Officer on a new press release that was published by TDC and tagging the Town Council on 22nd April.

**RESOLVED:**

**A new post was shared by TDC to promote Earth day, where staff of The Town Council were thanked for their help with the project.**

### **84. NEW MEADOW PROJECT – CULMERS**

**Meadow**

Members received a verbal report for C&SO. The initial start of this project went very well, it was noted that we have received lots of grateful comments on social media and in person.

Unfortunately, less than 24 hours after meadow was planted, the site was vandalised. The seeded ground had been trampled on and kicked in. The posts were pulled out of the ground, thrown and stolen. The tape ripped up and thrown.

This resulted in a massive uproar on social media, many members of the public offered to help with the project to water and reseed. Very kindly our contactors, who also saw our post, tried to make good the area over that bank holiday weekend by flattening and using the last of the seed. However, due to a hotter and drier than average spring, the seeds did not get a good start. Several members of the public had also been watering the area. Unfortunately, as wildflower seeds are light and fragile, they need a shower of water, and it appears the hoses used, washed most of the seeds out of the area.

Reluctant to let this project fail, the C & S Officer met with the Chair of Culmers allotments to create a plan to reseed. This time when the area was reseeded (this will be covered by a donation from the Mayor) a sprinkler system was used via the water supply within the allotments, timetable of watering for council staff and volunteers at the allotments was followed strictly. This was to avoid the area being over watered again. The watering lasted for a few weeks and cost less than £40 as a donation to the allotments (we are currently waiting on an invoice).

This time there were no signs on the area and we did not advertise for members of the public to water the area.

The Meadow is currently in full bloom and has been receiving lots of positive comments from members of the public.

The C&SO noted that members of the public have been walking through the meadow, sitting and taking pictures creating flat areas. Officer suggestion was that the council add a stepping stone area for sitting in the meadow, to promote using the space in a positive way for meditation.

## **RESOLVED:**

**Meadow- It was agreed by members that quotes to make the wildflower meadow slightly bigger is to be supplied by the preferred contractor.**

**It was agreed by members that new signs are to be erected to educate members of the public of the meadow and to convince visitors not to walk through or sit in the meadow.**

## **Planting project**

Members discussed an updated planting proposal sent to landlords of Culmers Amenity Land, CT10 Charities that includes a larger bulb planting area, planting fruit, a wildflower meadow and planting native bulbs as a community project in

the autumn months.

## **RESOLVED**

**Planting project - Members agreed that the proposal is to be approved and further funding for the bulb planting project is to be allocated. Purchasing will be at the officer's discretion.**

**It was agreed advertisement will go out in the coming weeks and that the bulb planting day will be a collaboration with the Youth forum, local schools and other volunteers.**

## **85. BROADSTAIRS IN BLOOM**

### **BROADSTAIRS IN BLOOM In bloom grants:**

The town council have received three gardening grants so far. Two from different projects via Broadstairs Town Team and one from Bradstow Court.

Officer recommended that a "wildlife grant" should be investigated to broaden the in bloom grant availability for residents.

## **RESOLVED**

### **Grants Approved:**

**Town team, Lousia Bay project - £120**

**Town team, Queens Road - £150**

**Bradstow Court- £300**

**Members requested that grants are to be advertised through the school forum.**

**Members requested that plaques advertising the TC Grant donations should be included within projects.**

**C&SO is to research "wildlife grant" criteria and report back to council with findings**

### **Planting Experience:**

The planting experience was very well received from the public; we managed to sell out all 50 baskets at the lower price of £15 with an add on of £3 for a healthy mocktail on the day. Everyone took home a healthy recipe to make using the contents of their baskets once they are fully established. It was great to see all ages and abilities attend throughout the day. This was a breakeven event, with the addition of profit on the bar.

## **RESOLVED:**

**It was agreed that the 40 baskets left over are to be sold at a second planting day next spring, using other tasty plants, drinks and recipes.**

**Planting contract**

It was noted that The Broadstairs in Bloom Planting contact currently covers the following:

Town planters seasonal display maintenance schedule.

June & September, weekly visits to dead head, weed, water & tidy planters as needed 8no. visits.

