



Deal Town Council, Town Hall, High Street, Deal, Kent, CT14 6TR.
01304 361999 - deal.town.council@deal.gov.uk - www.deal.gov.uk

To all Committee Members: You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Environment Committee at the Town Hall on **Wednesday 24th June 2026** 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 23rd June 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: 18th June 2026

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 18th February for approval and signing: Decision required.	Attach 2
6	Hedgehog Friend Gravel Boards Update: Decision required.	Attach 3
7	Seeds for Spring Update: Information to note.	Attach 4
8	Hedge Pledge 2 Update: Decision required.	Attach 5
9	Ocean and Coastal Recovery Strategy Update: Information to note.	Attach 6
10	Action on Litter Project: Information to note.	Attach 7
11	Correspondence received: Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government: Decision required.	Attach 8
	Date of next meeting: 12th August 2026.	

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 Cullen, Cllr M Eddy, Cllr P Findley, Mr D Carey and Ms H Charlton.

Declaration of Interest

ATTACHMENT 1

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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Tel: 01304 361999. Email: deal.town.council@deal.gov.uk

The Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 18
February 2026 at 7.15pm.

Present: Cllr S Cullen (Chairperson) Cllr M Eddy
Cllr P Findley Cllr D Cronk
Ms H Charlton (Co-opted)

Officers: Mr Paul Bone (Deputy Town Clerk) Others: 3 Members 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.	Chairperson
2	Apologies for absence received: Cllr M Cronk and Cllr B Bano due to work commitments.	Deputy Town 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 Tuesday 14th October 2025 for approval and signing: Members RESOLVED: To accept the minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 14 th October 2025 as a true and accurate record. The Chairperson duly signed the minutes. (P) Cllr M Eddy (S) Cllr P Findley. 3 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention. All agreed.	Chairperson
6	Correspondence Update – Deal Bathing Water Quality: Members RESOLVED: Chairperson and Project Officer to make any response in relation to the consultation and new guidance regarding bathing waters unless there is the opportunity to bring the consultation back to this committee. (P) Cllr M Eddy (S) Cllr D Cronk. All agreed.	Chairperson /Project Officer
7	Correspondence received from Walmer Town Council: Members RESOLVED: Chairperson to write to the Minister of Housing to add their support to the letter sent by Walmer Town Council. (P) Cllr M Eddy (S) Cllr D Cronk. All agreed.	Chairperson
8	Correspondence received – Beaver Habitat in Deal: Members RESOLVED: Committee Clerk to contact, DDC Environmental Protection and Quinn Management Company draw attention to the presence of a Beaver or Beavers and to contact Natural England to gain further information. (P) Cllr M Eddy (S) Cllr D Cronk. All agreed.	Committee Clerk
9	Committee Clerk Report: Members RESOLVED: To note the report. (P) Cllr M Eddy (S) Cllr D Cronk. All agreed	Committee Clerk
	The Chairperson closed the meeting at 19.35.	

**DEAL TOWN COUNCIL
MEMORANDUM**

ATTACHMENT 3

To: Cllr S Cullen, Chairperson of Environment Committee, Committee Members
From: Nadine Miller, Climate Change, Projects and Communications Officer
Date: 26 May 2026
Re: **Hedgehog Friendly Gravel Boards – Project Update**

Hedgehog Friendly Deal was approved at Full Council in June 2024. The aim of the project was to distribute hedgehog friendly gravel boards to the residents of Deal to create 'hedgehog highways' throughout the town.

A budget was allocated to purchase up to 100 boards and people were encouraged to register their interest online. When we reached 25 expressions of interest in May 2025, we ordered the first batch of boards and asked people to collect them.

The project remained live and continued to be promoted at different events, online and in the local press. In total we had 37 people sign up, allocated 10, and have 15 still in storage. Only 25 were ordered, which means the remaining budget of £1,157 will no longer be set aside for this scheme.

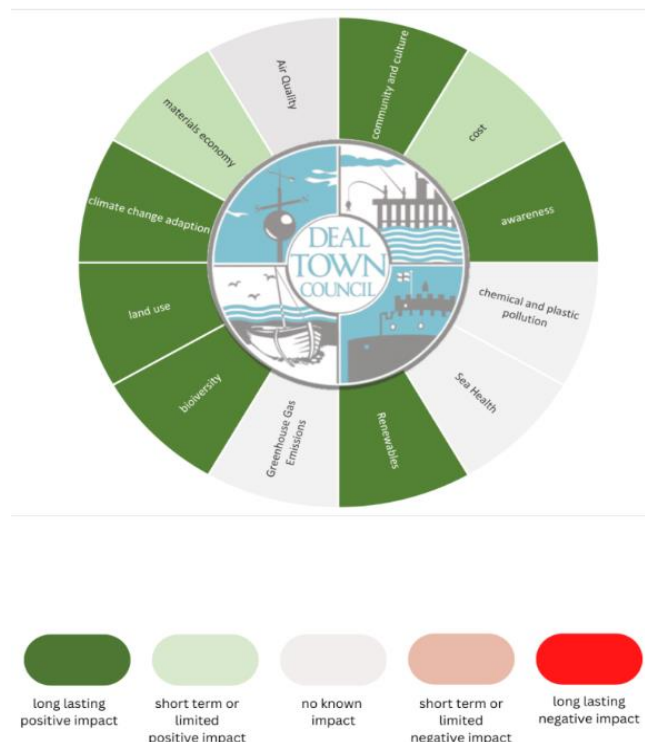
Hedgehog Friendly Deal was well received and we have supported another town council in their bid to recreate the project. However, the feedback was that the gravel boards were too large, difficult to install and hedgehog homes may have been easier to use and collect. This feedback will help inform and deliver future projects.

