

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON FRIDAY 19 JUNE 2026

In attendance:

Cllr John Akker (Chair)	Cllr David Baker	Cllr Sophie Weaver
Cllr Teresa Webster	Kirsty Wadsworth (Town Clerk)	

26/10 To elect the Chair of the Environment & Community Services Committee

It was resolved unanimously to elect Cllr Akker as Chair of the Environment & Community Services Committee.
Proposed: Cllr Webster, Seconded: Cllr Baker. All in favour.

26/11 To receive apologies for absence and a vote of acceptance to be taken

Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Hinderwell and Cllr Williams. All in favour.

26/12 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

No declarations received.

26/13 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- Noted that untreated sewage discharges from Anglian Water plants pose severe risks to local health, tourism, and the shellfish industry, while approximately 50 abandoned fibreglass boats pollute sensitive habitats with limited enforcement capabilities. Additionally, public safety at Monkey Beach is compromised by dangerous currents and submerged World War II foundations, necessitating action to address hidden hazards and improve warning signs

MOP2- Reiterated the concerns associated with the fibreglass boats on the island and noted that the Village Green 241 South sign has been put back up and needs to be taken down.

26/14 To review and agree the Environment & Community Services Committee Terms of Reference

It was resolved unanimously to defer agreeing the Environment & Community Services Committee Terms of Reference.

Proposed: Cllr Akker, Seconded: Cllr Webster. All in favour.

26/15 To confirm minutes of the Environment & Community Services Committee meeting of 10th February 2026

It was resolved to accept the minutes of 10th February 2026.

Proposed: Cllr Akker, Seconded: Cllr Weaver. Cllr Webster abstained. All in favour.

26/16 To discuss and agree any necessary actions with Foreshore West Mersea signage

Following discussion ***it was resolved:-***

- to approach the Chair of the Beach Hut Watch to establish if any progress has been made regarding signage.
- the principle is established that notwithstanding the ownership of land that the Committee should further consider that Colchester City Council and the Crown Estates be approached to see whether they intend to display warning signs for swimmers in key areas and that approach be further considered by another meeting of the committee.

Proposed: Cllr Akker, Seconded: Cllr Baker. All in favour.

26/17 To provide an update and consider any action required on the future use of the Bradwell site

a) Govt. plans for developments of SMR's:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/great-british-energy-nuclear-and-rolls-royce-smr-sign-contract>

Fusion development:

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6a215b158e85b4e5346abf15/draft-NPS-for-fusion-EN-8-consultation-document.pdf>

An update was received. Report is attached.

Meeting closed at 2.50pm.