

## **Deputy Clerk's Report**

**By Alison Hooker (on behalf of Rachel Weeks) for the Amenities Committee meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026.**

Actions and updates since the last Amenities Committee meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

### **Dog Sign at Cemetery**

I have had three outdoor signs made up for the "No Dogs" at the Cemetery (apparently, this was the same cost for one so we might as well have three). These will shortly be delivered and I will get the Caretaker to assist with installation.

### **Storage Container on Southons**

Following agreement at the last Amenities Committee Meeting, we are waiting till the new financial year to order the container whereby the weather will be drier for access and installation. The Caretakers will be asked to dismantle the old metal shed and a skip will be ordered.

### **Hedge Saplings**

The Cemetery Groundsman was asked to plant the remaining saplings in the gap in the hedging at the Cemetery and at the space between the Napoleon Drive play area and the Playing Field.

### **Annual Play Inspections**

The Annual Play Inspections have been received for the Marden Playing Area, Napoleon Drive Play Area, Southons Play Trail. Lisa has created a breakdown of the inspections and we are looking at this to see if the outcomes can be conducted by a contractor or Caretaker. Once completed it will be shared with Cllrs and added to the March Amenities Committee meeting agenda.

**CONTAINER SURFACING QUOTES****for Cemetery - February 2026***(excluding VAT)*

<b>Company</b>	<b>Work</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Arnold Tarmac	Dig out, membrane and Type 1/3	£2350 + VAT
R & D Surfacing Ltd	Awaiting Quote	
Osmonds	Awaiting Quote	

Awaiting Quotes - hopefully we will receive these amounts in time for meeting

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## Method of Installtion

## Wall Mounted Horizontal Baby Changing Table and Sign

## Product Information

### Technical Details

Package Dimensions	88.5 x 61 x 11.7 cm; 10.74 kg
Manufacturer reference	B2411
Material composition	HDPE
Batteries required	No
Item Weight	10.7 kg

### Additional Information

ASIN	B0DMDXQGQX
Customer Reviews	4.2 (12) 4.2 out of 5 stars
Best Sellers Rank	12,252 in Baby Products (See Top 100 in Baby Products) 23 in Changing Tables
Date First Available	24 Jan. 2025

### Warranty & Support

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**Practical, Secure, and Easy to Clean**

Reviewed in the United Kingdom on 25 February 2025

Colour Name: Grey White **Amazon Vine Customer Review of Free Product** ([What's this?](#))

Pros:

Wall fixed design conserves space in small bathrooms

Safety strap allows baby to be safely changed

Strong and functional, will fit into any room nicely

Comfortable surface that is just the right dimensions for babies

Easy to wipe down and clean up after spills

Verdict:

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## Product Safety

**This product is subject to specific safety warnings**

- Warning:Not suitable for children over 36 months

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## Nappy Disposal Units for Public Toilets

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**From** Coco <Coco@ecosanservices.co.uk>  
**Date** Fri 20/02/2026 11:20  
**To** Rachel Weeks <deputyclerk@mardenkent-pc.gov.uk>

Good afternoon Rachel,

Thank you for your email.

I am more than happy to help with a quote for the additional nappy disposal units for your public toilets at your Marden Library car park location.

I can confirm we can provide two internal 60L nappy disposal units (one for the Ladies' and one for the Gents'), including regular emptying on a monthly service schedule (13 service visits per annum). Please see pricing below:

- 2 x 60L internal nappy disposal units (monthly servicing/13 visits per annum): £118 + VAT per unit, per annum
- **Annual total:** £236 + VAT

If your requirements change at any point and you need the service frequency increased, we can of course accommodate this and amend the schedule at short notice.

If you are happy to proceed, please could you confirm the full site address and postcode so I can ensure this is correct on your paperwork and your preferred start date. Once confirmed, I will then arrange everything from our side as soon as possible.

If you have any further questions for me, please feel free to call me on 07595888599. I trust this helps.

