



BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

Climate, Biodiversity & Nature Working Group Meeting

Wednesday 21st January 2026 at 7pm

Held online via Teams

NOTES

In Attendance

Cllr Y Miéville (chair)
Cllr S Morgan
Cllr T Clarkson
Becci Brady

Cllr H Miéville
Cllr G Del-Pinto
Nicci Brown

1. Apologies

Janet Tyson

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

Litter pick dates for the year March to October 2026 have been schedules, the first one will be on 21st March, Yvonne will send them to Becci who will share them with the Town Council and this group. There are none in the Winter months due to a lack of numbers. The Rangers have the dates, and they will advertise them in various locations. The group intends to use some of their funds to publicise the litter picks further.

3. Update on 'Plastic Free Community' status

No Update. In February Yvonne will go around to various businesses to promote the campaign.

4. Update from Blandford + NP group

There is a meeting scheduled on 26th January which will touch on the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) regarding Climate change, members will report back on what is discussed.

5. Litter Free Dorset Conference update

Yvonne attended this conference which she found very interesting. A few highlights are as follows:-

- Roy Beale from Clean Jurassic Coast spoke at this event and focused on the coast and the amount of plastic found, Yvonne will send the information from this to the group to share .
- Toby Bloom from a group named social engine who have been working with new forest council and how to help reduce litter. They did research on where to find the greatest rubbish and why people litter which we could use to help minimise our litter issues. His message was that if we can find a messenger that people would listen too then the message should come across more effectively. Yvonne will make the 'Blandford Womble'

to promote the message more in the town. Also, collating data and publicising data could also help spread the message.

- The Nimsdai foundation they take rubbish from Everest and talked about the challenges of litter picking on Everest, removing oxygen canisters, human waste and sometimes bodies which was very fascinating. A session on community litter picking made Yvonne realise that our litter picking group is quite advanced in terms of our strategies compared to other areas that are less strategic in their planning and execution.
- A trip to the Green Hub at Lush in Poole was mentioned and the group will try to organise this in the coming months.

6. Any other updates

- Nicci is busy planning the Green Fair on Saturday 4th July 2026. More help, specifically with publicity is required, as well as on the day.
- Gail contacted Planet Shaftesbury for information regarding the idea of a Community Orchard to find out the pitfalls of a potential project in Blandford. Charlton Down Parish council have a similar project, Gail will get in contact with them.

7. To agree next steps

- Look into a potential Community Orchard
- Yvonne to work on Plastic Free in the coming weeks
- Members will help to generate more help for the Green Fair

8. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 4th March 2026 at 7.00pm on Teams.