



Meeting of the Environment Committee

Wednesday, 22nd October 2025 at Singleton Village Hall, Parish Office

starting at 16:00

Present: Cllrs Peter Barker, Steve Herring, Barry Mercer, and Malcolm Wiffen

Also Present: Aniko Szocs (Clerk), Cllr Sally Gathern (ABC) and 1 MOP

The meeting started at 16:00

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Dave Gathern

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 03rd September 2025 were duly approved.

Proposed: Cllr Wiffen	Seconded: Cllr Mercer	In Favour: 4
Vote against: 0	Vote Abstain: 0	Motion carried

4. Allotments

A clear up day has been arranged to prepare the communal areas for winter. A plot inspection will take place on the 8th of November.

5. Heron Walk Community Garden

With the growing season now complete, the area will be cleared and made ready for the next planting season.

6. Tree Trail

The last two posts have been installed at the churchyard and have already received positive feedback.

The committee is reviewing additional routes, including Singleton Lake and a path from Great Chart through Mock Lane to Singleton. All proposed routes will need to be wheelchair accessible to ensure they are suitable for everyone.

7. Singleton Lake & Buxford Meadow

Recent reports have noted bivvies and discarded fishing lines around the lake. The Clerk will coordinate with Ashford Borough Council to arrange a fishing line cleanup. A committee member also raised concerns about alcohol consumption at the lake posing risks to children.

8. Ashford Community Woodland

The electric fence has been reinstalled at its previous location and reported to ABC over a week ago, but no action has been taken. Although some bramble clearing occurred, Larke Meadow remains overgrown and needs further clearance.

9. Gardening Competition

The first Best Front Garden competition was successful with strong entries. The committee will keep the same categories for 2026 and has set the following timeline, which will be included in the newsletter and on the website.

- 15th June 2026 – Entry submission date
- 22nd June 2026 – Judging week
- 14th August 2026 – Ceremony

10. Roundabout on A28

A resident offered to decorate the new roundabout at entry point C, pending sponsorship from the parish council. The council will request his proposal for the next meeting.

11. Items for information or agenda for next meeting

- Allotment
- Heron Walk Community Garden Project
- Singleton Lake and Buxford Meadow
- Tree Trail
- Gardening Competition- Best Front Garden
- Roundabout on A28 (To discuss decoration)

12. Date and venue of next meeting.

The date of the next scheduled meeting is **19th November 2026** starting at 16:00
The meeting closed at 17:06