



Deal Town Council, Town Hall, High Street, Deal, Kent, CT14 6TR.
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To all Committee Members: You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Environment Committee at the Town Hall on **Wednesday 19th June 2024** at 7.15pm to transact the business shown on the agenda below.

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend.

Any member of the public may submit a written statement of no more than 500 words relating to any item on this agenda. These must be received by 10am on Tuesday 18th June 2024 by email to deal.town.council@deal.gov.uk or post to the above address. These statements will be circulated to all present at the meeting and become part of the public record of the meeting, names will be redacted.

Laura Marney – Committee Clerk

Date: 13th June 2024

AGENDA

1	Chairperson's opening remarks	Chairperson
2	Apologies for absence	Committee Clerk
3	Declarations of interest: To receive any declarations of interest from Members in respect of business to be transacted on the agenda.	Attach 1
4	Public Participation: Members of the public may make representations, answer questions and give evidence at the meeting in respect of the business on the agenda. This shall not exceed 15 minutes.	
5	The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Wednesday 17th April 2024 for approval and signing: Decision required.	Attach 2
6	Safety of Lithium ion batteries on e-bikes and e-scooters Bill: Decision required.	Attach 3
7	Proposed & Future Project Plans: Information to note	Attach 4
8	Big Green Week: Information to note.	Attach 5
9	Committee Clerk Report: Information to note.	Attach 6
	Date of next meeting: 28th August 2024	

Filming and audio recording of Town Council meetings, by representatives of the media and also by members of the public using small media tools, is permitted. Please refer to the council's protocol for recording of meetings for guidance, available to download on www.deal.gov.uk or on request.

Committee members: Cllr S Brookfield, Cllr M Eddy, Cllr D Cronk, Cllr M Cronk, Cllr B Bano, Cllr L Craggs, Cllr P Findley, Cllr S Cullen, Mr D Carey and Ms H Charlton.

Declarations of Interest

Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)

Where a Member has a new or registered DPI in a matter under consideration they must disclose that they have an interest and, unless the Monitoring Officer has agreed in advance that the DPI is a 'Sensitive Interest', explain the nature of that interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a DPI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation permitting them to do so. If during the consideration of any item a Member becomes aware that they have a DPI in the matter they should declare the interest immediately and, subject to any dispensations, withdraw from the meeting.

Other Significant Interest (OSI)

Where a Member is declaring an OSI they must also disclose the interest and explain the nature of the interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a OSI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation to do so or the meeting is one at which members of the public are permitted to speak for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter. In the latter case, the Member may only participate on the same basis as a member of the public and cannot participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter and must withdraw from the meeting in accordance with the Council's procedure rules.

Voluntary Announcement of Other Interests (VAOI)

Where a Member does not have either a DPI or OSI but is of the opinion that for transparency reasons alone s/he should make an announcement in respect of a matter under consideration, they can make a VAOI. A Member declaring a VAOI may still remain at the meeting and vote on the matter under consideration.

Note to the Code:

Situations in which a Member may wish to make a VAOI include membership of outside bodies that have made representations on agenda items; where a Member knows a person involved, but does not have a close association with that person; or where an item would affect the well-being of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but not his/her financial position. It should be emphasised that an effect on the financial position of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc OR an application made by a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc would both probably constitute either an OSI or in some cases a DPI.

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The Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held at the Town Hall on Wednesday
17th April 2024 at 7.15pm.

Present: Cllr S Beer (Chairperson) Cllr B Bano
Cllr M Cronk (Vice Chairperson) Cllr S Brookfield
Cllr S Cullen Cllr L Craggs

Officers: Mrs L Marney (Committee Clerk) **Others:** 1 Member of the Public
Miss J Harper (Asst. to the Town Clerk)

