

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of Sidmouth Town Council's
Environment Committee held in the Council Chamber,
Woolcombe House, Woolcombe Lane, Sidmouth
on Monday 15 June 2026 at 6.30pm

Councillors: Ian Barlow (Chair)
Bernie Davis
Mike Goodman
Stuart Hughes (Vice Chair)
Chris Lockyear
Hillary Nelson
Kevin Walker

Invited Reps: Ed Dolphin (Sidmouth Arboretum)
Brian Gold (CAPS, Vision Group Sidmouth)
Jan Metcalf (River Sid Project)
Peter Rose (SVA Trustee)
Stuart Webster (Friends of the Byes)

Apologies: Cllr Paul Dodds

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 8.00pm

PART 'A'

1 Minutes

The minutes of the Environment Group meeting held on Monday 16 March 2026 were agreed as a true record and signed.

2 Declarations of Interest

Name	Item Number	Type	Action Taken	Details
Cllr Chris Lockyear	All items	Personal	Remained in the Meeting during discussion and voting	Member of Sidmouth Biodiversity Group Trustee of Sidmouth Arboretum
Cllr Ian Barlow	All items	Personal	Remained in the Meeting during discussion and voting	Trustee of Sidmouth Arboretum
Cllr Kevin Walker	All items	Personal	Remained in the Meeting during discussion and voting	Member of the Vision Group Sidmouth

3 **Matters of Urgency and Report.**

None received

4 **Items to note**

The Committee noted the Red, Amber, Green (RAG) reports submitted by the Environmental Community Groups, along with an update from the Arboretum, Friends of the Byes and the River Sid Catchment Group. Jan Metcalf thanked Sidmouth Town Council for the grant the River Sid Catchment Group received and reported they had been awarded £50,000 of funding for the Opening the Sid Project. The Chair and Members expressed their sincere thanks to the volunteer groups for the impressive work undertaken on behalf of the Town.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) it be noted that Devon County Council (DCC) had agreed that, if main roads were closed, potholes could be repaired by the Pothole Repair Team.
- 2) The Chair would liaise with East Devon District Council (EDDC) regarding the issue of getting irrigation water to various areas of The Byes.
- 3) A letter of thanks would be sent to Jeremy Woodward from the Chair of Council for his hard work within the VGS Group.

5 **Items for Action/Funding**

- 5.1 Cllr Kevin Walker speaking as a representative of the Vision Group for Sidmouth (VGS) and Climate Awareness Project Sidmouth (CAPS) requested funding for £200 to cover projects until October.

RESOLVED: that £200 funding be made available for the VGS group, subject to the agreement of the Member for Finance in consultation with the Town Clerk.

- 5.2 The Chair updated Members on the Batiquick quality testing and reported that there had been a year's worth of figures, with all readings showing green. The team were looking at how best to publish these results and this would be discussed at the Tourism, Economy and Culture meeting.
- 5.3 Cllr Bernie Davis gave an update to the Committee on the recent screening of The People's Emergency Briefing. There were some who wanted MPs to endorse it so it could be broadcast on television. There was to be a follow-up meeting on 1 July to discuss the film further. Cllr Davis also announced that she was also setting up a Climate Café at the library and would give further information at the next meeting.

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CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE