



## BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held at 6.00pm on Tuesday 27 May 2025 in the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House, Quay Road, NE24 2AS.**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** D Johnson (Chair), J Woods (Vice Chair), D Campbell, D Carr, A Cartie, BW Elliott, C Jones, D Nicholson, K Nisbet MBE, N Rolls, and D Swinhoe.

**Other Councillors Present:** M Peart.

**Also Present:**

**Officers:** M Wilkinson (Town Clerk), E Brown (Deputy Clerk), D Clough (General Services Officer), and J Russell (General Services Assistant).

**Invited Guests: 0                      Members of the Public: 1**

**Allotment Holder question time:**

There were no questions.

<b>Minute No</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>  Apologies were received and accepted from: Cllrs RA Baker and B Erskine.
<b>2</b>	<b>Disclosure of Interests Grant of Dispensations</b>  None.
<b>3</b>	<b>Environment Budget Monitoring</b>  The Town Clerk provided an explanation on the new format of the budget monitoring report due to a change in accounting software.  A member queried the number of allotments on South View, the General Services Officer confirmed the number of 20.

	<p>A member queried the management fee to Allotment Associations. The Town Clerk explained that the reason for the fee and the work carried out by the Associations.</p> <p>The Town Clerk informed members of the budget to deliver the refurbishment of Cottingwood Green and St. John's Muga. As combined, this fell below budget, members were asked to consider any small play area improvement projects within their wards and forward details to the office so that improvements could be costed and brought to a future meeting for consideration.</p> <p>A member queried the play inspections budget, the Town Clerk explained that inspections were previously done by NCC and are done in house by staff who are ROSPA qualified. Play areas are inspected weekly.</p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Decision Report</b> Allotment Wildlife Ponds</p> <p>Members discussed the reports were supportive of the benefits to allotments.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED unanimously to recommend the policy to Town Council with the inclusion of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• details to mitigate the spread of Avian Influenza, and</li> <li>• a further emphasis on fencing/signage/netting to mitigate potential accidents.</li> </ul>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Date and Time of Next Meeting.</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the Environment Committee will be held on the Council Chamber, Arms Everytne House on Thursday 18 September 2025. Allotment holder question time starts at 6.00pm and the Committee will commence directly following.</p>

**The meeting closed at 6:20 pm**

### **Members of the Environment Committee**

D Johnson (Chair)	B Erskine
J Woods (Vice Chair)	C Jones
R A Baker	D Nicholson
D Campbell	K Nisbet MBE
D Carr	N Rolls
A Cartie	D Swinhoe
B W Elliott	