Recommendations:

- 1) To revisit the project in the autumn and ask people to apply online and distribute the remaining boards on a first come, first served basis.
- 2) The remaining budget of £1,157 be put back into the Council reserves.

Decision required: Members to consider the above recommendations.

050626 Hedgehog Friendly gravel boards update



**DEAL TOWN COUNCIL
MEMORANDUM**

To: Cllr S Cullen, Chairperson of Environment Committee, Committee Members
From: Nadine Miller, Climate Change, Projects and Communications Officer
Date: 18 May 2026
Re: **Seeds for Spring 2026**

In October 2025 Deal Town Council agreed the Seeds for Spring 2026 project and budget. The scheme was launched on Monday 23 February 2026.

We offered 100 free packets of Kent native wildflower seeds so people could grow nectar-rich blooms in their gardens to fuel and feed our pollinators.

People registered their interest online and within a few weeks 105 applications had been made. Of those, 15 were from outside the CT14 postcode area and we contacted them to extend our apologies but notifying them they were not eligible to be part of the project.

This meant 90 packets had been reserved and so the remaining ten were donated to Hornbeam Primary School.

We asked people to collect their seed packets from the Town Hall and gave residents an initial deadline of the end of April (to ensure the seeds would be in for spring), but due to a low collection rate we extended it further to Friday 15 May.

At the end of the project, 40 packets have been collected. The remaining 50 packets will be handed out to residents at events attended by Deal Town Council.

Seeds for Spring 2026 was a popular project that received a positive and quick response. Their-person collection rate will shape how we deliver projects going forward.

Decision required: Members to note this information.

**DEAL TOWN COUNCIL
MEMORANDUM**

ATTACHMENT 5

To: Cllr S Cullen, Chairperson of Environment Committee, Committee Members
From: Nadine Miller, Climate Change, Projects and Communications Officer
Date: 18 May 2026
Re: **Hedge Pledge 2 and Tree Jamboree project update**

In June 2024 members approved the Hedge Pledge 2 and Tree Jamboree project with the aim of increasing the number of hedgerows and trees across the town.

Officers have been working through the project plan to:

- celebrate the success of the original Hedge Pledge project
- forge strong relations with potential partners
- raise awareness of the need for planting additional trees and hedges
- to explore options to purchase 100 Hedgerow packs.

Learning from our Hedgehog Friendly Deal and Seeds for Spring 2026 projects, we have not yet purchased any hedgerow packs. Unlike seeds and boards, the young whips that make up the hedgerow packs are vulnerable and require sensitive storage and allocation. The two previous projects indicate that while interest may be high, collection and then planting may be low.

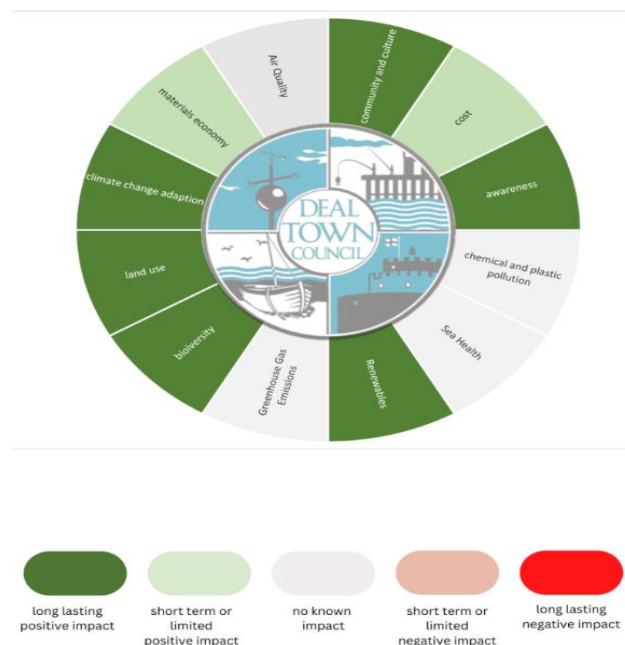
In the meantime, we have been signposting to schemes offering free trees and hedgerows and have created a new [Tree Zone](#) on our website. Not only does this include how to plant, grow and maintain trees and hedgerows, it allows people to nominate possible places to plant trees, report problems and also how to seek funding for planting.

