



## 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.