1	Chairperson's opening remarks: The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and read the fire evacuation procedures. She thanked members for their participation in the Environment Committee over the past year.	Chairperson
2	Apologies for absence received: Apologies were received from Cllr D Cronk due to illness. Cllr P Findley, Cllr M Eddy and Co-opted member Mr D Carey due to prior commitments.	Committee Clerk
3	Declarations of interest: None received.	
4	Public participation and Statements received: None received.	
5	The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Wednesday 21st February 2024 for approval and signing: Members RESOLVED: To accept the minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 21 st February 2024 as a true and accurate record. The Chairperson then duly signed the minutes. (P) Cllr B Bano (S) Cllr S Brookfield. All Agreed.	Chairperson
6	Recommendation for Alternative Council Search Engine: Members RESOLVED: To recommend to Full Council that the default search engine is set as "Ecosia" on all DTC computer devices including the laptops issued to Cllrs. (P) Cllr S Brookfield (S) Cllr S Cullen. All Agreed.	Committee Clerk
7	Hedge Pledge Update: Members RESOLVED: To note the report. (P) Cllr L Craggs (S) Cllr S Cullen. All Agreed.	
8	Action on Litter Project Update: The Committee Clerk stated that KCC has now given permission for the Decals to be put down. Cllr Beer advised that although the Decals are in effect single use plastic, they have been looked in to carefully to make sure that they will be recyclable. Members RESOLVED: To note the report. (P) Cllr S Brookfield (S) Cllr L Craggs. All Agreed.	
9	Committee Clerk Report: Members RESOLVED: To note the report. (P) Cllr S Brookfield (S) Cllr S Cullen. All Agreed.	Committee Clerk
	The Chairperson closed the meeting at 7.27pm.	

DEAL TOWN COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Cllr S Brookfield, Chairperson of the Environment Committee, Committee members
From: Mrs L Marney – Committee Clerk
Date: 7th June 2024
Subject: Safety of Electric-Powered Micromobility Vehicles and Lithium Batteries Bill

Deal Town Council have received communication from a parliamentary adviser to Electrical Safety First which is a UK charity dedicated to reducing the deaths and injuries caused by electricity, he is a researcher for Lord Foster of Bath a member of the House of Lords, who has been campaigning on the issue to improve the safety of Lithium batteries used on e-bikes and e-scooters.

Lithium battery fires are on the increase, and there have been over 1000 in the past few years, nearly 200 injuries and a dozen fatalities. Homes have been destroyed and the cost to the UK runs into £billions.

Lord Foster and Electrical Safety First are promoting the Safety of Electric-Powered Micromobility Vehicles and Lithium Batteries Bill (**see attached**), they currently have support from many national organisations including National Fire Chiefs, Association of Ambulance Chief Executives, Royal Society for Prevention of Accidents and the Royal Society for Public Health.

They are now contacting locally based organisations which includes Councils to ask for their support with this campaign, a summary of the proposed Bill is as follows:

Clause 1. Would require third party independent approval-testing for e-bikes, e-scooters and their batteries before entering the UK market.

Clause 2. Incidents of fires and harmful fumes resulting from lithium-ion batteries in waste vehicles and landfills are increasing. There are reportedly more than 200 landfill fires annually, making up a 48 percent of all fires, costing £158 million and contributing significantly to pollution. This clause requires the government to establish regulations for the safe disposal of used lithium-ion batteries.

Clause 3. Addresses specific fire concerns, ensuring safer access, charging and storage of lithium-ion batteries. While an outright ban is suggested by some, conversion kits remain a financially practical solution, especially for gig economy workers reliant on sustainable transportation. Implementing a standardised approach to kits could establish design and installation controls mitigating foreseeable risks.

Recommendation: The Environment Committee support this Bill and the Chairperson in liaison with the Committee Clerk writes to Lord Foster of Bath confirming this.

Decision required: Members to consider the above recommendation.

The Safety of Electric-Powered Micromobility Vehicles and Lithium Batteries Bill

A Bill to make provisions regarding the safety of electric-powered micromobility vehicles and of lithium batteries; to give duties to the Secretary of State regarding those matters; and for connected purposes.

1. The safety of electric-powered micromobility vehicles and secondary lithium-ion batteries used to power such vehicles

(1) No person shall after 31st August 2025 place on the UK market any electric-powered micromobility vehicle or a secondary lithium-ion battery used to power such vehicles unless –

(a) conformity assessment procedures have been carried out by a conformity assessment body ('CAB') authorised by the Secretary of State to carry out such assessments; and

(b) the manufacturer has drawn up the technical documentation and declaration of conformity; and

(c) the electric-powered micromobility vehicle and the battery used to power such vehicles bear the CE or UKCA mark to demonstrate conformity with designated or harmonised standards.

(2) The Secretary of State must within 6 months of the passing of this Act publish a list of CABs recognised as being able to carry out conformity assessment procedures pursuant to subsection (1).

(3) Where in the opinion of a CAB, a product covered by this Act has successfully met the essential safety requirements of applicable regulations, it shall issue a certificate of conformity to the manufacturer.

