

Minutes of the meeting of the **Climate and Ecological Emergency Committee** held at the **Shire Hall** on **Wednesday 2nd September 2026** at **5.30pm**

Councillors:

Present: Cllrs. David Adelson, Eamonn O’Nolan, Ellie Beck, Doreen Pegg, Nigel Phipps and Non-Councillor Members Jane Healey and Rob Berry.

Apologies: Cllr.. Martin Wilks and Non-Council members Oscar Brennecke-Dunn.

In Attendance: Deputy Town Clerk (Mrs B J Lloyd) and two members of the public.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were approved from Cllrs. Martin Wilks 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, who wished to speak at this point in the agenda.

5. To agree and approve the minutes of the meeting held 1st July 2026.

The minutes of the Climate and Ecological Emergency Committee meeting held 1st July 2026 were approved as a true record.

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

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

7. To receive quotes for the installation of Solar Panels on the Kingston Pavillion roof and the Long Shed at Whisstock’s Place.

Members agreed to ask the Deben Climate Centre (DCC) to review the quotations and sense-check the assumptions on which they are based.

DCC will compare the current energy usage at each location against the anticipated solar energy generation to assess the potential benefits and viability of the proposed installations. DCC will also advise on any external funding opportunities that may be available to support the project.

8. To discuss the option to take part in a Fireworks consultation.

Members agreed not to submit a collective response to the Fireworks Consultation, with individual Members encouraged to respond independently should they wish to do so.

The Committee also agreed to recommend to Full Council that the use of fireworks be prohibited on all Town Council-owned land and premises, subject to final approval by Full Council.

9. To receive an update on the Greening initiative at Warwick Avenue and to discuss the email proposal from Cllr. Martin Wilks.

Members agreed to install a 1,000-litre IBC tank at Warwick Avenue to collect rainwater for use in watering the recently installed planters.

The Committee agreed that funding for the installation should first be sought through the wider rainwater harvesting application to the Thriving Places Fund. Should the funding application be unsuccessful, the Committee agreed to allocate up to £600 towards the purchase and installation of the IBC tank.

10. To receive a briefing paper from the Estates Manager regarding the IBC & irrigation (Bowls club)

The Committee noted the briefing paper from the Estates Manager and agreed to proceed with the installation of the borehole, water storage tanks and pumps, as outlined in the paper, at a cost of £19,700.

Members agreed that funding should first be sought through an application to the Thriving Places Fund. Should the funding application be unsuccessful, the Committee agreed that the project costs be met from the budget allocated for Estate Resilience.

Final approval to proceed with the works, subject to the outcome of the funding application and availability of the agreed budget, was delegated to the Deputy Town Clerk in consultation with the Chair of the Climate and Ecological Emergency Committee (CEEC).

11. To note the installation of the Bee Café planters at Kingston Playing Field.

The Chair suspended standing orders to hear the latest update from Paul Martin from Bee Café CIC, who gave an update on his recent work funded by the Committee.

12. To discuss the costs and delivery of a Tree and Water Butt giveaway.

The Committee agreed to fund a fruit tree giveaway for residents of Clare Avenue, Newnham Avenue and Haugh Lane. As an initial step, leaflets will be distributed to households in these areas to gauge interest in the scheme.

Members agreed to allocate up to £1,000 from the CEEC in-year budget to cover the cost of the trees and associated leaflet printing.

The Committee also discussed a potential future water butt giveaway and agreed to reconsider this once it is known whether Suffolk County Council intends to introduce a similar incentive scheme.

13. Closure

The meeting closed at 18.55.

Councillor Beck
Chair