

Northam Town Council – Minutes of the Environment and Maintenance committee meeting held Wednesday 30th July 2025 at 6:30pm in the Town Hall, Windmill Lane, Northam.

Present: Cllrs Bell, Edwards, Hames, Lo-Vel, Cllr Sawyer, Cllr Tait and the Mayor, Cllr Bach (ex-officio). One vacancy.

In attendance: Ian Rawle – Parks & Buildings Manager.

2507/217 To receive and approve apologies for absence, in accordance with Local Government Act 1972 s85(1)

All members were present.

2507/218 Chair's Announcements

The Chair made the following announcements, due to diary clashes, the MVSIDS Working Group meeting will be arranged following this meeting.

Parks and Buildings Manager Update:

The Parks and Buildings Manager provided the following updates to the Committee:

- The first coat of paint has been applied to the seawall; the second coat is scheduled to be completed this Friday.
- The FSA 200 brushcutter has now been purchased and is already in active use.

2507/219 To receive any dispensations and disclosable pecuniary or other interests

Members were reminded that all interests must be declared prior to the item being discussed.

2507/220 To agree the agenda as published

It was **resolved** to agree the agenda as published.

Proposed: Cllr Hames, Seconded: Cllr Bach (all in favour).

2507/221 To confirm as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Environment and Maintenance Committee held on 18th of June 2025.

It was **resolved** that to approve the minutes of that Environment and Maintenance committee meeting as a true and correct record, they were signed by the Chair.

Proposed: Cllr Bach, Seconded Cllr Hames (majority in favour, 1 abstention, not present at previous meeting)

2507/222 Public Participation

Members of the public are permitted to make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. Each member of the public is entitled to speak once only in respect of business itemised on the agenda and shall not speak for more than 4 minutes. The period of time which is designated for public participation in accordance with standing orders shall not exceed 20 minutes.

There were no members of the public present.

2507/223 To receive an update on action points

The action points were considered and noted as presented. In addition, the following updates were provided:

- Three lighting columns in Westward Ho! are currently operational. An electrician will be requested to inspect them for any further issues.
- Dog signage will be installed at all entrances to Westward Ho! Park.
- The Parks and Buildings Manager will investigate options for festoon lighting in Westward Ho!

Action		April 2025	June 2025	July 2025
1	Drop kerbs in Westward Ho! (brought forward from TP&AM)	Contractor instructed. ONGOING	Contractor instructed. ONGOING	DCC advises this would not be advisable due to a dropped curb being 3 m away from proposed location.
2	Schools to be contacted to design their own 'don't idle' signs for the Council to have made and installed.	Seeking a discussion with the interested school. ONGOING	ONGOING	ONGOING
3	Prepare a report on the purchase and installation of MVSIDs for the Parish	NOT STARTED	Work on the report has started and is currently in progress. ONGOING	ONGOING
4	Traffic issues at the Square, Northam	Costs of traffic surveys not yet researched. Cost of air quality surveys not yet researched. NOT STARTED	NOT STARTED	NOT STARTED
5	Locations of Council provided Christmas trees in 2025 – liaise with the Westward Ho! Business association over the sites in Westward Ho!	To be considered later in the year.	Agreed at the previous meeting, to advertise closer to December 2025. COMPLETE	No Change
6	Schedule the works for Life on the Verge	Works scheduled in 2025.	The design is being redrafted in line with the requirements of the Neighbourhood Highways Officer. ONGOING	Not supported by Highways officer. Revisit Plans.
7	Golf Links Road street scene	Seek a derelict boat for use as a planter along that stretch of road and enhance the current planting. Make good the land recently disturbed by utility works. ONGOING	A Councillor approached local residents, who expressed that they do not want a boat planter in the area. Instead, the area will be planted with bulbs in September. COMPLETE	Request removing
8	Liaise with Torridge District Council to determine the reasons for the insufficient number of bins, and offer support in providing additional bins and assisting with their emptying.		NTC Officers liaised with TDC and agreed that NTC Maintenance team will support TDC during high footfall seasons by assisting with bin emptying and helping to keep the general area clean and tidy. COMPLETE	Complete
9	NTC Officers to submit the P3 request for the upgrading of footpaths 35 and 36.		The P3 funding request has been submitted and is currently awaiting approval. ONGOING	No Change.
10	Officers to liaise with Devon County Council to request the upgrading of the stiles on Footpaths 4 and 6 to kissing gates.		Liaison with Devon County Council has taken place, and the works have been scheduled for November. ONGOING	Awaiting response from DCC

- 2507/224 To consider the purchase and placement of notice boards
- 2507/225 To consider the purchase of an outdoor water fountain for Westward Ho! Park
- 2507/226 To review the locations and quantities of Christmas trees within the Parish
- 2507/227 To consider the purchase and placement of a three-tier bin at Churchfields Play

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7:22pm.

Signed.....Dated.....