

17 November 2023

To Councillors - Cllr Danny Bonnett (Chair), Cllr Kath Greenman, Cllr Jayne Stansfield, Cllr Helen Harrison, Cllr Chris Bloor, Cllr Chris Woodhouse and all non-councillor Committee members

Please take notice that a meeting of the **Climate and Nature Committee** of Thornbury Town Council will be held in the **Council Chamber of the Town Hall** on **Thursday 23 November 2023** at **7.30pm**.

All above named Councillors are hereby **summoned**, and non-councillors invited, to attend the above meeting for the purpose of considering and resolving upon the business to be transacted at the meeting as set out hereunder.



Yan Cheung, Climate and Nature Officer

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety, Human Rights and the need to conserve biodiversity.

Public participation: Please note that this meeting is open to the public. Please take note of the guidance notes for public participation [provided](#).

AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence
2. To receive declarations of interests
3. To receive any representations from the public
4. To approve and sign minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 27 July 2023
5. To consider supporting Plastic Free Thornbury by passing the following resolutions (paper attached)
 - Thornbury Town Council will lead by example and phase out single use plastics
 - Thornbury Town council will support all plastic free initiatives in this area
6. To agree the establishment of a Community Energy Project Feasibility Working Group and approve Terms of Reference (paper attached)
7. To consider a proposal from Cllr Danny Bonnet to request from South Gloucestershire Council an on-street EV charging pilot scheme in Thornbury (paper attached)
8. To agree a plan for phasing out of all pesticide and herbicide use by Thornbury Town Council with a view to making a recommendation to the Open Spaces Committee (paper attached)
9. To consider quotes for a thermal imaging survey of the Town Hall (paper attached)
10. To consider quotes for a full energy efficiency survey and recommendations report of the Town Hall (paper attached)
11. To consider A38 & A4174 Travel Improvements Proposals from South Gloucestershire Council with a view to making a recommendation to the Planning Committee (paper attached)

- 12. To receive an update on the implementation of the Local Climate and Nature Action Plan**
 - To note the Thornbury Town Council Carbon Emissions Report for the year 2022-2023**
- 13. To note the schedule of committee meetings for 2024**
- 14. Date of next meeting: 7.30pm on 20 February 2024**

THORNBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Climate and Nature Committee Meeting

held on Thursday 27 July 2023 at 7:30pm at Council Chamber, Town Hall

Members present:	Councillors	Danny Bonnett (Chair)
		Chris Bloor
		Chris Woodhouse
		Jayne Stansfield
		Kath Greenman
	Non-Councillors	Ella Wiggans (Sustainable Thornbury)
		Fran Sparrow (Thornbury in Bloom)
		Jean Owen (Thornbury in Bloom)
In attendance:		Yan Cheung (Climate and Nature Officer)
		Wendy Sydenham (Deputy Clerk)
Absent:	Councillors	Helen Harrison
	Non-Councillors	Guy Rawlinson (Holy Mowers)

CN2324.16 To note any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Helen Harrison (Cllr) and Guy Rawlinson (Holy Mowers).

The resignation of Judith Hurford as Tree Warden was noted. It was also confirmed that the Council will be seeking a replacement.

CN2324.17 To receive declarations of interest from members

There were no declarations of interest from any members.

CN2324.18 To receive any representations from the public

One member of the public addressed the Committee regarding issues not on the agenda. These will be dealt with either by officers or by referral to other Committees.

CN2324.19 To approve and sign minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8th June 2023

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Climate and Nature Committee held on 8 June 2023 as an accurate record of the proceedings.

CN2324.20 Items for consideration and resolution

- a) Recommendation to the Finance & General Purpose Committee regarding the utilization of the localism verge cutting budget (should the Open Spaces Committee resolve to cease paying for verge cutting) to replace the town council's diesel vehicle with an electric vehicle (paper attached)

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend the utilization of savings in the localism budget (from ceasing verge cutting) to contribute towards replacing town council diesel vehicles with electric vehicles, subject to further investigation of the costs, options and age/status of existing diesel vehicles.

