

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY 20th JANUARY 2026 AT 7.30PM AT MILLFIELDS PAVILION**

PRESENT:

Cllr D Jackson
Cllr E McNeill (Chairman)
Cllr J Neish
Cllr C Norman
Cllr G Norman
Cllr A Whyte

IN ATTENDANCE:

Miss J Bowd (Parish Clerk)
There were 3 members of the public present.

37. To receive Apologies for Absence.
Cllr S Mortlock-personal.

38. To Receive Declarations of Interest relating to items on the agenda.
None.

39. To approve Minutes of Meeting held on 18th November 2025.
Resolved: That the minutes of 18th November be signed as a true and correct record. (Prop Cllr Jackson 2nd Cllr Whyte) 3 in favour, 2 abstentions,

40. Public Forum.
To allow any member of the public to address the council on matters on the agenda.
Time Allowed 10 minutes.

41. To receive a presentation on Nature Recovery: From the Ground Up project by
Cambs County Council and consider being part of the scheme.
Mr Clark was unable to attend.

42. Garden plots:
42.1 To receive an update on general matters relating to the garden plots.
Written report provided.
Clerk advised that a resident was meeting next week with a view to taking the vacant plot.
Noted.
42.2 To consider quotes for purchase of weed suppressant membrane.
Two options provided, online and from local supplier.
Resolved: Clerk purchase suitable membrane should the vacant plot not be taken (see item 42.1) (Prop Cllr G Norman 2nd Cllr C Norman) All in favour.

43. Mill Way cemetery.
43.1 To consider quotes for the annual maintenance of Leylandii hedge.
3 quotes provided
Resolved: That the quote from Atlas tree surgery of £1200 plus VAT be accepted. (Prop Cllr Jackson 2nd Cllr G Norman) All in favour.

44. Churchyard Holywell.
44.1 To consider quotes for repair to boundary brick wall.
Two quotes provided which have been brought back as requested following clarification of works by contractors.
Resolved: That the quote from CCS £431.54 be accepted. (Prop Cllr Whyte 2nd Cllr G Norman) All in favour.

45. Correspondence:

- (i) To consider the correspondence relating to the maintenance of the Common Land Holywell front and the thoughts of David Attenborough in relation to biodiversity.

Comment was made that the letter only advised members what works had been done.

Clerk confirmed that she had replied advising that the Council has a duty of care regarding health & safety issues. On an environmental level the works have been done now to give the trees time to recover before Spring.

The nettles on Holywell Front are left through out Summer only being strimmed at the end of the season. Currently the area is subject to flooding.

Clerk to write advising of members comments.

- (ii) To consider email response from Environment Agency regarding the maintenance of flood bank between Ferryboat and Pike & Eel.

Members spoke stating that this year the cutting of the sides of the bank was extremely harsh.

Cllr Jackson highlighted the need for regular checks as he had personal experience of the resulting flooding should the bank fail.

Cllr Whyte did state that it had been an exceptional year weather wise but that the EA are stating the work is essential.

Resolved: That the Clerk arrange a site visit as offered in the response form the Environment Agency. Cllr McNeill offered to meet with the representative.

(Prop Cllr McNeill 2nd Cllr Jackson) All in favour.

46. Items to report.

None.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.13 pm.

Chairman

Date