Kindest regards,

Coco

**Coco Farmer**  
**Account Manager**

Office: 01233 646229

Mobile: 07595 888599

Email: [coco@ecosanservices.co.uk](mailto:coco@ecosanservices.co.uk)

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**From:** Rachel Weeks <deputyclerk@mardenkent-pc.gov.uk>  
**Date:** Friday, 20 February 2026 at 10:07  
**To:** Enquiries <Enquiries@ecosanservices.co.uk>



## **NOTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUB-GROUP MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2026 COMMENCING AT 6.00PM IN THE PARISH OFFICE, GOUDHURST ROAD, MARDEN**

### **1. Present:**

Cllrs Anne Boswell, Paul Dobinson, Adrian Rabot, Mike Summersgill and a member of the public (SF) were in attendance.

### **2. Apologies:**

Apologies were received from Cllr Andy Turner.

### **3. Notes from Environmental Sub-Group held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November** Agreed.

### **4. Action List from Environmental Sub-Group**

It was thought this document was somewhat lengthy/complicated.

**Action:** PD to see if the document could be presented in a different format.

### **5. Parish Councils Environment Network (PCEN) meetings**

Meeting was held 2<sup>nd</sup> February but no one from Marden was able to attend. MS would attend the next meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> February.

MS gave an update on the Greensand Farming Cluster who are meeting with the Marden Farming Cluster and he has requested some funding from the MBC budget towards this important project.

**Action:** MS to give feedback post meeting.

### **6. MBC Carbon Literacy Training**

PD attended this training on 5<sup>th</sup> February. He found it very useful and learned his carbon emissions are 50% more than average. PD's personal action is to cycle to get his shopping rather than drive. PD mentioned initiatives such as:

#### **Downswood Nature Park**

Who have a 5-year nature plan and how could Marden do something similar.

**Action:** PD to source a copy of this plan;

#### **Singleton Charity Acres**

MBC are promoting 'No Mow May' in various areas to encourage perennial wildflowers to grow.

#### **E-Bike Scheme trial**

Tiny Forests – trialling in Allington – overplanting in an area to enable more carbon to be captured.

**Action:** PD to provide an article on Carbon Literacy for the Summer Newsletter.

### **7. Green Homes/Retrofit Session with KCC**

To be held on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 10am-12pm in Marden Village Club. AB ran through the proposed agenda/timetable that KCC have suggested.

**Actions:** (1) AB to respond to KCC regarding the event; (2) MS to try to borrow MBC's Thermal Camera for the event and let the MBC Environmental Officer/Maidstone CAN know; (3) AR to contact local companies such as Little Green Energy.

#### **8. Marden Parish Council Environmental Policies**

Cllrs viewed the policies relevant to this Committee which included the Biodiversity Policy, Environmental Policy, Hedgerow Policy and Tree Management Policy. No changes were required.

AR had put together monitoring summaries for both the Biodiversity and Hedgerow Policies and whilst it was recognised that tabled documents could not be used on our current website, it is more useful to have certain policies in this format e.g. a Biodiversity Action Plan.

**Action:** PD to look at the policies further prior to the Amenities meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> March.

It was proposed that at each Environmental Group meeting those in attendance would look at policies to come up with a meaningful short-term review and once a year go out to look at MPC open spaces on where improvement could possibly be made.

#### **9. Nature Recovery Fund**

The deadline for Phase 2 of funding of £195k is 31<sup>st</sup> March. MS applying for some funding to restore a piece of land at Chainhurst bridge.

**Action:** AR to monitor applications that have been successful.

#### **10. Hedge/Tree Planting at back of Marden Cemetery**

It was proposed that a Maintenance Plan for this area was required to include strimming/mowing along with a programme of removing the tree guards.

**Action:** Deputy Clerk to arrange a Cemetery Sub-Committee meeting.

#### **11. MBC Climate Change & Biodiversity February Newsletter**

**Action:** The Deputy Clerk to post the newsletter on social media and in the weekly e-Newsletter.

#### **12. Maidstone Repair Café**

Next date for the repair café is 4<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **13. Swift Mapping**

MBC have a few dedicated 'Swift Streets' and are liaising with the High Weald Swifts society. It was proposed that we could try to have dedicated swift streets in Marden and will liaise with Marden Wildlife. Two nests at Little Mill Farm and two nests in Thorn Road have been mapped on the Swift Mapper.

**Action:** MS to find out more about Swift Bricks which need to be positioned at certain heights, orientation and near eaves and whether we could source any funding for these.