(4) Where a certificate of conformity has been issued pursuant to subsection (3) a manufacturer must display a CE or a UKCA mark on any product covered by this Act before it is placed on the UK market.

(5) No person shall display a CE or a UKCA mark on any product covered by this Act unless a certificate of conformity has been issued for the product given in accordance with this Act.

2. Disposal of Secondary Lithium-ion Batteries

(1) The Secretary of State must, within 6 months of the passing of this Act, make regulations regarding the safe disposal of lithium batteries.

(2) The regulations made pursuant to subsection (1) may include a requirement for sellers of such batteries to:

(a) Display a prominent warning about the dangers of improper disposal of lithium batteries not in accordance with those regulations; and

(b) Attach as part of the sale

(i) Information regarding the cell chemistry of lithium batteries and;

(ii) information regarding the safe disposal of such batteries.

3. Duties of the Secretary of State

(1) (1) The Secretary of State must, within 12 months of the passing of this Act, make regulations

(a) Specifying safety standards for micromobility vehicle conversion kits and associated components; and

(b) Requiring that all micromobility vehicles have either

(i) a non-proprietary charging system with a communications protocol;

or

(ii) a proprietary charging system with a matched charger

and such regulations may include details of the means by which those standards will be enforced and the penalties for failing to comply with those standards.

(2) The Secretary of State must within 6 months of the passing of this Act consult such persons as he considers have an interest in this matter on whether to implement an interim measure which prohibits the sale of universal chargers for electric-powered micromobility vehicles until such time as the regulations detailed in (1) (a) or (1) (b) come into force.

4. Offences

Any person who fails to comply with the terms of this Act commits an offence.

5. Interpretation

In this Act, the following terms have the following meanings:

- 'Electric-powered micromobility' means electric scooters or electric bicycles powered by secondary lithium-ion batteries, as defined in the Department of Transport 2020 publication 'Future of Transport Regulatory Review Moving Britain Ahead Call for Evidence'.
- 'A lithium battery' is a non-rechargeable battery with lithium as an anode.
- 'A secondary lithium-ion battery' is a type of rechargeable battery in which the main reaction is the transport and intercalation of lithium ions into the cathode and anode respectively as defined in the BEIS Research Paper No 2020/037 entitled 'Domestic Battery Energy Storage Systems A Review of Safety Risks'.
- 'A proprietary charging system' comprises of a manufacturer specified plug and socket system designed only to operate in combination with each other.

- 'A non-proprietary charging system' comprises of a non-manufacturer specified plug and socket system consisting of a standardised plug and socket and a communications protocol.
- 'A communications protocol' is a set of formal rules describing how to transmit or exchange data.
- 'A CE marking' means a mark consisting of the symbol "CE" set out in the form specified by the Secretary of State in regulations made pursuant to this Act.
- A 'UKCA' marking is a UK Conformity Assessed marking displayed in the form specified by the Secretary of State in regulations made pursuant to this Act.
- A conversion kit is the electrical drive train, battery and charging system, that is fitted to a regular pedal bicycle to convert it to an electric bike.

6. Regulations

(1) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the passing of this Act, make regulations specifying:

- (a) Any amendments to the definition of the term 'electric-powered micromobility' that, in the Secretary of State's opinion, are necessary.
- (b) The penalties that shall apply to breaches of this Act.

(2) Regulations under this Act shall be made by statutory instrument pursuant to the negative resolution procedure.

7. Extent, Commencement, and Short Title

(1) This Act extends to the whole of the UK, subject to resolutions being passed by

- (a) The Scottish Parliament;
- (b) Senedd Cymru;
- (c) The Northern Ireland Assembly

applying it to their respective countries.

(2) This Act comes into force on the day on which it is passed.

(3) This Act may be cited as the Safety of Electric-Powered Micromobility and Lithium Batteries Act 2023."

DEAL TOWN COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Cllr S Brookfield – Chairperson of the Environment Committee, Committee members
From: Mrs L Marney – Committee Clerk
Date: 5th June 2024
Subject: **Proposed & Future Project Plans**

As Committee members are aware, following a Full Council decision at the 27th February meeting, all proposed project plans are now considered twice a year at June and October's Full Council meetings.

At the February Environment Committee, three project plans were presented; Deal Tree Guardians, Hedgehog Friendly Deal and Hedge Pledge 2. Following a discussion, *Members RESOLVED: To recommend the Deal Tree Guardians, Hedgehog Friendly Deal and Hedge Pledge 2 Projects to the next available Full Council meeting for approval.*

I can confirm that the above 3 proposed project plans will be on the June Full Council agenda for consideration.

