



# BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

**Climate Change & Biodiversity Working Group Meeting**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7:00pm**

**Held online via Teams**

## NOTES

### **In Attendance**

Cllr Hugo Miéville	Janet Tyson
Cllr Roger Carter	Yvonne Miéville
Linda Scott-Giles	Allan (Zero Hour)

### **1. Apologies**

Cllr Pat Osborne	Cllr John Dallison
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### **2. Zero Hour Bill**

Allan explained that the Bill has lapsed but Zero Hour will be reintroducing it.

Zero Hour currently has over 500 organisations behind the Bill and that includes over 180 MPs and Peers, and 300 councils that are on board, which includes local authorities.

Roger asked about Zero Hour communicating with national bodies involved with councils and Allan confirmed that NALC had reached out to them in the first instance and they have a meeting together in a fortnight.

The Bill would benefit from council support but it also benefits the council because it gives a bit of unity and it can be absorbed as part of the council's Plan. It means you aren't going back and making the same points again.

Zero Hour would like to see a plan that all parties agree to. It is a cross-party Bill that is led by the science.

Roger asked about housing strategies and the NPPF. Allan responded to advise that they have tried to avoid being prescriptive, which will restrict them.

Zero Hour would like the Town Council to write to its Member of Parliament asking them to support the Bill and to pledge its support too.

The working group had delegated authority to respond to the request for support for the Bill and it was agreed at the working group meeting that the Town Council should support it. However, due to the low turnout at the meeting, the Councillors present felt that this should be brought back for ratification and the additional information be shared with the whole council.

**3. To agree next steps**

To report back to council on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 to seek support from council.

To distribute further information submitted by Allan of Zero Hour.

**4. Date of next meeting**

To be arranged in due course.