**14. Recycling Food Waste**

**Action:** AB to include an article in Summer newsletter and 'Shake it Out' (reduce recycling contamination campaign).

**15. Anti-Idling Signs for Schools**

The school has been provided with anti-idling banners but has not put them up. MS has got no further with this.

**16. The Big Green Week/Maidstone Day Out**

This was due to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> June. Consider advertising to encourage residents to enjoy local open space.

**17. Grants and Funding**

**Action:** Environmental Group to look at available funding.

**18. Rainwater Harvesting**

MBC are currently offering free water butts to residents living in areas which are prone to surface water flooding.

**Actions:** (1) Deputy Clerk to draw residents' attention to MBC providing Water Butts; (2) Discuss rainwater harvesting systems further at next meeting.

**19. Hedgehog Havens**

Details had been received regarding hedgehog havens.

**Action:** To consider this further along with bat and bird boxes in MPC open spaces.

**20. Pond Warden/Pond Restoration**

MS to update on whether the Heritage of Kent Ponds could be brought to Low Weald but there was no update.

**21. Earth Charter Principles**

MPC have endorsed in principle they conform with the 16 Earth Charter Principles.

**Action:** SF to review the document prepared by AR and discuss at next meeting. AR to provide photos.

**22. MPC Climate Change Action Plan**

MS advised that MBC has still not progressed with creating a template yet.

**23. Marden Plastic Free Campaign**

The group leader has stepped down and nobody else has come forward yet to take over the project.

**24. NALC National Network: Climate Emergency session**

Next session Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May – AB unable to attend.

**25. MBC Thermal Imaging Cameras**

MS reported that MBC have been using their Thermal Imaging Cameras on housing association properties in the borough.

**Action:** MS to speak to MBC about borrowing a camera for the Green Homes session on 17<sup>th</sup> May.

**26. DEFRA Consultation on Solid Fuel Burning**

Closing date for consultation is 19th March. It was felt that we do not need to respond to this consultation.

**27. Electric Vehicle Charging Points**

It was previously mentioned to MBC about considering installing one in the village car park. MS is currently looking at two being installed for Hunton and costing it out.

**Action:** AB to raise at the car park meeting and MS to update on progress at the next meeting.

**28. Other Issues**

MS advised that MBC have won the Kent Wildlife Award – biodiversity is the best in the South East.

**29. Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm in Marden Parish Office.

## AMENITIES MEETING ACTION LOG 2026

Action No.	Minute Item No	Action	Allocated To	Status	To Do	Date Completed
A1		Allotments	Rachel and Cllrs	Awaiting legal issues to be sorted		
A2		Solar Panels at Public Conveniences	Rachel and Cllrs	Awaiting legal issues to be sorted		
A3		Changing Room Refurbishment	Rachel and Ali	Still on Full Council agenda		
A4	067/26	Purchase of Storage Container for Southons Field	Rachel and Ali	Cllrs agreed for a 20ft storage container to be purchased from Lawrence Containers. This will replace the metal shed. Clerks to wait till Spring when the weather is drier and the Caretakers will dismantle. A skip to be ordered and installed on Southons.	Paused until Spring 2026	
A5	068/26	Tree planting - hedge saplings at the Cemetery	Cemetery Groundsman	Cllrs agreed for the rest of the hedge saplings to be planted in the gap at the Cemetery and between the Napoleon Drive play area and Playing Field	Check in with Neil to see if completed	
A6	068/26	Cemetery Container Entrance Surfacing	Rachel	Cllrs agreed for the Deputy Clerk to get some quotes for hardstanding. Quotes obtained in readiness for February Amenities Committee Meeting.	Obtain quotes for February Amenities Meeting	
A7	068/26	Dog Signage at Cemetery	Rachel	Cllrs agreed for additional signage at the Cemetery and the Deputy Clerk has ordered these. Once received they will be installed on stakes near the gap of the hedging.	Once received ask Caretakers to attach to stakes and place in the right areas	
A8	069/26	Baby Changing Facilities at Public Toilets	Rachel	Cllrs agreed for the Clerk to purchase baby changing facilities at the Ladies Public Toilets. However, upon inspection, the Clerks recommended that baby changing facilities should be made available in the Mens Toilets as well. The Deputy Clerk added to February Amenities Committee Meeting. Ecosan also contacted with regard to nappy disposal costs.	Awaiting Cllrs decision on purchasing two baby changing facilities	