

Minutes of Meeting of the Environmental Committee held on 25th November 2025 at 6.30 pm Hybrid Meeting Ostreme Centre and via Teams

Councillors Present: Carrie Townsend Jones (Chair), Sara Keeton, and Rebecca Fogarty

Co-opted members present: Cllr Chris Evans

Members of the public present: Dennis Dwyer and Dareyoush Rassi

Officers Present: Paul Beynon – RFO, Ashley Haynes - Groundsman and Ian Hughes – CSO

At the commencement of the meeting The Chair, Cllr Townsend-Jones welcomed everyone and proposed that due to the presence of members of the public standing orders be suspended temporarily after the second agenda item (declarations of interest) to allow those present to raise matters relevant to the agenda. Additionally, the schedule of agenda items would be adjusted to accommodate this.

RESOLVED Full Council in agreement with the above proposal.

EN2511-01 Apologies: Phil Keeton

EN2511-02 Declarations of Interest:

Cllrs Fogarty, Chris Evans and Sara Keeton declared an interest due to their dual roles of Community Councillors and SCC Councillors.

Public Participation

Further to her introduction Cllr Townsend-Jones suspended Standing orders at 6.33pm The Chair, Cllr Townsend Jones, introduced Dennis Dwyer and Dareyoush Rassi two members of the public who attended in their capacity as representatives of Wheelrights, a cycle community group. They attended the meeting to participate in the discussion concerning the Bike Repair Facility (**EN2511-11** refers).

Dennis Dwyer and Dareyoush Rassi introduced themselves as belonging to Wheelrights and provided background to the initiative in Mumbles.

Dennis Dwyer is also the proprietor of Ripples Ice Cream Parlour and has been actively engaged with SCC in obtaining a Cycle Hub outside his premises, in part supported through a Landfill Tax Grant.

They stated that the idea of a bike repair facility was suggested by John Sayce, the Chairman of Wheelrights who was unable to attend this meeting due to a prior appointment. Following the recent launch of a new initiative, Kidical Mass, the introduction of a repair facility would complement other cycling projects.

A number of locations were suggested including The Dairy Car Park, Mumbles Front Tennis Courts and The Saturday Morning Monthly Market. Options for hosting events included locating a small container unit and a gazebo. Councillors suggested opposite the new Cycle Rental Hub on the promenade as an alternative and in answer to questions from Councillors, Dennis Dwyer and Dareyoush Rassi stated that opinions were still being canvassed as to the location and other aspects of the proposal. They agreed that some funding would be beneficial particularly during the initial stages of the project.

EN2511-11

Bike Repair Facility

The Committee was very enthusiastic about the project and offered to assist where possible. It was suggested that further consultation take place with cyclists and that a grant from MCC could be applied for. Suggested that it could also include skateboards and scooter repairs.

RESOLVED Further consultation to take place with cyclists and other relevant parties such as EXIST to obtain a complete picture of what is required and a representative from Wheelrights to apply for a grant from MCC, full details of which are to be found on the MCC Website.

Ashley Haynes arrived at the meeting at 6.45pm

Standing Orders reinstated at 6.48pm when Dennis Dwyer and Dareyoush Rassi left the meeting.

EN2511-03

Minutes of Previous Meeting of the Committee

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 28th October 2025 as a true record.

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 28th October 2025 as a true record subject to the section relating to public participation being amended.

ACTION CSO to amend October's minutes.

EN2511-04**Actions arising from Previous Meetings**

The CSO updated the committee on all outstanding actions having previously circulated the full list of outstanding 'actions' to committee members. Discussions took place on a number of outstanding and proposed new actions.

RESOLVED: Outstanding actions updated and shown as complete where appropriate; details recorded in 'action' report, together with newly created actions.

EN2511-05**Budget Monitoring Reports to 30/09/2025**

Reports attached.

Financial reports prepared by RFO, Paul Beynon had previously been distributed to committee members. No questions relating to the budget reports had been provided either to the CSO or the RFO prior to the meeting.

The reports were discussed by the committee with The RFO providing additional information where necessary.

The installation of a noticeboard near The Hub in Underhill Park discussed. The planting of bulbs within the wards by Ashley discussed who will liaise with Councillors as part of an on-going action.

ACTION Cllr Townsend Jones to research possibility of obtaining an additional noticeboard at Underhill Park.

RESOLVED to approve the budget monitoring report to 30 September 2025

EN2511-08**Landfill Tax Grant Application**

Cllrs Fogarty, Townsend Jones, Nelson, S. Keeton together with Eddie Hall had participated in a successful working group meeting. Cllr Fogarty outlined that following on from The Bee Friendly Streets Project and receiving feedback from residents the working group were keen to pursue objectives including Biodiversity, making green spaces more available and improving the environment for residents.

Projects such as hand weeding, deterring fly-tipping in West Cross would be included with local volunteers participating. The Environmental Officer once appointed would assist and volunteers would be targeted at families and young people. Permission to carry out some of the projects would need to be obtained through liaison with SCC's Parks and Housing Departments in particular

The Landfill Tax Grant Application will be submitted but if not approved either completely or partially the outstanding amount would ideally be met through an MCC Budget. The estimated total cost for the one-year project is up to £21,000. This would be a fall-back option to ensure the projects are carried through.

ACTION Cllr Fogarty to re-submit the relevant budget proposal form as a matter of urgency to RFO with a revised budget of £21,000.

EN2511-07

Castle Woods Paths

RFO and Chair, Cllr Townsend Jones updated committee that two areas had arisen from SCC in relation to the development of paths at Castle Woods.

A maintenance requirement for the work once completed and for an additional £5,000 to be provided to a contingency fund.

ACTION Cllr Townsend Jones to contact Cllr Thomas over maintenance issues.
Oystermouth Councillors be approached for contributions from Councillor allowances and likewise for City Councillors.

RECOMMENDED That up to £5,000 be made available from MCC's Contingency Fund in the event of additional money being required.

EN2510-06

Budget 2026/27 – Final Arrangements

The RFO had circulated details of draft proposals for 2026/27 prior to the meeting and outlined some amendments before addressing questions from committee members in relation to the proposals.

The Committee concurred with the proposed budgets and amendments,

RESOLVED that the Draft Budget 2026/27 of £48,400 be recommended to Council at the budget meeting to be held in January 2026.

Prior to the next agenda item Cllr Sara Keeton left the meeting at 7.54pm and the meeting was no longer quorate.

Meeting ended at 7.55pm.

Next Meeting 27th January 2026