



Broadstairs & St Peter's Town Council

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at 7pm on Monday 17 November 2025.

Cllrs Present: Chair Joanne Bright, Vice Chair Steve Roberts, Cllr Collin Kemp
 Cllr Kristian Bright, Cllr Kevin Pressland
 Officer: Civic and Support Officer: Abi Barton
 Deputy Town Clerk: Julie Belsey

89. 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

90. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies with reason from Cllrs Paul Moore and Alan Muns were given and accepted.

91. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

92. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 22nd September 2025 can be approved and duly signed as a true record by the Chairman.

93. MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THE AGENDA

None.

94. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF BROADSTAIRS AND ST PETER'S

None.

95. SWIFT AND RSPB PROJECT

The CE Officer has been working with the RSPB and Thanet Swifts to install Swift boxes locally. So far, two have been gifted to the Royal Albion and are due to be installed.

Dane Court have been asked to provide an update regarding the swift box the Town Council previously installed on one of their buildings. The representative from the RSPB has offered to help and support the school to make it a successful nesting box.

The CE Officer has gifted a hedgehog box to Pilgrims Hospice Thanet for their nature garden; this is also a collaboration through Kerry.

The CE Officer will be working with Kerry to put together a press release of all of these projects and others that are in the works.

RESOLVED:

Members agreed to note.

96. LAND AT OSBORNE ROAD

It was discussed with members that the CE Officer has been pressing KCC to secure a "no cultivation" licence on the land for a further year.

The request was originally sent in June. In response a KCC officer has requested that this application be resent closer to the end of licence deadline which is in January. A further request has now been sent to KCC, with no acknowledgement so far.

Within this email, the CE Officer had also requested that no weed killer is to be used by KCC on the pathways or lead up to the road, to avoid killing the meadow, as happened last year.

Winter maintenance on the land has already taken place, with reseeding starting imminently.

Despite no response from KCC to secure the “no cultivation” license, the Town Council will continue with the maintenance and works on the land.

If there is still no response in the next week, the CE Officer is to contact KCC Councillor John Finch to push KCC officer's on a decision.

RESOLVED:

Members agreed to note Officer's verbal report. It was requested by members that the CE Officer is to order more meadow signs to keep KCC from using weed Killer near the meadow.

97. NEW MEADOW PROJECT – CULMERS

It was noted the Big plant week had to be cancelled due to safeguarding concerns on the land. See minute 100 for details.

Members received plans and a quote to extend the current wildflower meadow.

RESOLVED:

Cllr Kristian Bight is to pick up conversations with TDC regarding the land issues.

All members agreed to approve the quote to extend the Meadow supplied by Box Green NJL:

Remove existing turf by mechanical means (rotovator), creating a smaller water drop shape sited to the allotment side of the existing meadow area leaving a mower width path between the 2 areas.

Prep area by raking to level ready for seeding.

Seed with donated seed & roll to bed seed.

Approved Price: £675.00 + VAT

98. ENVIRONMENTAL BUDGET 2026-2027

It was agreed by all members that the following budget recommendations for the civic year 2026-27 are as follows:

Traffic Initiatives: £5,000

Tree planting: £5,000

Environmental initiatives: £10, 000

Broadstairs in Bloom: £25,000

99. NORMAN ROAD AND NASH GARDENS ALLOTMENTS

The waiting list numbers are 29 at Norman Road and 30 at Nash Gardens. On average it takes 3.5 years to reach the top of the list.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the waiting list would remain closed for the next year and be reviewed in October 2026.

100. **MOCKETT'S WOOD**

Members received an update on works within Mockett's Wood. On Wednesday 12th November we had volunteers organised by the Town Team from Thanet College Finance Department, helping at the Woods

Members were advised that the November newsletter from the Woodland Officer had been sent out to all and were updated on its contents.

Members noted the updated Mockett's Wood Plan, which will be on show for the public within the Mockett's Wood noticeboard.

101. **CULMER'S AMENITY LAND**

We have continuing issues with two homeless people camping within the wooded area at Culmers. We have been liaising with TDC, Rise and the Police. Initially it appeared that the tent had been removed, however, the camp area has now grown considerably. The police have had photos of the increased size of the camp area, which has destroyed vegetation in the area, and holes have been dug. The Police state that "Unfortunately what is depicted in the pictures does not provide any evidence of any breaches. I have also attended the area today and again found the area to be tidy with no evidence of any fires etc."