We will continue to work with local groups to support them to plant trees and hedgerows, raise awareness of the value of planting them, signpost to free schemes or additional funding and update the new Tree Zone page when and where appropriate.

Recommendation: To recommend to Full Council that the Hedge Pledge 2 and Tree Jamboree project are now closed and move the budget of £1,200 for the purchase of hedgerow packs back into council reserves.

Decision required: Members to consider the above recommendation.

050626 Hedgehog Friendly gravel boards update



**DEAL TOWN COUNCIL
MEMORANDUM**

To: Cllr S Cullen, Chairperson of Environment Committee, Committee Members
From: Nadine Miller, Climate Change, Projects and Communications Officer
Date: 20 May 2026
Re: **Ocean & Coastal Recovery Strategy update – Yellow Fish**

As outlined in Priority Area Five of the Ocean and Coastal Recovery Strategy, we have been working alongside neighbouring coastal town and parish councils to improve sea health.

In March DTC Officers met with Councillors and Officers from Walmer, Ringwould with Kingsdown and St Margaret's for site visits with a representative from Southern Water.

The aim was to explore introducing a 'Yellow Fish' scheme, funded by Southern Water to benefit our combined coastline.

The project will see signs along the Deal seafront, reminding people that 'only rain goes down the drain' in order to prevent chemicals and detritus being washed into the English Channel.

We have identified 51 potential sites for signage from Sandown Castle to Deal Castle that could be suitable.

Permissions to install signage from Dover District Council and Kent County Council are being sought from Southern Water, so too is the manufacture and design of the 'Yellow Fish' markers and signs.

It is anticipated that the campaign will begin this summer.

Decision required: Members to note this information.

**DEAL TOWN COUNCIL
MEMORANDUM**

To: Cllr S Cullen, Chairperson of Environment Committee, Committee Members
From: Nadine Miller, Climate Change, Projects and Communications Officer
Date: 09 June 2026
Re: **Look After What You Love – Action on Litter Campaign 2026**

Deal Town Council’s Look After What You Love – Action on Litter campaign was launched in November 2024 at our first Climate Action Day.

A competition was held to choose a winning stencil design that would be displayed across the town, encouraging people to use the bin instead of littering.

In the summer of 2025 the campaign got underway and, as shown below, the message was shared, always within close proximity to a bin.



Beginning in July 2026, we will again use the aluminum stencil and chalk to share the message in town during the summer holidays.

The [Look After What You Love](#) page in the Climate Emergency section of our website will also be updated to help signpost people to report full bins, fly-tipping and other issues associated with litter.

Deal Town Council was gifted litter-picking equipment from Dover District Council. To support our anti-litter campaign, this equipment will soon be available from the Town Hall for local groups and organisations to borrow when organising their own litter-picks.

Decision required: Members to note this information.

**DEAL TOWN COUNCIL
MEMORANDUM**

To: Cllr S Cullen – Chairperson of the Environment Committee, Committee members
From: Mrs L Marney – Committee Clerk
Date: 29 April 2026
Subject: **Correspondence from Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government**

As Committee members will be aware, at the February Environment Committee meeting the following correspondence was received from Walmer Town Council advising that they had written to the Minister of Housing, Communities & Local Government regarding strengthening the role of water companies in the planning process. This item was discussed by the Deal Town Council Environment Committee and Members **RESOLVED: Chairperson to write to the Minister of Housing to add their support to the letter sent by Walmer Town Council.**

The following response has been received from the correspondence team at the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government:

*“Dear Simon Cullen,
21 April 2026.*

Thank you for your correspondence dated 26 March 2026, regarding New build homes/estates and the country’s sewage system. by A moratorium on new statutory consultees within the planning application process was announced the Chancellor in January as seen here.

***<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-goes-further-and-faster-on-planning-reform-in-bid-for-growth>**. The moratorium aims to support growth in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (TCPA) planning system by preventing unnecessary burden on industry.*

There are no plans to change the current role of water and sewerage companies as statutory consultees on certain individual planning applications. The government recognises, however, that as circumstances change in the future, it may be necessary to introduce new statutory consultees, but there must be a high bar for their introduction, so as to avoid regulatory burden. In addition, government encourages water companies and other infrastructure providers to work proactively with local planning authorities to identify where supporting infrastructure will be required to meet the demands of new development.

*On 10 March 2025, Minister Pennycook issued a Written Ministerial Statement as seen here, **<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2025-03-10/hcws510>** outlining proposed reforms to the statutory consultee system and for the TCPA planning regime. The statement confirmed to the House a number of steps government are taking to improve statutory consultee arrangements in the TCPA regime in England, including limiting scope of statutory consultees to where advice is strictly necessary. Thank you for taking the time to write to us*

Thank you for taking the time to write to us.”

Decision required: Members to consider if they wish to respond to this correspondence.