

Minutes of the meeting of the **Climate and Ecological Emergency Committee** held at the **Shire Hall** on **Wednesday 1st July 2026** at **5.30pm**

Councillors:

Present: Cllrs. Ellie Beck, Doreen Pegg and Martin Wilks.

Apologies: Cllrs. David Adelson, Eamonn O’Nolan and Nigel Phipps and Non-Council members Oscar Brennecke-Dunn.

In Attendance: Deputy Town Clerk (Mrs B J Lloyd) and Jane Healey.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were approved from Cllrs. David Adelson, Eamonn O’Nolan and Nigel Phipps and Non-Council members Oscar Brennecke-Dunn.

2. Declarations of Member Interests.

No members made any declarations of interests in relation to items on the agenda.

3. Requests for dispensations.

There were no requests for a dispensation in relation to items on the agenda.

4.. Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present.

5. To agree and approve the minutes of the meeting held 3rd June 2026.

The minutes of the Climate and Ecological Emergency Committee meeting held 3rd June 2026 were approved as a true record with amendments to Items 1, 2 and 3 as noted by Cllr Martin Wilks.

6. To appoint Non-Council Members to the Committee.

The Committee agreed to appoint Jane Healey as a Non – Council Member of the Climate and Ecological Emergency Committee for the 2026/27 Civic Year.

7. To note the meeting schedule agreed for the rest of the Civic Year 2026/27.

The meeting schedule for the rest of the Civic Year 2026/27 was noted.

8. To receive advice from Jonathan Edwards regarding the management of the Broom Heath gorse.

The Chair suspended standing orders to receive an update from Mr Edwards with regards to Broom Heath, who advised that whilst the regeneration has been largely successful, the area now requires some further management to lower the height and spread of some Gorse and Broom.

The Chair thanked Jonathan Edwards for all his support and dedication over the years to the regeneration of Broomheath following the fire in 2016. It was agreed that Mr Edwards would carry out the work for the Council.

The Chair resumed Standing orders.

9. To discuss ideas on how to best utilise the funds available in the Estate Resilience budget.

<u>Most significant risks of climate change.</u>	<u>How are these impacting residents or potentially impacting residents.</u>	<u>Possible interventions /investments using the Estate resilience budget.</u>	<u>Desired outcomes</u>	<u>Risk rating</u> Red – High risk Yellow – Medium risk Green – Minimal risk
Extreme heat	•Water shortages •Growing challenges •Lack of Shade •Food shortages due to poor growing conditions	•IBC installation / Water Butt giveaway. •Shade cover for open areas such as play park and table area outside pavilion on Kingston Playing Field. •Food growing workshops with a	•Better informed •shaded areas •able to harvest rainwater •Able to access fresh vegetables to enhance food security	

		climate change focus. •Community growing project •Trees for Streets giveaway.		
Flooding (surface water)	• Flooded streets in high pedestrian and residential areas across Woodbridge	•Investigate and clear specific drains that have become blocked. (New Street/bottom of St Johns Hill / outside Woodbridge Deli/ Church Street and Deben Road)	• Cleared drains to reduce flooding and long-standing water	
Lack of green energy infrastructure on Council Assets	• Expensive tariffs for tenants.	• To install solar panels on The Long Shed and The Pavilion and put surplus energy back into the grid	• To lead by example and to do all we can to create green energy. • To provide green energy to our tenants	

10. To consider if the committee would like to respond to the consultation regarding the proposed solar farm and battery storage system in Mid-Suffolk.

The committee declined to submit a response at this time. The committee were happy to support Transition Woodbridge or the Deben Climate Centre should they wish to respond.

11. To consider items for inclusion in the CEE submission to local free papers.

The committee suggested:

- Recent extreme heat
- Nice to see the number of bikes used in Woodbridge during recent times
- Locations of bike racks in town

12. Closure.

The meeting closed at 18.46

Councillor Beck
Chair