

Climate Change Forum Minutes

4th March 2025, 7.30 pm at Mandeville Hall, Burwell

Present: Mike Swift, Liz Swift, Geraldine Tate, Lea Dodds, Jim Perry, Clive Leach
Alima Adams, Martin O'Leary, Nicola Hallows, Julia Rogers

Clerk: Katherine Hyett

1. Apologies for absence

Ian Woodroofe, Paul Webb

2. Approval of the minutes of 7th January 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2025 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record. This was proposed by Liz Swift, seconded by Jim Perry and agreed by all.

3. Declaration of interests

None

4. Updates from previous meeting and actions

Item	Actions agreed
Earth Cafes	
Earth Cafes: Organise an open meeting through BEG to find volunteers to run Earth Cafes Paul Webb attended the Soham event but wasn't present to update. Lea Dodds said an alternative option is Planet and Pint. Katherine Hyett mentioned that there are energy cafes in Burwell library soon. Liz Swift highlighted open sessions for BEG worked well in the past	Clive Leach to speak to Paul Webb. Clive to update at next meeting.
Wildlife counts	
Wild Burwell to monitor wildlife numbers. Martin O'Leary will supply Nicky Hallows with some wildlife counts.	Nicky Hallows to update at the next meeting.
Action Plans	
Biodiversity Plan Nicky Hallows to update and Katherine Hyett to support with Parish Council input. It as previously agreed that the relevant vision plan should be incorporated. Martin O'Leary commented that the Spring Close and Pauline Swamp Vision plans should be discussed at the 13/03 meeting and reallocated so these get completed.	Nicky Hallows aim to present more information at the next meeting Martin O'Leary – add to the agenda for Spring Close meeting 13/03
Pollution Plan To be created Awaiting terms of reference to be reviewed	Nothing noted
Group name and Terms of Reference	
Terms of reference to be reviewed and proposal made. Katherine Hyett provided a suggested update for the terms of reference. Feedback for changes were: • Add the frequency of meetings	Katherine Hyett to update the Terms of Reference and add

• The agenda should be focussed on climate action plan • Should include how the Chair is elected – suggested vote on chair every 2 years • Change method of operation to similar to working groups • 1 representative from each external group Lea Dodds spoke in favour of changing name to CBP forum. Mik Swift feels that Climate Change forum covers what we need. Julia Rogers highlighted that including biodiversity is a massive motivator. Geraldine Tate asked whether it's already implicit in climate change, Lea Dodds doesn't feel it is. Clive Leach proposes that we take the name and TOR change to Council. Lea Dodds seconded this. 8 voted in favour and 2 abstained.	proposed changes to Council Agenda.
Swish and Repair Cafes	
9th Repair café on 2nd march at Mandeville – was very busy about 50 items came through. 3rd Swish on 16th March at GMH There is funding that can be distributed to benefit projects supporting climate action. The Repair Café website is open for bookings. Nicola Hallows suggested the Emorsgate website for Chalkland wildflower seeds to Geraldine Tate. Geraldine had previously updated that they may be donating wildflower seeds to children.	Nothing noted.
Net Zero	
Net Zero fund: £25k awarded for Mandeville Hall to cover 34 panels, wall battery will be fitted and loft insulation. Actions are being taken forward by the newly created ESG (Energy Sub Group). The Museum was also successful. It will become an education hub, including a demonstration wind turbine. Will also have solar array on the vehicle shed and significant cost and carbon savings. Starting work on this on 31st March. Clive said he would welcome an input from Wild Burwell for displays about the local area and biodiversity. Combined authority fund: Burwell Sports Centre has applied to the combined authority for an amount in excess of £100k	Nicky Hallows and Clive Leach to meet about the Museum education Hub.
Wildlife Corridor	
Wildlife Corridor between Spring Close and Priory Wood: Nicky Hallows has contacted the Woodland Trust – they have now decided they are not interested. She will contact the farmer directly. Julia Rogers suggested that Nicky should speak to Michael Geary about it. Nicky highlighted that there are incentives from the Government re. Forestry	Nicky Hallows to contact farmer/Michael Geary.

5. Climate Action Plan Progress

What	Actions	Goal and progress
Carbon Neutral Parish Council by 2030	1. Establish the Council's carbon footprint as of February 2020 to establish a carbon emissions baseline against which progress can be monitored 2. Identify and quantify potential carbon reduction measures 3. Select the most effective measures and create a roadmap 4. Implement the roadmap 5. Monitor the Council's carbon footprint and report on progress annually 6. Investigate offsetting and implement as appropriate	
Climate Emergency Contingency Planning	Work in progress – refer to other emergency plan	
Reduction of Burwell's Carbon Footprint		
Flights		
Local Transport		
Energy		
Food and Agriculture		
Local business		
Environmental Protection and biodiversity		
Waste and Resources		

Katherine Hyett confirmed that the above table was a summary of the goals on the Climate Change Action plan and was added following a request that the agenda move back towards achieving this. She would like to structure the agenda around these goals.

The Chair said good progress has been made with work on Parish Council Buildings progressing.

Lea Dodds highlighted the need to communicate well, in reducing Burwell's Carbon Footprint it is about about behaviour, people are defensive, education is important. He informed the group about the meeting at Soham Town Council where the aim is to share what other parishes are doing to achieve Net Zero.

Martyn O'Leary raised that the emergency plan is important. KH suggested that we should this go back to safety.

6. Museum Education hub

Updated under Item 4

7. Any Other Business

Geraldine Tate asked about recycling at the halls and it was confirmed this would be covered under Assets and Environment.

Jim Perry said that there was an agreement a number of years ago with Lakenheath/Mildenhall Air base and Cambridge Airport about not flying over the village. Clive Leach said he would chat to Jim about this.
/Mildenhall airbase and Cambridge airport - that would not fly over

8. **Date of the next meeting** – the date of the next meeting is still to be confirmed.

Signed

Dated