

Climate Change & Biodiversity Group Meeting

Thursday 11th April 2024 at 7pm via Teams

Notes

In Attendance

Cllr H Miéville
Cllr A Cross

Yvonne Miéville
Janet Tyson

Nicci Brown
Committee Clerk

1. Apologies

Peter Aldous sent his apologies and asked the Committee Clerk to mention the Blandford Green Fair.

2. Update on 'Plastic Free Community' Status

- Surfers against sewage – plastic free communities
- Any new sign ups from local groups and organisations?

Yvonne has confirmed that they will make a concerted effort in May when Hugo is no longer Mayor.

The Committee Clerk has written to Blandford Scout Group, U3A and Archbishop Wake School asking that they sign up.

3. Update from Blandford War on Waste/Clean up Blandford

Following the letters received from Archbishop Wake School (ABW) Hugo and Yvonne will arrange to visit ABW and The Blandford School to talk to them about volunteering for extra litter picks. However, Yvonne was keen to point out that since the litter picks began, they are collecting a lot less litter.

The litter picks started last month and, although the weather was awful, lots of people joined. In future they will start at different venues around the town to ensure that all the town gets covered. The next one is on Saturday 20th April at the Persimmon Estate and tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided. Alan apologised as he won't be able to make that date but asked for a bag and a picker so he can visit the skatepark the following week.

Hugo made an appeal that if any other groups are planning on carrying out a litter pick that they coordinate with their group and work together. There was another group out at the same time of their last litter pick and Hugo felt a coordinated approach would have been far more beneficial. Alan mentioned there was a Dorset Council van out collecting their bags of rubbish and said this would be a useful contact for future litter picks.

Action: Yvonne to forward the dates and venues to the Committee Clerk to add to the website/put on Social.

4. Update from Blandford + NP Group

Nothing to report.

5. Dog Mess

Janet shared a photo of dog poo bags dropped down a drain and feels that the public need educating on how to dispose of them so asked if we could post photos publicly to stop people doing this. Yvonne wasn't sure that it would really make any difference and said we need to clarify what ideas Pat had in mind.

5. Cont.....

Action: Community Clerk to include item on next agenda so Pat can put his ideas to the group.

6. Any other updates

Yvonne confirmed that the Green Fair is taking place on Saturday 13th July 2024, by the railway arches near Marks and Spencer. There will be entertainment and food and drink. They are looking for more stallholders and will do a big promotion beforehand.

Nicci told the group that Shopmobility (the Disability Action Group) are celebrating World Earth Day on Monday 22nd April 2024. Yvonne said they'll mention it to the volunteers during the litter pick on the 20th April.

7. To agree next steps

As above

8. Date of next meeting

Thursday 16th May at 7pm online