

Environment Committee Meeting

Thursday 19th October 2023, 7.30pm The Guildhall

Cllr Williams
Cllr Newman
Cllr Eyre
Simone Stolton

Cllr Thomas
Cllr Golding
Martin Collins

Cllr Perkin
Cllr Cook
Matthew Hatchwell

Dear Committee Member

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ATTEND a meeting of Faversham Town Council's Environment Committee to take place at The Guildhall, on Thursday 19th October 2023 at 7.30pm when the following business will be transacted. This meeting will be hybrid and members of the public may attend via Zoom.

Yours sincerely

Louise Bareham

Louise Bareham FSLCC
Town Clerk

A maximum of 15 minutes to be allowed to receive public questions and comments on items on the Agenda.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
To receive apologies for absence

2. **Declarations of Interest**
To receive any declarations of interest for items listed on the Agenda

3. **Previous Minutes and Matters Arising**
To agree the Minutes of the Environment Committee dated 12th July 2023 and any matters arising:

Solar Panels within the Conservation Area (Cllr Williams)
Tree for Millfield Estate (Cllr Williams)

4. **Development Updates**
To agree development updates and owners.

Stonebridge Pond – Matthew Hatchwell
Pesticide Free Town – Cllr Perkin
Community Gardening – Cllr Williams
European Eels – Matthew Hatchwell
Nutrient Neutrality – Matthew Hatchwell
Water/Waste Water – Matthew Hatchwell

5. **Environmental Improvements for North Preston**

To consider the Action Plan for improvements to North Preston. (Cllr Cook)

6. **Perry Court Land**

To agree the are of land Faversham Town Council will seek to request for transfer from BDW Homes (excluding allotment site, which has already been approved).

7. **Climate & Ecology Bill Motion**

To consider the information on Appendix A and approve the motion

Faversham Town Council resolves to:

1. Support the Climate and Ecology Bill;
2. Inform local residents, and local press/media of this decision;
3. Write to Helen Whatley MP to inform them that this motion has been passed, urging them to sign up to support the CE Bill, or thanking them for already doing so;
4. Write to Zero Hour, the organisers of the cross-party campaign for the CE Bill, expressing its support (campaign@zerohour.uk).

See the list of other councils who have supported the motion here

<https://www.zerohour.uk/councils/>

8. **Dog Poo Bags**

To review the dog poo bag dispensers, including use, location and costs.

9. **Street Cleaning**

To consider how can we better work with the community to keep streets clean together with the Town Ranger. Possibly utilising social media, newsletters and residents' associations to promote community action.

10. **Glass Bottle Recycling**

Following the removal of the bottle bank in Morrisons, to agree to write to Swale Borough Council to request the reinstatement of bottle banks in a Faversham Car Park.

11. **Allotments**

To receive the draft Allotment Agreements.

To receive the latest Allotments Report.

Approval to joint purchase chipper @ £350 + VAT

12. **Items for Report**
Future Agenda items

Climate & Ecology Bill motion

Preamble

Humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt in the UK, and around the world. The global temperature has already increased by 1.2°C above pre-industrial levels and—alongside this—the natural world has reached crisis point, with [28% of plants and animals](#) threatened with extinction. In fact, the UK is [one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world](#) as more than one in seven of our plants and animals face extinction, and more than 40% are in decline.

Climate change remains a major concern for voters with 66% of people (according to YouGov) expressing they are ‘worried about climate change and its effects’. Alongside this, the popularity of Sir David Attenborough’s *Save Our Wild Isles* initiative demonstrates public concern that UK wildlife is being destroyed at terrifying speed.

Climate & Ecology Bill

The Climate & Ecology Bill, a private member’s bill currently before the House of Commons, seeks to address the challenges that this situation poses by creating a whole-of-government approach to deliver a net zero and nature positive future.

Based on the latest science, the Bill aims to align current UK environmental policy with the need to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030, which was goal agreed to at COP15, via the [Kunming-Montreal Framework](#) (22 December 2022); and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with a fair share of the remaining global carbon budget to give the strongest chance of limiting global heating to 1.5C, which was the goal agreed to at COP21, via the [Paris Agreement](#) (12 December 2015).

By bridging the gap between the UK Government’s current delivery, and what has been agreed at international levels, Britain has a chance to be a world leader on the environment; seizing the opportunities of the clean energy transition, including green jobs and reduced energy bills; and boosting the UK’s food and energy security.

[Council] notes that:

The [Climate and Ecology Bill](#), which has been introduced in the UK Parliament on four occasions since 2020, including most recently in the House of Commons 10 May 2023. The Bill is backed by **[168]** cross-party MPs and Peers, **[237]** local authorities, alongside the support of eminent scientists, such as Sir David King; environmental NGOs, such as The Wildlife Trusts and CPRE; businesses, such as The Co-operative Bank; and 30,000 members of the public.

The Bill would require the UK Government to develop and deliver a new environmental strategy, which would include:

1. Delivering a joined-up environmental plan, as the crises in climate and nature are deeply intertwined, requiring a plan that considers both together;
2. Reducing emissions in line with 1.5°C, ensure emissions are reduced rapidly, for the best chance of limiting warming to 1.5°C;
3. Not only halting, but also reversing the decline in nature, setting nature measurably on the path to recovery by 2030;
4. Taking responsibility for our overseas footprint, both emissions and ecological;
5. Prioritising nature in decision-making, and ending fossil fuel production and imports as rapidly as possible;
6. Ensuring that no-one is left behind, by providing for retraining for people currently working in fossil fuel industries; and
7. Giving people a say in finding a fair way forward through an independent and temporary *Climate & Nature Assembly*, representative of the UK population, an essential tool for bringing public opinion along with the unprecedented pace of change required.

[Council] therefore resolves to:

1. Support the Climate and Ecology Bill;
2. Inform local residents, and local press/media of this decision;
3. Write to **[local MPs' names]** to inform them that this motion has been passed, urging them to sign up to support the CE Bill, or thanking them for already doing so;
4. Write to [Zero Hour](https://www.zerohour.org/), the organisers of the cross-party campaign for the CE Bill, expressing its support (campaign@zerohour.uk).