July & August, bi-weekly visits to dead head, weed, water & tidy planters as needed 16no. visits.

October- Nov, April - May, fortnightly visits to dead head, weed, water & tidy planters 8no. visits.

Hanging baskets (this year the price included the costings to host our hanging basket event).

Osbourne Road wildflower meadow maintenance

Second wildflower meadow creation.

This contact currently runs out on 25th January 2026.

Officer recommended that seeking 3 quotes from contactors, rather than tender for the contract to last 2 year and 3 months (Jan 2026- March 2028) then to come in line with other Grounds Maintenance contact managed by Deputy Town Clerk. The works are currently under £30k so would not need to go out for tender. Once both contracts are completed, they will then be retendered as one large contract in 2028.

**RESOLVED:**

**All members agreed officer is to seek 3 quotes of works for contract.**

**ROOTS TO RUBBISH TO BE POSTPONED - SENSORY GARDEN WITH CHARLES DICKENS SCHOOL USING AN IN BLOOM GRANT.**

After speaking with the students at the Schools Forum, it was clear they were really interested in how the Town Council use media and marketing within events and projects. Officers were invited to the school to work with students on two projects. The pupils had lots of great ideas, and officers were also able to use them as a focus group to discuss some of the TC upcoming events and project ideas that they would be advertising to their age group.

After discussions students agreed that the Roots to Rubbish Project should be advertised to much younger age groups. Having taken this feedback on board, and discussions with the Town Clerk, I believe there are now better uses for this budget, however we can still do this next spring.

Officers Abi and Mia agreed to help the children organise a Christmas party event and help redesign their sensory garden which will be an "antibully and safe space". This will be using an in-bloom grant.

For the sensory garden Abi be showing the pupils how to apply for a grant, how to use a programme for design, researching and using a budget. The pupils will have help from us creating content to then market these events and projects themselves around the school. I will also be working with our gardeners and the Town Team for guidance on planting.

**RESOLVED:**  
**Members agreed to not and look forward to receive the schools application.**

**86. REFILL/ TAPS PROJECT.**

The new tap installed and is open to be used by the public. TDC are also working to have the current taps fixed as children have been putting sand in the buttons. They will now be looking to have the current buttons replaced with sand proof buttons. Signs have also been installed to direct members of the public to the new water fountain.

RESOLVED:  
Members agreed to note.

**87. HIP AND TRAFFIC INITIATIVES**

The C&S Officer and Deputy Town Clerk have recently met with a Highways Officer of KCC to discuss works they have been doing in the last months to push for 20 MPH and 30MPH areas within Broadstairs & St. Peter's. They shared maps of possible areas where these speed restrictions can be implemented. As this is still in the early stages of negotiation and KCC will be completing speed surveys in the following areas on we week commencing 27th September to investigate the viability:

The surveys will take place on the following roads:

Northdown Road  
Grange Road  
Old Green Road  
Osborne Road  
Rosemary Avenue  
Beacon Road  
Pierremont Avenue  
And two on Carlton Avenue.

KCC will be funding these for Broadstairs Town Council on this occasion. We will be receiving an update in the coming weeks on whether these areas are viable.

**RESOLVED:**  
**Members agreed to note.**

**Speed watch**

The Deputy Town Clerk has researched quotes for speed watch equipment as requested last meeting, equipment starts at £516 for basic and an intermediate kit from £1684.

The Deputy has also been in contact with Ramsgate Town Council to borrow or hire equipment, this has now been chased by the Town Clerk also.

Members noted that the following roads are to be considered:  
Queens Road, Fairfield Road, Northforland light house.

**RESOLVED:**  
**Members agreed the following:**  
**The C& S Officer will continue to pursue KCC and Speed watch.**  
**C&S officer is to organise an information drop in for speed watch volunteers. Kent Speed watch and KCC are to be invited. Fliers are to be delivered to problem roads.**  
**From this a speed watch group will be set up.**  
**Once volunteers have been identified, the Town Council is to look to purchase speed watch equipment.**  
**The C&S Officer is to research quotes from speed watch equipment to purchase and to lease.**  
**Members agreed to note.**

**88. PROPOSED FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS & DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  
Date of next meeting, 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

Meeting Closed at 20:19