

CALLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
Environment Minutes

30th July 2019 at 7pm in the Council Chambers

1. Welcome, any apologies

10 Members of the Public

Cllrs Coakley, Raphael (Chair), Tagg, Tolman & Watson

2. Introductions

Cllr Tolman, as Portreeve and Mayor, gave a formal introduction and then passed over the meeting to Cllr Raphael to Chair for the remainder.

Members of the Public were invited to say their name and a little about themselves.

3. What have the Council achieved so far?

Cllr Raphael spoke about the work done so far by the Council, such as the LED, water harvesting, recycling and updating the Emergency Plan.

4. How can we work with local businesses?

Cllr Raphael went on to discuss the aspiration of working with our local businesses and monitoring our carbon footprint.

RJ spoke about EU money that could finance a carbon footprint audit.

FC explained the recent water shortage for the animals on Kit Hill. Cllrs Tagg and Coakley could make further enquiries on this, being on the Kit Hill Countryside meetings.

Wildlife zones were then talked about and creating habitats; if trees are cut down the logs are stacked up and used to house the insects for example.

RM explained that the local soil already has an array of native flower/species within it and it may not be necessary to buy in more seeds. Tamar Organics may be able to offer advice and AH reiterated that our local graveyards have demonstrated this.

FC made reference to the Cornwall Council's environment policy and how grass may be getting cut at the wrong time; with a suggestion that it is cut in March and re-done in September, with just the road junctions getting extra attention for visibility

concerns. FC went on to discuss her experience at Seven Stones and having witness grass being dumped.

RJ said that reports and comments can be sent to Cornwall Council about related matters, by looking at the Climate Change section on their website.

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/climate-emergency/contact-us-about-the-climate-emergency/>

Cllr Watson spoke about the Caradon Network Panel meeting and RJ said their meetings are advertised on Facebook

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/community-and-living/communities-and-devolution/community-networks/caradon/>

<https://www.facebook.com/CaradonCommunityNetwork/>

5. What can other parishes do?

Cllr Raphael spoke about helping each other in terms of our neighbouring parishes and sharing resources.

CB our Tesco Community Champion explained the Red Cross System

<https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-involved/partner-with-us/our-partners/tesco>

RJ also made reference to the Waste-Not-Want-Not article in the Old School News

And AH spoke about the South Hill Magazine, <http://south-hill.co.uk/news/>

6. How can the public help?

RM discussed a recent article in Plantlife about not continually cutting your grass, and also kindly offered to do some articles on wildlife gardening.

It was agreed that perhaps some photos of natural gardens, as opposed to highly manicured, may encourage people to see the benefits and advantages for our wildlife.

7. Opportunity for attendees to have a say.

Stoke Climsland have created a group, Stoke Climsland Climate Change Action Group, following their Environment Inaugural Meeting, and suggested that Callington Town Council may consider something similar or perhaps join this group.

CR explained that as a young person, it may be better to have a video to get the messages out, as not everyone reads lengthy material.

Cllr Watson asked if the Council were to do more for the environment but with extra costs falling on the taxpayer, how would residents feel about this? This was challenged.

RJ spoke about lobbying regarding the diesel scrappage, putting pressure on Cllrs (Edwina Hannaford) for Free Public Transport.

8. What are our future goals?

Cllr Raphael went through his future goals, namely more Wildlife Zone, and talking to our local businesses about allocation land. Tescos have their area, Trees for Bees but CB will speak to our local store manager about this.

Cllr Raphael explained that he has had some positive discussion with St Mary's Church, regarding some areas and sections being considered for this purposes.

FC mentioned land by Coronation Road and Newport Terrace that could be made into a wildlife area and home for hedgehogs. Could the verges along Southern Road be allowed to be flower bombed? What about a bog-garden?

AH spoke about Fountain Farm and whether trees could be planted along that section of Launceston Road.

Cllr Raphael explained that we need to plant 1.5 million trees by 2030 and fundraise to build trees in our rainforests, being the lungs of our planet.

RW explained about ploughing in the right direction and ways to keep the soil on the land and not pushed into the seas.

RJ explained that we could engage more with the local farmers and welcome their input.

Cllr Tolman raised a point about Palm Oil.

RP suggested having signs by the wildlife zones, so people are aware of such initiatives, and RJ explained the Blue Heart signs <https://bluecampaignhub.com/>

CR discussed his experiences of having an allotment, and in one weekend he had 106 cans dumped on his plot.

AH suggested a community allotment and it was explained that the U3A already have such an arrangement. Stoke Climsland are looking at turning a skinny field into such an area.

FC made reference to some land near Kit Hill and CB explained the scheme at Gunnislake where random veg plots are around the parish.

Forestry Commission and the Woodland Trust can offer support for new trees, but it recognised that the expense can be in the stakes and guards.

Cllr Gold is working with Tamar Grow local regarding some apple trees of local origin for the Labouring Poor allotments.

A blog for the younger generation was raised and CR was put forward to look into this.

Cllr Raphael would also like to see a reduction in the use of weed pesticides.

AH suggested contacting the Redmoor Mining Group but Cllrs Raphael and Long have this already in hand.

AH also mentioned the wildlife weekend on the 7-8 September
<http://www.tamarvalley.org.uk/event/10-events-for-10-years-wildlife-weekend/>

9. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 29th October at 7pm.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.15pm.