- b) Proposal from Cllr Danny Bonnet regarding support for the Community Energy Project (paper attached)

It was **RESOLVED** in principle to support the development of a Community Energy Project, subject to further investigation of potential projects, including whether they

would be suitable or appropriate for Town Council involvement. It was further **RESOLVED** that terms of reference would be drafted by officers for a working group to investigate this further (working with officers as necessary), and that these draft terms of reference be considered at the next Committee meeting.

- c) Planning the phasing out of glyphosate-containing chemicals in Thornbury Town Council's open spaces with a view to make a recommendation to the Open Spaces Committee (paper attached)

The following was **RESOLVED**:

- To agree in principle to quickly cease the use of glyphosates on Town Council land, and to recommend to the Open Spaces Committee that this should happen immediately. Further information on current usage and suggested alternatives would be provided to the Open Spaces Committee before their next meeting.
- To agree to the tabled phase out plan for all pesticides on Town Council land, with the aim that this be completed before the suggested three years. Full details of all pesticide usage on Town Council land, and suggested alternatives, should be produced for consideration at the next Committee meeting.
- To further enhance the parts of the phase out plan relating to communication with the general public with the aim of reducing overall usage in Thornbury.

CN2324.21

Date of the next meeting: 26 September 2023 at 7.30pm

The date was noted.

Agenda item 5 To consider supporting for Plastic Free Thornbury

From: xxx

Sent: 18 August 2023 15:54

To: Ming Yan Cheung

Subject: [External] Plastic Free Thornbury - council resolution

I hope you are well and that you are the correct person to send this email to.

Dear Yan

I have recently restarted Plastic Free Thornbury after it stopped in 2020/21.

I am keen to know if Thornbury Town council would consider passing the following resolutions

Resolution to support Plastic Free Thornbury

The motion states that Thornbury Town Council will lead by example and phase out single use plastic.

The motion states that Thornbury Town council will support all plastic free initiatives in this area.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Emma Young

Plastic free thornbury

TERMS OF REFERENCE – COMMUNITY ENERGY PROJECT FEASIBILITY WORKING GROUP

These terms of reference should be read in conjunction with Thornbury Town Council Standing Orders.

1. NAME

- 1.1 This Working Group shall be called, “Community Energy Project Feasibility Working Group” (the Group).

2. COMPOSITION

- 2.1 The Group is open to any Councillor or non-Councillor member of the Climate and Nature Committee. There is no limit on membership numbers.

3. CHAIRING/GROUP LEAD

- 3.1 The position of ‘Group Lead’ will be chosen by the Group. The position shall be reviewed annually.
- 3.2 The Group Lead shall be responsible for co-ordinating the Group including the creation of any agendas (if these are desired).

4. QUORUM

- 4.1 There is no quorum for meetings as the Group is not a delegated (decision making) committee.

5. CONDUCT OF THE MEETINGS

- 5.1 As an undelegated Working Group, the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 section 1 (1)), The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 and Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12, para 41(1) shall not apply. Any meetings held shall not be open to members of the Public or Press.
- 5.2 In accordance with paragraph 5.1, no formal agenda, nor minutes, are required of the meeting.
- 5.3 In consideration of paragraph 5.1, the Group is free to operate as it feels appropriate, which may include meeting face-to-face, meeting virtually, collaboration on email, etc.
- 5.4 Any information shared that is commercially sensitive should be kept within the membership of the Group.
- 5.5 In carrying out the objectives above, the Group should give due regard to the Town Council’s areas of operation, Strategy, Aims & Objectives and Annual Plan.

6. AREA OF OPERATIONS

The Group is set up with the following objectives:

- 6.1 To investigate the feasibility of the Town Council being involved in a Community Energy Project, to include:
- Research into whether other Town or Parish Councils have been involved in similar projects

- Research into the structure arrangements for any recommended projects, e.g. whether these could be directly managed by the Town Council or through a CIC (Community Interest Company)
- Research into the issues around the legality and advisability of being involved in such a project including – ownership, investment, benefitting other organisations, conflicting with statutory duties of other public bodies, accounting and transparency, and any other relevant issues
- Research into resourcing and financing implications and reporting on the resource implications to the Town Council
- Considerations of risks and liabilities

6.2 To work closely with officers to obtain legal and “best practice” advice on all items outlined in paragraph 6.1, and to obtain a thorough understanding of potential difficulties.

