WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2026

In attendance:

Cllr R Jenkins (Mayor)	Cllr J Akker	Cllr D Baker
Cllr N Hinderwell	Cllr S Weaver	Cllr T Webster
Kirsty Wadsworth (Town Clerk		

26/255 To receive apologies for absence and a vote of acceptance to be taken

Apologies received from Cllr Boylan, Cllr Powling and Cllr Williams.

26/256 To record declarations of interests

Members are invited to declare any relevant interests. Notwithstanding this item, Members may subsequently declare an interest at any point during the meeting

Cllr John Akker declared that he is a member of the Mersea Island Society.

26/257 Public session (15 minutes, 3 minutes per speaker)

Priority will be given to those members of the public wishing to share information relating to items on the agenda. Once the public session is closed, members of the public are not permitted to speak.

MOP1- Expressed concern that the draft document is overly long, confusing, and includes elements—such as water transport and an enhanced image—that he believes should be removed. Worried the final version will be unclear for both the inspector and the public. He advised the Mayor to simplify the document, ensure key points are properly emphasised, and avoid including material that could undermine its credibility.

MOP2- Stated that a member of the public repeated a complaint about a councillor, but the meeting protocol prevents repeat submissions and requires such complaints to go to the Monitoring Officer. Also raised several planning and village green issues, emphasising that any development on the village green requires consent under the Commons Act 2006. He concluded by highlighting concerns about groyne warning-sign placement and suggesting year-round water-quality sampling to challenge potential sewage releases.

MOP3- Said the working group followed the required procedures, with environmental requirements shaping much of the document. Also added that photographs are not a legal issue, amendments have been made where needed, and a clearer supporting document accompanies the main submission.

26/258 To review and approve the Town Council's submission on Regulation 19 of the emerging Local Plan and to approve delegated powers for Cllrs Jenkins and Cllr Akker to make any subsequent minor changes that may be appropriate, including having sight of evidence prepared by MIEA and ELF

Following a robust discussion ***it was resolved*** unanimously to approve the Town Council's submission on Regulation 19 of the emerging Local Plan and to approve delegated powers for Cllrs Jenkins and Cllr Akker to make any subsequent minor changes that may be appropriate, including having sight of evidence prepared by MIEA and ELF.
Proposed: Cllr Akker, Seconded: Cllr Baker. All in favour.

26/259 To receive further information regarding the feasibility of a pump track on the skate park/Village Green (Youth Field) under the Swatch Rebels For Good program and to agree for Distillery, the Swatch appointed company, to prepare the full proposal

Following discussion, the proposal to approve for Distillery (the Swatch-appointed company) to prepare a full proposal was put to the vote: Cllr Weaver voted in favour and four members voted against. The motion was therefore not carried.

Exclusion of Press and Public
To resolve that due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the public and press be excluded pursuant to Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

26/260 To review and agree the final version of the Tennis Club lease

Following discussion, ***it was resolved*** unanimously to agree the final version of the Tennis Club lease. Proposed: Cllr Jenkins, Seconded: Cllr Webster All in favour.

Meeting ended 11.15am.