



**Meeting of the Environment Committee**  
**Wednesday, 06<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at Buxford Hall, Buxford Pavilion starting**  
**at 16:00**

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

**Also Present:** Aniko Szocs (Clerk), Cllr Sally Gathern (ABC)

The meeting started at 16:00

**1. Apologies for Absence**

None to note.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

None

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 08<sup>th</sup> April 2026 were duly approved.

<b>Proposed: Cllr Wiffen</b>	<b>Seconded: Cllr Mercer</b>	<b>In Favour: 5</b>
<b>Vote against: 0</b>	<b>Vote Abstain: 0</b>	<b>Motion carried</b>

**4. Allotments**

The committee was provided with an update regarding allotment activities. An application for S106 funding has been submitted and is presently under review by ABC; this funding is expected to cover a significant portion of the Compost toilet project as well as provide for ongoing maintenance. Additionally, the Barrow and Spade Brigade has applied for further funding from both borough and county councillors.

**5. Heron Walk Community Garden**

There is nothing further to report.

**6. Tree Trail**

Cllr Peter Barker presented photos and locations for new trees on the trail. The committee approved all additions, including the community orchard at Ashford Community Woodland and the North Field avenue. Councillor Wiffen requested that Aspire be contacted to arrange for the provision of tree identification labels.

<b>Proposed: Cllr P Barker</b>	<b>Seconded: Cllr Wiffen</b>	<b>In Favour: 5</b>
<b>Vote against: 0</b>	<b>Vote Abstain: 0</b>	<b>Motion carried</b>

## **7. Singleton Lake & Buxford Meadow**

No further updates.

## **8. Ashford Community Woodland**

The committee addressed community concerns about noise from school visits and reported an incident involving tree damage, allegedly with a machete. The resident who contacted Cllr P Barker about the trees has not yet replied to the email.

## **9. Signs**

The committee reviewed proposed sign locations to guide residents and visitors to key parish sites. Further research on costs and planning permission is required. An artistic map displaying the entire parish with a "You are here" marker was considered. Once costs are confirmed, the plan will be submitted to the full council for approval.

## **10. Front Garden Competition**

The committee will judge the gardens on 25 June from 10:30am, with Bea also attending. Judging starts at the Singleton Environment Centre, and members will return there for deliberation.

## **11. Items for information or agenda for next meeting**

- Allotment
- Heron Walk Community Garden Project
- Singleton Lake and Buxford Meadow
- Tree Trail
- Ashford Community Woodland
- Signs
- Front Garden Competition

## **12. Date and venue of next meeting.**

The date of the next scheduled meeting 4<sup>th</sup> June 2026 starting at 16:00 at Buxford Pavilion.

The meeting closed at 16:50