6.3 To make recommendations to the Climate and Nature Committee in relation to the feasibility of the Town Council being involved in a Community Energy Project with a view to the Climate and Nature Committee in turn making any recommendations to Full Council.

7. POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1 The Group has no delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of the Council or the Climate and Nature Committee (or any Committee).

7.2 To make recommendations and provide advice to the Climate and Nature Committee on the feasibility of a Community Energy Project.

8. HEALTH AND SAFETY

8.1 To satisfy itself that health and safety and governance procedures are being followed in relation to the Group’s remit.

9. ENVIRONMENT

9.1 To give due consideration to environmental, conservation and climate change matters in carrying out the functions of the Group and in reaching all decisions.

10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

10.1 To consider equality and diversity (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and disability), tackling disadvantage, reducing social exclusion, and supporting society’s most vulnerable groups, in carrying out the functions of this Group.

11. FURTHER INFORMATION

11.1 The Group shall report to the Climate and Nature Committee.

11.2 The Group shall undertake reviews of its Terms of Reference as and when appropriate and may make recommendations to the Climate and Nature Committee regarding its own Terms of Reference.

11.3 The Climate and Nature Committee, and/or Full Council, may not always be able to act on all advice offered and there is no formal obligation to do so.

On-street charging of Electric Vehicles (EVs)

In the foreseeable future, most of the vehicles we use in society will be electric. If you use an electric vehicle, or wish to, but do not have private off-street parking, you will presently need to use a public charger, or somehow get an extension cable from your home to your car, which has several issues. A good summary is provided here:

<https://www.motoclarity.co.uk/news/how-do-people-with-no-driveway-charge-an-electric-car>

To support charging of vehicles on public roads, there are various options for kerbside charging:

- charging in bollards (top left);
- charging in lampposts (top right, integrated; below left, retro-fit);
- chargers embedded into the pathway (below right);
- other.



Thornbury now has some public charge points, which are a necessary step along the way, as they are available to EV owners with no home charging option, or to those visiting the town, or to those who choose to charge whilst in town. These are situated in St Mary Street car park and Rock Street car park. Public charge points, however, may be expensive, occupied, inconvenient/far away.

In order to provide confidence to those motorists with no home charging option, that they will be able to charge an EV, economically, near to their homes, allowing them to decide when they would like to switch to an EV, it is necessary to have in plain sight, some examples of how to do this. It is to

be expected that some pilot schemes will be necessary, ahead of large scale uptake, as this allows potential EV drivers to understand fully how they would live with an EV. It should be noted that the air quality in the town, and the levels of road traffic noise, will decrease if people, like-for-like, own/drive an EV compared to an internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicle. It is also important to note that EV motoring is typically considerably cheaper than ICE motoring, so it is to the benefit of residents to have the freedom to choose an EV, if they wish.

This paper proposes that Thornbury Town Council reaches out to South Gloucestershire Council, to seek an on-street charging pilot scheme within the town. In this context, pilot is expected to be the provision of a set of charging points in one street, for example, or one area of an estate. For maximum benefit, the location would be as central as possible, allowing residents and non-residents to see it.

Written by Cllr Danny Bonnett
14th September 2023

Agenda item 8

Name of Building/land		Use of other chemicals	Brand	Freq (approx.)	Applying method	Reasons	Alternatives
Mundy Playing Fields	Tennis court	Y	Sapphire	Every 2 months	spray	weeding	Acetic acid / Steel brushing
	Splashpad	Y	Wet&Forget	Every 6 months	spray	Algea	Need further investigation (Health and safety concerns)

Ming Yan Cheung

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 September 2023 13:28
To: Ming Yan Cheung
Subject: RE: [External] Enquiry to Services/Retrofit Team from website
Attachments: Target 2030 anonymised report 3.pdf

Hi Yan

Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying to you following our call the other day. I have put together the below, hopefully there will be a way we can support.

