

## HARWICH TOWN COUNCIL

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### MINUTES of the Meeting of the ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

held on

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025 at 7.00pm

at The Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich

<b>Present:</b>	Councillors Fay, McLeod, Saunders, Smith and Wade
<b>In the Chair:</b>	Councillor Fowler
<b>Clerk:</b>	Ms Maree Ratcliffe
<b>Also present:</b>	Ms Lucy Ballard, Clerk to the Council, 1 member of the public and no members of the press

The Chairman declared that Item 12 (Morrisons Mini Roundabout) was withdrawn from the agenda.

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** A member of the public commented on Item 5 (Faulty Street Light) at St Nicholas Church, raising concerns over the safety of the public at night and with whom the responsibility for the maintenance of the lighting resides with.

<b>E01/25</b>	<b><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></b> Cllrs Armstrong, Davidson, Morrison.
<b>E02/25</b>	<b><u>DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS</u></b> None.
<b>E03/25</b>	<b><u>ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR</u></b> Members <b>RESOLVED</b> to elect Cllr Saunders as Vice Chair for the 2025/2026 Municipal Year.
<b>E04/25</b>	<b><u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u></b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> that the minutes of the Environment & Community Committee meeting held on 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2025 (previously circulated) be approved by the Committee and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
<b>E05/25</b>	<b><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u></b> <b>MIN E39/24</b> – The Clerk updated members regarding contact with Jon Attiwell, Wilder Community Ranger of the <b>Wilder Towns Initiative</b> . A representative was unable to attend this meeting; however, the Clerk will make contact to invite a member to the next meeting taking place in October. <b>MIN E43/24</b> – The Clerk advised members that a response was received from Reverend Canon Ian Smith, confirming it was fuse that had gone in the <b>Faulty Street Light</b> at St Nicholas Church, however stated the power is not supplied by the church and appears to be linked to the Church Street lighting, operated by ECC. Correspondence from TDC confirms that the lighting is not maintained by TDC, however by the Church. The Chair suspended Standing Orders to allow a member of the public to speak. It was agreed for a member of the Committee to check the lighting at dark to see if it is now working. <b>RESOLVED:</b> To arrange a site meeting to between representatives of TDC, ECC, Rev Canon I Smith and HTC to ascertain responsibility.

	<p><b>MIN E44/24</b> – The Clerk advised members that a presentation is being given by Philip Cunningham, Secretary of Manningtree Museum and Local History Group at the next Full Council meeting taking place on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July regarding the Mile Posts on the <b>Harwich Turnpike Road</b>.</p> <p><b>MIN E45/25</b> – The Clerk updated the committee on progress on the <b>Graffiti Art</b> project at the skate park. Scott King has completed a few pieces and public responses have been positive.</p>
<b>E06/25</b>	<p><b><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</u></b> None.</p>
<b>E07/25</b>	<p><b><u>HORTICULTURAL REPORT</u></b> Nothing to report.</p>
<b>E08/25</b>	<p><b><u>LHP PANEL</u></b> Nothing to report.</p>
<b>E09/25</b>	<p><b><u>BUDGET UPDATE</u></b> Members <b>noted</b> a budget update from the clerk in respect of financial activity during 2025/26.</p> <p>Tree shrub and Planting Budget: £0.00 D-Day 80 Budget (to be renamed to VE DAY 80): £1012.00 Schemes and Projects spend: £100.00 TOTAL: £1112.00</p> <p>Memorial Ear Marked Reserve: £0</p>
<b>E10/25</b>	<p><b><u>RECYCLING BOXES</u></b> The Clerk, Ms Ballard, informed members that recently TDC were in contact with a view to Harwich Town Council selling recycling boxes to members of the public. It has been identified that there is a local need for them and the public have asked at the Guildhall where they can source a replacement recycling box. All members agreed this would be a good idea for our local community. <b>RESOLVED:</b> The Clerk to investigate different options with Tendring District Council and bring back to the next meeting for further consideration.</p>
<b>E11/25</b>	<p><b><u>LITTER PICKING INITIATIVE</u></b> The Clerk advised members that Bathside would be an area for consideration and to contact Matt Leach at TDC to arrange for caged vehicles to attend as there are a lot of fly-tipped items in that area. <b>RESOLVED:</b> Clerk to liaise with Harwich Litter Pickers and other local agencies to support this and arrange a suitable date.</p>
<b>E12/25</b>	<p><b><u>MATTERS RECEIVED IN THE POST OR ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS</u></b> Cllr McLeod suggested that ideas for future schemes and projects from committee members using the E&amp;C budget could be considered.</p>
<b>E13/25</b>	<p><b><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></b> The next meeting of the Environment &amp; Community Committee is scheduled to be held at <b>7.00pm</b>, on <b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b> at <b>The Guildhall, Church Street, Harwich</b>.</p>

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.34pm

**CHAIRMAN**

**DATE**