



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2HG

Minutes of the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency Committee (CBEC) held
3rd June 2025 at 6pm, in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, High St, Haslemere

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

* present

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

In Cllr Bayliss' absence Cllr Matthes chaired the first part of the meeting.

7/25 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR FOR 2025-26

Cllr Matthes nominated Cllr Bayliss

Cllr Waters seconded the nomination

No other nominations were made.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Bayliss is elected committee chair for 2025-26

Cllr Bridge arrived

8/25 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR FOR 2025-26

Cllr Waters nominated Cllr Matthes

Cllr Miller seconded the nomination

No other nominations were made.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Matthes is elected committee vice-chair for 2025-26

9/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Banfield is unwell.

Cllr Weatherburn did not attend and did not send apologies.

10/25 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

None.

Cllr Bayliss joined the meeting and took the chair.

11/25 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held 4th February 2025 were signed by the Chair as a true record.

12/25 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES

Cllr Bridge asked whether the Clerk had received the information from St Bart's school that was required as part of their grant award.

ACTION: Cllr Austin will speak with the school and report back.

Cllr Matthes reported that the Earth Day at the museum was a huge success, 700+ visitors passed through the door as opposed to only 70 last year. The town hall staff were thanked for their role in helping to promote the day.

Cllr Bridge asked how much money was in the green grants fund for 2025-26 [now confirmed as £2,50].

ACTION: All committee members to remind contacts that this fund is available.

13/25 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – BRIEF UPDATES

Cllr Weldon reported that he has attended a meeting of WBC ward councillors and some Surrey Highways officers about "Local School Improvement (SPI) " districts- which include the current thinking on 20mph restrictions. It was noted that this does not fall under CBEC's remit but was interesting,

nonetheless. The Clerk will circulate the information Cllr Weldon has provided to all councillors for their comments. Cllr Waters commented that Beacon Hill councillors were aware of this.

Cllr Austin reported that LHHW is now running the community fridge from the George Denyer pavilion. Around 50 people per day are visiting and it is becoming a good community hub.

Cllr Bayliss reported that Haslemere Hall might need more funding to update its stage and lighting and to install solar panels. There was some debate over whether this would be a suitable use of CIL funds. The Clerk reported that the new staff member who is starting next week will have a brief to engage with local organisations and see if there is any grant funding available for them.

It was suggested that the new staff member might speak with the organisations about their carbon neutral / environmental aspirations.

ACTION: Cllr Bayliss to draw up a short questionnaire for the Admin and Community officer to use, with help from the committee.

Cllr Bayliss reported that Highways had received £350k payment relating to Sturt Farm development, for use on local improvements.

ACTION: Cllr Bayliss to raise this with Cllr Robini.

Cllr Waters reported that, despite much support for the overall concept, some residents had concerns about access across the strip along the Golden Valley that is being left wild. He questioned whether a limited number of pathways could be cut to maintain access from the Churt/Tilford Roads to the paths that run along and into the valley.

ACTION: Cllr Matthes will speak to relevant parties (HBG / NT and Deputy Clerk).

Meeting ended 18:30pm

Signed.....
Chairman of Meeting

Date.....

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After the meeting ended, the Town Clerk reported that the terms of reference for this committee were due for review. She will circulate these with the minutes of this meeting and members form members' initial comments before this goes onto the agenda for the next meeting. She will also circulate the last version of the carbon neutral roadmap which hasn't been reviewed for some time. This will also go back onto the next agenda.