

FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Climate and Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday,
7 April 2026 at the Town Hall at 7pm.**

Present: Councillors Kieran Leigh, John Renshaw (Chair) and Belinda Walker.

In attendance: Liz Timmins (Communities and Grants Officer)

**Apologies: Councillors Abena Akuffo-Kelly, Laura Davison (retrospective),
Lucy McGirr and Roger West.**

Absent: Councillor Charles Bain Smith.

180. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors were asked to receive apologies from Councillors Abena Akuffo Kelly, Lucy McGirr, Nicola Keen and Roger West.

RESOLVED: To accept the apologies from Councillors Abena Akuffo Kelly, Lucy McGirr, Nicola Keen and Roger West.

Proposed: Councillor John Renshaw
Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker
Voting: F:3, Ag:0, Ab:0

181. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

182. MINUTES

The Committee was asked to receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Climate & Environment Committee held on 3 February 2026 and to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign them as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2026 be received and to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign them as a correct record.

Proposed: Councillor Belinda Walker
Seconded: Councillor Kieran Leigh
Voting: F:3, Ag:0, Ab:0

183. ROOTING FOR WILDLIFE

The committee were briefed on the Affinity Water funding available to deliver biodiversity enhancement projects.

The Allotments Associations have been asked to identify any potential projects that meet the funding criteria, with a particular emphasis on water conservation initiatives.

It was also noted that Cllr John Renshaw will contact All Souls School, who has recently applied for funding for raised beds and school garden and report back to the next meeting.

184. TREE PLANTING

The Committee reviewed the tree planting proposals submitted Kent Highways for 2026/27, it was noted that some trees were originally proposed to be planted in tubs on Earls Avenue, Shaftesbury Avenue and Cheriton High Street. Councillors would like to query why tubs were recommended rather than planting in the soft verges along the roadside, particularly as Earls Avenue is in a conservation area and the intention is to replace trees that have been felled. Councillors have asked for them to be included when the final draft is reviewed on the 9th June 2026.

RESOLVED: That the proposed tree planting schedule for 2026/27 is agreed with the addition of the sites noted above.

Proposed: Councillor Belinda Walker
Seconded: Councillor John Renshaw
Voting: F:3, Ag:0, Ab:0

185. CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT - KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS REPORT CE/26/413

Report CE/26/413 presents the Council's performance against the agreed Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the reporting year, in accordance with the Four Year Plan. The Committee were asked to receive the report and consider the recommendations set out within it.

RESOLVED:

- i) To receive and note report CS/26/413**
- ii) To approve the recommended amendments to the existing KPIs.**

Proposed: Councillor John Renshaw
Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker
Voting: F:3, Ag:0, Ab:0

186. CIL CONSULTATION

An update was provided to the Committee in relation to further research having been undertaken to ascertain costs, required resource, land ownership, responsibility and viability of potential projects identified at the last meeting.

RESOLVED: The Committee noted the CIL consultation results.

Proposed: Councillor John Renshaw
Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker
Voting: F:3, Ag:0, Ab:0

187. DRAFT COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN

The committee received and noted the Community Resilience Plan and are keen to operationalise the recommendations giving priority to train flood wardens for the area that would be immediately affected by the Pent Stream

RESOLVED: The Committee received and noted the Community Resilience Plan and recommended follow up with relevant partners giving priority to training the Flood Wardens.

Proposed: Councillor Kieran Leigh
Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker
Voting: F:3, Ag:0, Ab:0

188. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Community, Climate & Environment Committee 9 June 2026 at 7.00pm

The meeting concluded at 7.50 pm.

Chair

Date