Minutes of the ENVIRONMENT & NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE MEETING held at 11:00am on 8th September 2026 in the VILLAGE HALL.

Officer in attendance: Mark Rochell, Clerk to the Council
clerk@bembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

10th September 2026

Committee members in attendance: Cllr C Adams, Cllr G Stoddart-Stones, Cllr M Sullivan, Cllr M Groom, Mrs A De Trey.

Public Forum: No members of the public were in attendance.

Agenda

Note: Due to the absence of current Chair and Vice Chair, Cllr G Stoddart Stones was elected as interim Chair for this meeting.

1. **Elect Chair and Vice Chair**
   To elect a Chair and Vice Chair of the committee for 2026/27.
   Resolved: To defer until next meeting.
2. **Terms of Reference**
   To note terms of reference of committee.
   Noted.
3. **Apologies for Absence**
   To receive and accept apologies for absence.
   Resolved: To accept apologies from Cllr G Brasington and Ms L Newberry.
4. **Declarations of Interest**
   To receive and record declarations of interest.
   None received.
5. **Minutes of the previous meeting of the Council**
   To receive and adopt the minutes of the previous meeting of the Environment & Neighbourhood Committee.
   Received and adopted.
6. **Budgets**
   To note current Environment & Neighbourhood Committee budget.
   Noted.

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7. In Bloom

To receive updates on Bembridge in Bloom and discuss arrangements for Best Kept Village Awards 17th Sept Wilberforce Hall Brighstone and Southeast in Bloom presentation 25th September at RHS Wisley.

Resolved: Agreed that Cllr M Groom and Cllr M Sullivan will attend Best Kept Village Awards on behalf of Bembridge Parish Council.

Also agreed to purchase 4 tickets to Southeast in Bloom Awards, with two offered to Community Gardeners and two remaining to either Steve Davidge, Cllr M Groom or Cllr M Sullivan. Travel costs for one car will be covered by the Parish Council.

8. Community Grant Awards

To discuss date and arrangements for Community Grant Awards.

Resolved: For Clerk to arrange a Friday evening date in October at the BYCC to hold the Community Grant Awards and to set budget at £1,500.00.

9. Current Project Updates

To receive updates from ongoing projects and groups and agree any further actions:

9.1 Resilience Group

The Resilience Group will be attending a counter terrorism exercise. The grant application to SSEN for purchasing the ex-Fire Truck has been successful, however, ongoing work needs to be done regarding the weight of the vehicle.

9.2 Bathing Water application

The application must be entered by 15th October and currently there has been no progress on securing a letter of support from the Isle of Wight Council. The group and local councillors will push for a response.

407 responses have been gathered from the survey.

9.3 Climate Action Plan

Cllr G Stoddart-Stones is looking to move forward with 3 to 4 projects in coming months.

9.4 Plastic Free Communities

No update.

9.5 Harbour Farm

No update.

Meeting closed: 12:17pm

Date of next meeting: 3rd November

Signed: **Dated:**

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