

Minutes of the Climate Change Forum held on

3rd October 2023, 7.30 pm at Gardiner Memorial Hall, Burwell

Present: Clive Leach (Chair), Liz Swift, Michael Swift, Jim Perry, Sara Phipps, Nicola Hallows, and Martin O’Leary.

As less than 8 members were present the meeting was not quorate. It was agreed that the meeting should still go ahead, but that Item 3 Election of Vice Chair should be deferred until the next meeting. Those present discussed whether it would be beneficial for the meetings to be held every other month. This was thought to be a better option, but it was acknowledged that this may make it more difficult to deal with some issues. Should an issue need to be dealt with prior to the next scheduled meeting taking place, an extraordinary meeting can be arranged.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Lea Dodds, Paul Webb, Ian Woodroffe, Helen McMenamin-Smith, and Geraldine Tate.

2. Approval of the minutes of 12th September 2023

It was noted that Nicola Hallows had been included as both present and having given her apologies for the meeting. The minutes were altered to reflect her attendance at the meeting. The minutes were then signed as a true and accurate record by the Chair.

3. Election of Vice Chair following resignation from Jenny Moss

This matter to be deferred until the next meeting when the forum is quorate.

4. Climate Change Action Sheet – Consideration of items and updates to the Climate Change Action Sheet

The forum noted the following updates:

Item	Updates
Climate Action Policy	No update available due to Lea Dodds who is reviewing the Policy not being present. Clive Leach to speak with Lea Dodds.
Energy usage and sources	No update available due to Ian Woodroffe not being present.
Transport and travel	Cambridgeshire County Council has released a press statement saying that Burwell is one of the villages where the 20mph speed reduction will be introduced. This has caused discussion on the Community Facebook Page as the outcome of the survey is not yet known. The Clerk to put a comment on Facebook explaining the Council’s position. It is not known, if possible Government changes to the 20-mph speed reduction scheme will have any impact.
Agriculture and food	Martin O’Leary does not feel confident that the farmer he knows will be willing to join the forum. It was suggested that an approach could be made to County Farms (CCC) to see if any of the local tenant farmers would be interested. Nicola Hallows to draft an email for the Clerk to send to County Farms.
Housing and infrastructure	The District Councillors have attended a meeting with Vistry, who are the developers for the first two phases of the Newmarket Road Development and the Planning Officers. Vistry announced that they would now be installing gas boilers to the dwellings as the date when they would no longer be able to do so had been deferred by Government.

Local business	No further update.
Waste and resources	Helen McMenamain-Smith had informed the forum prior to the meeting that she had not yet had the opportunity to speak to the school.
Environment and land use	<p>There are no further updates on the Grass Cutting Contract. Jeremy Lander has approach Clive Leach (Chair of BEG) suggesting that a voluntary group is set up to clear the Lode and the catch water drains. Many years ago, the drains were regularly dredged and cleared but due to financial restraints this had not been done for a number of years. It would be interesting to find out what outcome Jeremy Lander is looking for. It was noted that what may look good for some, may not always be good for the environment. It was suggested that Paul Pickles may be able to give some advice on this. Jim Perry asked if anyone has carried out any checks to see how much sewage is put into the drains. This is not known. The drains and the Lode beyond the Anchor Bridge leading to Reach are the responsibility of the Swaffham Internal Drainage Board. Clive Leach to respond to Jeremy Lander and possibly invite Paul Pickles to the next meeting.</p> <p>Nicola Hallows informed the forum that Wild Burwell were looking to hold a Free Tree Day at the Tree Nursery on 18th November 2023. The Clerk agreed to print some posters and leaflets for the event.</p> <p>The new sign at Spring Close has now been installed.</p>
Village Survey	Clive Leach reported that there will be a Burwell Environment Group AGM in November at which he hopes to get more people involved with the group.
Fossil Fuels	No further updates.
Education	No further updates.

5.Any Other Business

Liz Swift reported that a Repair Café had been held on 24th September where 10 or 11 repairers were present. The session had been very successful.

6.Date of the next meeting

It was agreed that the next scheduled meeting on 7th November 2023 should go ahead. There is no meeting scheduled for December, and the next scheduled meeting is on 16th January 2023. This meeting will go ahead and following this, meetings will be held every other month unless an urgent matter arises.

The meeting ended at 8.16 pm

Signed

Dated