



VENTNOR COMMUNITY ORCHARD MAINTENANCE

ENVIRONMENT AND
TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

PAPER B

15 JULY 2025

1) BACKGROUND

- a) The Ventnor Community Orchard is sited on a piece of land on Steephill Down Road.
- b) In January 2025, trees were planted at Ventnor Community Orchard.
- b) Arrangements for the maintenance of the Ventnor Community Orchard are not fully formed.
- c) A former arrangement for the watering of the trees is no longer available. The Town Clerk arranged for water jackets to be purchased for the trees and watered by a contractor as an emergency solution due to the hot spell of weather. The current watering arrangement is in place until the end of the week commencing 14 July 2025.
- d) A permanent solution needs to be found for the watering of the Community Orchard trees.

2) FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS

- a) The water jackets can hold up to 75l of water and slow drip into the soil but require filling twice a week during the hot weather. The contractor has quoted £45 per session to top up the water jackets. It is likely that fewer sessions would be required during the winter. If 52 sessions a year were required, this would amount to £2,340 which would use up the majority of the Sustainability, Biodiversity and Community Orchard budget which currently stands at £3,000.

3) RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that members consider the arrangements for the watering of the Community Orchard.