BLANDFORD FORUM
TOWN COUNCIL

Climate, Biodiversity & Nature Working Group Meeting

Wednesday 19th November 2025 at 7pm

Held online via Teams

NOTES

In Attendance

Cllr Y Miéville (chair)
Cllr S Morgan
Nicci Brown
Becci Brady
Cllr H Miéville
Cllr G Del-Pinto
Janet Tyson

1. Apologies

Cllr T Clarkson
Cllr R Holmes

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

There is little to no activity through the Winter so everything will start again in the Spring.

The group will be in action at the Yuletide festival on Friday 5th December after the parade has finished, if anyone would like to join in and help it would be much appreciated.

The next litter-pick has not yet been scheduled.

The Rangers have asked for data to see how much public participation there is in keeping Blandford tidy, so Yvonne is collating this info for them. Approximately 400 volunteer hours this year were carried out which is great and there has been a noticeable decrease in the amount of rubbish in the town as a result.

3. Update on 'Plastic Free Community' status

Blandford has received funds from the Hidden Gardens ,an environmental trust that organises open gardens on the first Sunday of June each year. It was kept in the museum bank account for the past two years. This has now been transferred to the Campaign which will enable them to create some publicity and restart the campaign in the Spring.

4. Update from Blandford + NP group

Current topics being discussed and worked on:

-A response was submitted regarding the Local plan consultation produced by Dorset Council .
-Section 106 money for health is an issue which the group are currently in communications with Dorset Council over
-A Dorset Design Code meeting with consultants working on behalf of Dorset Council has was held on 8th October
-The next working group meeting is scheduled for 26th January 2026

5. Any other updates

Yvonne received an email from someone who is representing a town council wanting to know what made Blandford Forum Town Council become Glyphosate free. Yvonne will respond and explain the process.

Nicci explained how Dorset Council recently held an environmental consultation with 22 ‘chosen’ people in attendance.

Gail explained that Blandford and Stour Rotary Club have planted four Black Poplar trees , two of which have been planted at the river’s edge at The Blandford School. The group would like to extend their thanks to the Rotary club for their important and hard work on this. Gail is speaking with the Rangers regarding nut trees and apple trees around the town and would like to explore how we can help to increase the presence of these trees in the future.

The date of the next Green Fair will be Saturday 4th July 2026, held at the Marsh & Ham, and Nicci would like as many volunteers as possible. This group will endeavour to be involved.

Litter picking has been carried out on the bypass by a political group recently. Hugo pointed out that this is risky and the Clean up Blandford would never do this as it is far too dangerous.

6. To agree next steps

None.

7. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 21st January 2025 at 7.00pm on Teams.