If Committee members have any future project plans that they wish to be considered for October's Full Council meeting, these should be submitted to the Town Clerk and Committee Clerk by mid-September, so that the feasibility and viability of these proposed projects can be determined.

Decision required: Members to note the above information.

DEAL TOWN COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Cllr S Brookfield – Chairperson of the Environment Committee, Committee members
From: Nadine Miller, Climate Change & Communications Officer
Date: 11th June 2024
Subject: Great Big Green Week 8th – 16th June 2024 Update

Deal Town Council's Deal Home Kitchen project went live to coincide with Great Big Green Week - a nationwide yearly initiative that celebrates community action to tackle climate change and protect nature.

Deal Home Kitchen forms part of our Climate Action Plan 2024 onwards, as agreed and accepted by Full Council in January 2024.

The theme for this year's #GreatBigGreenWeek is 'let's swap together for good', asking people to make every day swaps to help create a better tomorrow.

Swapping out meat or dairy once a week has a positive impact on climate change and Deal Home Kitchen provides tasty alternative recipes that celebrate, and is supported by, local culinary expertise.

At the beginning of Great Big Green Week we also hosted a presentation from the University of Greenwich, supported by Kent County Council, about retrofitting your home and energy efficiency. We also took the opportunity to share our Best Foot Forward project, asking people to swap a short car journey to walk or cycle instead.

The new Deal Home Kitchen page is now available online in the climate section of the website www.deal.gov.uk/climate and the posts below were shared on social media here www.facebook.com/dealtowncouncil.

Monday 10th June

#GreatBigGreenWeek has begun, asking people to #SwapTogether to make a small local change, to have a big global impact. Join us tonight at the Town Hall from 6.30pm to learn how to retrofit your home and become more energy efficient. It's free but you need to register, so please do follow this link: www.deal.gov.uk

Tuesday 11th June

To mark #GreatBigGreenWeek we asked local restaurants, cafes & caterers to share a tasty veggie recipe so we can #SwapTogether to enjoy a meat-free or dairy-free alternative for dinner. The first is a delicious aubergine Parmigiana from The Sicillian. You can find the recipe here: www.deal.gov.uk

Wednesday 12th June

Sign up to put your Best Foot Forward, pledging to swap a short car journey and walking or cycling instead. It is running from March to #CycleSeptember and those who sign up enter a draw to win free e-bike hire from our friends @Hut55. Learn more here at www.deal.gov.uk/bff #SwapTogether

Thursday 13th June

We asked local restaurants, cafes & caterers to submit tasty veggie or vegan recipes and be part of Deal Home Kitchen and share them during #GreatBigGreenWeek. Today it's a game-changing chick pea curry from Heatonomy (who you can see each week at our Deal Saturday Market) Delicious! Follow the recipe here: www.deal.gov.uk #SwapTogether

Friday 14th June

Today's tasty treat is a carrot, sesame, hazelnut & orange slaw courtesy of @Pop Up Cafe! It's part of Deal Home Kitchen, sharing tasty veggie or vegan recipes we can all try at home so we can #SwapTogether to enjoy a meat-free or diary-free dinner and be part of #GreatBigGreenWeek. Find this and other tasty recipes at www.deal.gov.uk

Saturday 15th June

Do you have a tasty veggie or vegan recipe you'd like to share? If so, please do get in touch – all the details can be found here www.deal.gov.uk #SwapTogether

Decision required: Members to note the above information.

DEAL TOWN COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Cllr S Brookfield – Chairperson of the Environment Committee, Committee members

From: Mrs L Marney – Committee Clerk

Date: 11th June 2024

Subject: Committee Clerk Report

Please see below update for information only.

Southern Water Update

Deal Town Council received the following correspondence from Southern Water.

Southern Water are currently working on a £10.8 million project to renovate Margate Pumping Station promises to improve the reliability of the site for the benefit of customers and the local environment.

Margate Pumping Station is on a stretch of Kent coastline which is a very popular tourist destination and effects neighbouring beaches.

The works included an overhaul of screening equipment, boosts to electronic control systems, and the replacement of machinery reaching the end of their life - including huge 40-year-old Archimedes Screw pumps.

Southern Water have stated: *“We’re focusing on investing in infrastructure improvements and the works at Margate Pumping Station is one of many ways we’re seeking to improve our environmental performance and make a positive difference across our region.*”