



# Battle Town Council



Minutes of the CLIMATE & ECOLOGY SUB-COMMITTEE  
held on MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023 at The Almonry, High Street, Battle at 2pm

**Present:** Cllrs S Burton, V Cook, D Wheeler

**In attendance:** D Wilson (U3A) A Kerr (Wild about Battle), A Koop (Wild About Battle), L Bolton (Rother District Council Environment Strategy Officer), S Bannon (resident of Netherfield), B Rieu (Deputy Clerk)

1. **Apologies for absence** - Cllr A Barton.
2. **Disclosure of Interest** - None.
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023** - agreed and signed.
4. **Meeting protocol** - it was confirmed that only members of this Committee may vote. It was agreed not to be bound by standing orders in order for all members to speak freely.
5. **Applications for membership to C&E Sub Committee** – none.
6. **Reviewed Terms of Reference** – members agreed to change frequency of meeting from monthly **as stated on the terms of reference to no less than four times per year**. Task and Finish Groups noted as a means to complete tasks
7. **Deputy Clerk's report**
  - Awaiting response from Optivo regarding their position on No Mow May
  - A Teams meeting re Local Government Association's Greenhouse Gas Accounting tool is on 16<sup>th</sup> June, to start analysing the Council's carbon footprint.
  - It has been proposed that the Council declare a Climate and Ecological Emergency. This has been added to the agenda for discussion at the next Full Council Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> June.
8. **Battle Civil Parish Carbon Footprint Change Target Report**

The report includes the combined input from the feedback received from the group. Which areas the group would now focus on was discussed and how it can maximise impact; identifying what is within the Council's control and making these areas a priority for the Sub-committee.

It was agreed that the Council continues to **demonstrate and share good practice and progress we're making**, through embedding and addressing the importance of the climate and ecological emergency situation through each of its standing committee; specifically, through the objectives making up the **four-year plan, and highlighting activity where it is incorporated into council activity in order to influence**.

The Sub-Committee agreed selected areas for action and will chose task and finish groups to agree **where it can influence** most in more than one direction: i.e. residents, community groups, at town council level and at district and county levels.

**Investigation of thermal imaging and evidence gathering** was noted as being an important first step to encourage residents to take on half the responsibility as well as there being a **need for facts and statistics in order to resolve problems at source**.

**Cllr Burton, Cllr Wheeler, D Wilson and S Bannon will create and circulate remits** for each Task and Finish group to take forward:

  - Battle Town Council Waste and recycling
  - Transport / car sharing



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- Housing / Buildings
- Diet

- 9. Battle Town Council Green Spaces Report** – Cllr Burton and S Bannon to write an introduction, re-format plan before seeking guidance from Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty on the development of a management plan. Funding may be available from Rother – Lucie Bolton to advise.
- 10. To consider items for inclusion in the Council's 4 Year Plan 2023-27 for recommendation to Finance and General Purposes Committee** – to work towards accreditation and recognition as a sustainable Council eg UK 100. L Bolton to investigate.
- 11. Eco Youth Award** – presentation by Cllr Cook. B Rieu to circulate for comments from the Sub-committee to be returned by 19<sup>th</sup> June. If approved by Full Council or ER&TD, a task and finish group comprising Cllr Cook, S Bannon, A Kerr and A Koop will form.
- 12. Matters for information / future agenda items**
- Promotion of Flexibus and the Pingo App
  - A Kerr and A Koop presentation of Crowhurst C&E WG Clean Energy Presentations
  - For information: RDC are working with Energise Sussex Coast to provide a service to parishes and thermal energy projects
  - L Bolton attending a Biodiversity Audit meeting with Southern Housing and will give an update at the next meeting
- 13. Time and date of next meeting – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 15:43.

Cllr S Burton  
Chairman