The Police have spoken to the occupant and informed them that they are no longer welcome to stay on the land. Despite this they maintained that they would be staying as the wooded area provides them with a safe, hassle-free area to stay whilst more permanent housing is provided. They did say that if the area is needed for any upcoming events, then they would leave the area for the duration of this event.

As this is a civil matter, the Police cannot take anything further unless there are reports of antisocial behaviour.

Cllr Kristian Bright will liaise with Cllr Helen Whitehead at Thanet Council regarding this situation.

102. **PIERREMONT PARK GROUNDS**

We have arranged for some of the trees that surround our buildings to have some of the branches reduced in the hope that it will deter squirrels from jumping on the building roofs and eating the adhesive used to stick down the lead, which caused a leak in the Mayor's Parlour.

Hedging – the hedging at the rear of the portico, running along the railings has not been successful. Plants have been fed, composted, bark mulched and watered on a regular basis and over half of the plants have also been replaced all at the contractors own expense.

Members approved the Officer's recommendation to not replace this hedging due to the expense, also, the railings are not unattractive and in need of covering up.

103. **GREEN SPACES CULTIVATED UNDER LICENSE FROM TDC**

i) The Committee received an update on the gardeners' current work. The gardeners are now at capacity with the winter maintenance work required at Louisa Bay and also the ongoing upkeep for the rest of Victoria Gardens, Balmoral Gardens, Pierremont Park and the War Memorial.

The Committee noted Cllr Pressland's recommendations for the area going forward and were also updated with the gardeners' capacity for any additional works.

Members approved the Officer's recommendations that work would continue within our current areas this year and concentrate on:

- **Improving Balmoral raised beds, which would involve incorporating some of Cllr Pressland's proposal's in with the mature established planting which is currently in the raised beds.**

- Winter maintenance and planting of new plants at Lousia Bay end.
- They will also still be keeping up with the care and maintenance of all other areas under licence.

Plans for the planting of the grassed area (area with boxed memorial) which will include the hire of a contractor, plus the increased upkeep and maintenance of such to be planned, to take into account additional man hours required, and considered at the October 2026 meeting.

ii) Members received and noted the reviewed risk assessment for green spaces under license.

104. ALLOTMENTS & LAND BUDGET 2026-27

The following recommendations were approved:

Budget Area	2025/2026	Notes	2026/27
Allotments – both sites general maintenance, non recyclable waste clearance	2,500		Same as 2025/26 £2,500
Culmers Amenity Land – includes lease, grounds maintenance contract, sundry tree works, sundry maintenance work	10,500 (Lease 7852 Contract 1465 Trees TBC)		Same as 2025/26 £10,500
Mockett's Wood – includes volunteer's grant which has been brought in-house, emergency tree work, additional tree maintenance on boundary with Church Court Grove, any additional contractor works	7500	Path	£8,500 + Path option 1 £25,000 (possible section 106 money/grant) = £33,500
Tree Survey and Works – annual tree safety inspections at Mockett's Wood, Pierremont Hall, Culmer's Amenity Land and Norman Road Allotments, plus works required	3,500	1,500 for surveys 2,000 for works	Same as 2025/26 £3,500
Pierremont Planting – for any additional planting required at Pierremont Hall	4,000	Works in addition to the grounds maintenance contract.	Same as 2025/26 £4,000

Pierremont Grounds Maintenance – for Grounds Maintenance Contract	10,635	Increase of contract price 2026/27	£10,950
Victoria Gardens	6,000		Same as 2025/26 £6,000

105. ACTION PLAN

On Friday 26 September the Town Clerk met with the chairs of all committees (Cllrs J Bright, M Garner, A Munns, S Roberts, G Rusiecki) as agreed by Council in June 2025 (min 662) to review and update the action plan.

As a result, a list of new actions was drawn up. The majority of these will be actioned by staff.

Council will be asked to propose places for additional picnic tables.

106. PROPOSED FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS & DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of next meeting, 16th February 2025.

Meeting Closed at 20:23