



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2HG
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Minutes of the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency Committee (CBEC) held
1st October 2024 at 7pm, in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, High St, Haslemere

Chairman	*Cllr C Matthes
Vice-Chairman	*Cllr A. Bayliss
Councillors	*Banfield, Bridge, *Miller, Waters, *Weatherburn, *Weldon

* present

The meeting was clerked by the Town Clerk, Lisa O'Sullivan.

17/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Waters in on holiday. Cllr Bridge is at a competition.

18/24 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Cllr Banfield is the council's representative on HBG.

19/24 UPDATE FROM HASLEMERE BIODIVERSITY GROUP (HBG)

Philippa Guest (PG) updated the committee on the work done by the group and its plans for the coming year. A copy of the slides is appended to these minutes.

The work at rewilding the Golden Valley has had a mixed response, it was suggested that better communication could be forthcoming. PG explained that HBG had been meant to have an information stall at the Beacon Hill fete but this event had been cancelled.

The Clerk agreed that this sort of information could be on the town council website. The Deputy Town clerk is currently reviewing the council's property pages.

The committee commended HBG for the great work they are doing on behalf of the town. PG offered to come back to discuss strategy and community engagement and working further with the Council at a future meeting.

20/24 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held 11th June 2024 were signed by the Chair as a true record.

21/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES

GREAT COLLABORATION – The Clerk has written to offer two papers, Cllr Matthes and the Clerk will have completed these by the end of October. Cllr Matthes has been asked to speak about commissioning a baseline biodiversity audit at one of the forthcoming NALC 'banter sessions' for councillors.

CLIMATE COLLECTIVE / EARTH DAY – Cllr Matthes and the Clerk are meeting with HEM to help with their Earth Day initiative and hopefully boost its success for April 2025. She has asked several people already if they will do talks on the day. Councillors are to let Cllr Matthes know if they have any ideas to put forward for the day. It was agreed that the Town council should have a stall.

NALC STAR COUNCIL AWARDS – the committee noted the application

22/24 PARTNERING WITH LOCAL GARDENING / LANDSCAPING COMPANIES

Cllr Bayliss reported that he hasn't managed to do anything more on this initiative since the last meeting. He will speak to PG about the gardening project HBG is doing as that project seems similar in aim and it may be that they can work together.

23/24 ZERO HOUR INITIATIVE

Cllr Matthes and the Clerk to ensure due diligence has been done before Council is asked to sign up to this scheme.

Cllr Miller had also found a website whose aims he thought the Town Council might want to support. More investigation is required to see who runs this and how they are funded, before Council commits.

24/24 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – BRIEF UPDATES

Love Haslemere Hate Waste (LHHW) tomorrow is the launch of the community fridge, 2pm at the Mill. The CEO of Fareshare is coming along, as is the Mayor. The fridge will be housed at Green and Blue studios on the trading estate near the station.

Transition Haslemere (TH) have been involved with community fridge. Look out for their newsletter.

Active Travel – AT was quiet over the summer however they have now met and it will be relaunched, helping local people with aspirations. Lot of things on their mind, including the 20mph zone in the town. Farnham and Bunch Lane residents assoc have put signs up saying they support 20mph. Cllr Banfield noted that whilst it would be good to support this initiative, maybe funding isn't the best support we can give.

Haslemere Biodiversity Project – As above.

Solar panels on the Town Hall – The Clerk reported that solar panels had been installed on the 600 year old Kings College chapel in Cambridge, now that there is clear precedent perhaps the town hall could be considered? Cllr Banfield stated that whilst this was a great aspiration, perhaps the fabric of the building should be made good first. Clerk to look into both solar panels and replacement of the two town hall chamber windows.

Meeting ended 20:35

Signed..... Date.....
Chairman of Meeting