

Climate Action Working Group Meeting Minutes

30 July 2026 1:30pm

Present: Gemma Dempsey-Grey (Chairperson), Mike Hynes, Pauline Huggins, Arthur Stansfield, Jennie Greenhalgh, Sonya Exton

Not present: David Chenery

The Parish Council's Working Group Policy has raised concerns from members of this group and others. These are being addressed by the clerk and an updated version available to view soon. Gemma to advise when available.

Arthur raised concerns over the Terms of Reference. These weren't fully addressed at the meeting, owing to discussions as to whether this group should remain within the Parish Council or go it alone, similar to Transition Streets and Transition Woodbridge. However, he did request that 'environment, habitats, and biodiversity be added to the objectives. Point 3.1 frequency of meetings was also questioned. Arthur also pointed out that 6.5 was more inclined with the Emergency Plan. Pauline agreed.

No decision was made until further research into how other PCs operate with their Climate Action Strategies. Sonya to look at similar sized Parish Council's for comparison.

It was agreed that a proposal be put to the PC that the Climate Action Strategy be referred to and recommendations followed in all decision making.

Sonya spoke about having a stand at the September 6th Market, showcasing all that the CAWG stands for. Gemma can't make the day but is happy to prepare some plant based goodies and recipes to give out. As many hands available to talk about all things green at the stall would obviously make it easier. Sonya will email Leanne about utilising the PC gazebo as a whole, rather than sharing. Gemm is also going to design a poster/flyer that we can display at events.

CAWG account is still looking healthy owing to little spending. Gemma is concerned that funding like this won't be available next year. Sonya requested that some of it go towards paying for a tree surgeon to inspect and manage our mature trees that are prone to more damage as an effect of Climate Change. Arthur suggested that some money be given to the group that carry out the water testing of the River Deben, again also being affected by climate change as well as agricultural and industrial pollution.

Biodiversity - It was agreed to talk to Anne about the Walks leaflet, and actually go on one to see what we find, in order to add to our biodiversity map and create an add-on to the

leaflet of more information. Date organised. Sonya also commented on the articles in the Parish News by Niki regarding wildlife, especially hedgehogs, and nice it was to read.

Allotments – It was agreed that the allotments were an integral part of being green, and suggested that we contact Gloria Creasey to see if she would be happy to give a talk or open her allotment for us to visit, in order to grow the idea of being more self-sufficient.

The meeting ended at 3:10pm. Date for next meeting tbc.