Full energy efficiency survey and recommendations report, to include:

- Analysis of 12 months' worth of energy data.
- Initial meeting with management to discuss options and see what had been tried before.
- An onsite survey of the premises.
- o Production of a bespoke energy report detailing:
 - o Historical energy use and baseline carbon emissions relating to energy / resource use
 - o Advice on current tariff and energy contract deadlines.
 - o Advice on building condition such a damp.
 - o Details of potential savings from energy efficiency measures, renewables, water and transportation.
 - o Summary or preliminary action plan organising the measures into no cost, low cost and capital cost measures.
- The report presented to management with a discussion about moving forward to installation.
- Further Research into possible measures of interest.
- Presentation of the above with information likely to be suitable future grant applications.

Cost: we can offer this to you at a price of £800+VAT

Please find attached a sample report of the sort of thing we produce for the above price.

Thermal Imaging survey (as mentioned we do not usually offer this as a stand-alone service but we'd be happy to offer this)

- Site survey with thermal imaging equipment, to identify sources of heat loss / areas for improvement
- Short report summarising the findings, with images included for reference

Cost: we can offer this for £200+VAT

Please note that the thermal imaging requires the heating system to be on, and there is an optimum temperature differential between inside and outside, so we may need to schedule it a bit later in the year once it's cold outside again.

Please let me know if this is of interest.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

Agenda item 11

From: xxx

Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 11:24 AM

To: Ming Yan Cheung

Subject: [External] A38 & A4174 Travel Improvements

Good morning

Help us to transform travel in South Gloucestershire

South Gloucestershire Council is looking to invest in improving bus, walking, wheeling (the use of a wheelchair, mobility scooter or pushchair) and cycling facilities along two of our busiest and most heavily congested routes.

They are:

- The A38 (between Thornbury and junction 16 of the M5), including the B4061 Thornbury Road / Alveston Hill, and Bradley Stoke Way
- The A4174 Avon Ring Road (between the Coldharbour Lane junction and the Wick Wick roundabout)

We want to transform travel, giving everyone better options and making walking, wheeling (the use of a wheelchair, mobility scooter or pushchair), public transport and cycling not only viable, but the preferred way of getting around – especially for shorter journeys.

Consultations have been launched this week and we'd like to hear your feedback.

The schemes support the council's Climate Emergency goals of reducing carbon emissions and help mitigate a growing population and greater demand for limited road space. But to do this, alternatives to the car must be more reliable, safe and convenient.

For the A38 and Bradley Stoke Way proposals include:

- New bus lanes
- Segregated two-way cycle lanes and separate footpaths
- Improvements to bus stops
- New and improved crossings
- Speed limit reductions.

For the B4061 Thornbury Road / Alveston Hill proposals include:

- Shared-use paths
- Segregated two-way cycle lanes
- Improvements to bus stops
- New and improved crossings

For the A4174 proposals include:

- A new bus stop

- New segregated two-way cycle lane
- New and improved crossings
- Speed limit reductions
- Some junction improvements to improve the flow of traffic.

The proposals will be funded by the Department for Transport (DfT) through the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements Fund (CRSTS), administered by the West of England Combined Authority. The money available for these projects can only be used for new transport infrastructure and will not impact on funds available for other council services.

Have your say

Further details about both schemes can be found online along with a short survey.

For the A38, the B4061 Thornbury Road / Alveston Hill, and Bradley Stoke Way proposals, visit www.southglos.gov.uk/a38-bsw-active-travel

For the A4174 proposals, visit www.southglos.gov.uk/a4174-improvements

The consultation closing date is Sunday 17 December.

To learn more about the proposals, meet the project team and ask questions, you can attend any of these information sessions.

For the A38, the B4061 Thornbury Road / Alveston Hill, and Bradley Stoke Way:

- Alveston Methodist Church, Alveston, on Wednesday 15 November, between 4pm and 6.30pm.
- The Willowbrook Centre, Bradley Stoke, on Tuesday 28 November between 10am and 12pm.
- Online via Microsoft Teams on Monday 27 November:
 - [12pm to 1pm](#)
 - [6pm to 7pm](#)

For the A4174:

- Bromley Heath Infants School on Friday 17 November between 4.15pm and 7pm.
- Online via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 5 December:
 - [12pm to 1pm](#)
 - [6pm to 7pm](#)

We have attached a poster if you would like to help spread the word about this consultation.

If you have any questions or would like to request a paper copy of the consultation survey, email transportservices@southglos.gov.uk

Kind regards

Transport Services

South Gloucestershire Council