



# Battle Town Council



Minutes of the CLIMATE & ECOLOGY SUB-COMMITTEE  
held on MONDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2023 at The Almonry, High Street, Battle at 2pm

**Present:** Cllrs S Burton (Chairman), D Wheeler and D Silk, L Bolton (Rother District Council Environment Strategy Officer)

**In attendance:** B Rieu (Deputy Clerk)

- 1. Apologies for absence** - Cllr A Barton, Wild About Battle, D Wilson
- 2. Disclosure of Interest** - None
- 3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 5 June 2023** – were agreed with the amendment that item 4 refers to **'participants'** not 'members'; item 7 refers to **Southern Housing** not Optivo, and item 12, refers to RDC's provision of **training for energy champions**, not 'service to parishes and thermal energy projects'.
- 4. Committee Membership** —No applications for membership were received. S Bannon has resigned and members would formally like to express their thanks for her significant contribution to this sub-committee. Members agreed they will continue to consider ways to engage the community in its work.
- 5. Deputy Clerk's Report**
  - Ecologically sound printing credentials for outsourced and in-house printing have been verified and the FSC logo can be incorporated on relevant material.
  - Eco Youth Award – External Relations & Town Development Committee agreed not to take this forward this year, but it will be considered by the Youth Forum if feedback is positive for this.
  - The Estates Committee has commissioned a health and safety audit of trees on the Town Council's estate. This will be conducted at the end of September.
- 6. Battle Civil Parish (BCP) Carbon Footprint Change Target Report** – it was agreed that there are **no further actions**.
- 7. Areas of Community Focus** – without representation from the community at the meeting, the sub-committee was only in a position to discuss the Council's Waste and Recycling. This will now be taken off the 'Community focus' list and will be addressed separately by members of this sub-committee. Ways in which the Council can establish the different waste streams will be collated and identification for improvements in reduction and re-use. An audit of the various waste and recycling collection is to be discussed for the next meeting.
- 8. Council Green Spaces Reports and agree recommendations to Council** – members agreed to recommend to Full Council on 17 September, to submit an application for a Sussex Lund grant for the tree work improvements to the Rec Ground and Guild Shaw suggested in the High Weald Area of Natural Beauty report.
- 9. Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration** – members agreed to defer this item to the next meeting. Cllrs Burton and Silk will work on a draft statement to present at the next meeting.
- 10. Rother District Council's Environment Strategy Officer Biodiversity audits**



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L Bolton reported:

- Southern Housing Biodiversity audit has been re-stated. Any further progress will be shared.
- 23 sites have been identified as Nature Corridors across Rother (excluding Bexhill) which will be shared with the Council in October.
- From November all new developments will be required to show a 10% Biodiversity Net Gain.

## **11. Matters for information / future agenda items**

- Council Waste and Recycling update
- Catering for 2024 events
- Areas of Community Focus

## **12. Time and date of next meeting – Wednesday, 13 December 12:30pm**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 15:23.

Cllr S Burton  
Chairman

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