

CLIMATE AND NATURE COMMITTEE MINUTES

15th October 2025

Cllr Collins (in the Chair)

A Collins (P)
L Fogg-Rogers (P)

D Eldridge (P)
S Hancock (P)

Also in attendance: Cllr Kinsey and two members of the public

65.10/25 Evacuation Procedure

Leave via the fire door and assemble outside in the play area - Noted

66.10/25 Apologies

None

67.10/25 Declaration of Interests under the Localism Act 2011

None

68.10/25 Public participation

One member of the public was new to the meeting, members introduced themselves.

69.10/25 To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2025 were agreed and signed.

70.10/25 Action Update

- Tree Care Day – C&NA reported that the event went well with two brand new volunteers in attendance. Cllr Hancock noted that the mulch we used was very dusty with lots of mould spores. **C&NA to add to risk assessment for future tree care days.**
- Cut and Collect – C&NA reported that the work has been completed. **C&NA to contact contractor and copy in Cllr Collins to obtain a quote for Tuckett Field.**
- Community Nature Reserve – C&NA updated that the people currently signed up have been contacted. **C&NA to do Facebook post encouraging others to join.**
- Huckford Quarry land – C&NA reported that we have a contact who is speaking to the charity Protect Earth about planting on this part of land. **C&NA to speak to contact and ask for an update by the next meeting.**

71.10/25 To discuss the tree planting and care/maintenance programme

Cllr Fogg-Rogers shared her proposal for more trees to be planted at Whiteshill Common and the Small Common at Hambrook. Agreed that we will have a tree planting day for these trees in February 2026 (subject to obtaining the trees). **C&NA to check re: consulting with local residents and then carry out consultation if necessary with them and with the Hambrook Commons Committee. C&NA to also apply for grants for trees.**

Also discussed was the need for water butts at appropriate sites around the common. **C&NA to investigate and consult with Hambrook Commons Committee.**

Agreed that we would apply to the Woodland Trust for small trees to then give away to the community at an event in March. **C&NA to apply.**

72.10/25 To agree Duck Pond Management Plan

Cllr Hancock shared her duck pond management plan. **C&NA to investigate what currently happens at the duck pond and report back so that all member of the committee can then review the document and agree at the next meeting.**

The committee agreed that the cutting of vegetation at the pond should be lighter this year and that there should be two cuts annually – one at this time of year and one in early spring (if necessary). **C&NA to contact contractor to organise for work to be done asap.**

73.10/25 To agree next steps for Local Action Climate and Nature Plan

All members of the committee have reviewed the document and made changes. **Cllr Fogg-Rogers to create final version of the document and share with committee including C&NA. C&NA to then add photos and adjust any formatting. This can then be agreed at the next meeting and shared with the public.**

74.10/25 Planters at Flaxpits Lane

Cllr Hancock produced a report on plants and compost needed to purchase for the planters with a cost of £137.96. This was agreed by the committee. **C&NA to liaise with Clerk to purchase items. C&NA and Cllr Hancock to agree date for the work to go ahead so that C&NA can advertise on Facebook to ask for volunteers to help.**

75.10/25 To discuss budget items for next financial year

Agreed that the committee would like budget for duck pond maintenance, planting/biodiversity and to keep the C&NA in post. **C&NA to liaise with Clerk.**

76.10/25 To discuss December forum

Reported that there is already a Christmas event at the Greenfield Centre on the same evening as the forum. Agreed that this could be a good way to encourage more people to come along to the forum. **C&NA to liaise with Clerk and add to agenda for next month to confirm plans.**

77.10/25 To discuss community buildings for solar panels

Cllr Fogg-Rogers updated the committee that the Frome Valley Environmental Network are looking at options for solar panels in the local area.

78.10/25 To discuss UWE woodland work at Frenchay

Cllr Kinsey reported that he was in discussions with One Planet Matters providing woodland training sessions for students at UWE in our woodland in Frenchay. One Planet Matters requires £3000 for this to go ahead. The Committee agreed that we don't have the budget to spend this. **Cllr Kinsey to go back to One Planet Matters to see whether there are any other options which are at little or no cost to WPC.**

79.10/25 To note any other items from members

Cllr Eldridge is looking into biodiversity net gains and has asked for sizes of the land owned by WPC so he can produce a report for an ecologist to see if there is anything we can be doing to take advantage of the initiative. **C&NA to provide rough sizes of the sites for Cllr Eldridge.**

Meeting concluded: 9.01pm