



Needham Market Town Council
Climate Awareness Group
MINUTES: Tuesday 29th November 2022
7pm, Green Room, Needham Market Community Centre

Present	Amanda Reardon (Chair); Nicola Booth; Andy France; Ross Piper; Martin O'Shea; Martin Ost; Mark Dimes; Jean Pittaway; Frank Lea; Jo Lea; John Reardon; John Mattissen; Jo Hughes.
Apologies	N/A
Minutes of last meeting	These were agreed as an accurate record.
Ubitricity Presentation	Ubitricity (part of the Shell Group) gave a talk, their mission is electricity for everyone everywhere. Discussions regarding how to solve charging issues in rural areas, narrowing the gap between rural and urban areas. This can mean opportunities for those that don't have private parking to own and charge electric vehicles with slow charging units (5kwh) so that cars are charged overnight. Engineers can install the charging points within an hour minimising clutter as they use lampposts which are already in place. Satellite bollards give more flexibility and can be moved which can help minimise clutter and keep with aesthetics. This is part of the solution alongside rapid charging units. Using existing electrical sources is the easiest option and means the mains will not need rerouting unlike rapid charging units which require more power. QR codes are scanned, and this enables the payment system via an app. Electricity does not flow unless both ends are connected so if anything is vandalised it will stop. You can schedule how long you want to charge for, or you can schedule an amount of time. Funding: There are various bids in place at the moment across Suffolk with councils securing funding. Cost without subsidy (approx.) - Lamppost £2000 Bollard £3000 Andy asked if there were different kw outputs. Due to lampposts and satellite systems using existing energy they are fixed at 5kw/h) Ross asked if there were induction chargers available at the moment but Ubitricity are focusing on rapid and hub charging at this time. John asked about the cost to user, currently 48p kw/h – about £30 for a full charge. There was discussion about having places for a quicker charge. • Short stay bays would need a system so that people would move on and not stay there when they had finished charging their vehicle. • Better to have charging in from construction rather than post construction • Work with Housing Associations who own the land • Management companies may need to be in the discussions as some new areas pay for their street lighting this way. • Dedicated bays see an increase in usage but can be issues when house owners see them as their dedicated bay • You can make some bollards multicharged (in West Suffolk all must have dual output sockets) • Need to consider whether people are charging because they have run out or if they want free electricity. • Possibility of a fast charge location near the toilets on Barrett's Lane. ACTION • Nicola to organise a walk around Needham Market to find suitable locations. • Town council to show map of lights- Lights in the High Street are property of the county council, lights on most estates are property of the town council, some new estates have management companies are residents funding the lights.

Middle School Field Orchard	Mark Dimes brought the idea for the middle school field to have an orchard project and finding a tree planting area (possible behind the nursery), looking for a location which does not block access. Jo Lea also discussed having a wild flower meadow and benches where the builders are currently storing their things. Until the lease has been agreed nothing can happen. There are funded pots to pay for trees but a decision needs to be made where to plant. ACTION- Jo will check with Kevin to see what is holding up the process.
Project Updates	• £2000 budget for the group has been agreed • Graphics required for Facebook/website ACTION Jo Hughes to contact Chloe Hayward • Feedback from the energy centre was positive, thanks to Amanda for organising. • Please comment on the Barking Road development and ask others to do the same. • The pond is being dredged near Crowley Park. We need to find a way to stop people giving bread to ducks. • Thermal imaging project has been agreed. This will happen at the end of March in a 12/13 day slot. 30 mins per property. ACTION discuss next meeting how to move this forward • Stowmarket repair café was discussed. ACTION Jean to find out more about the venture and whether a similar one can be set up in Needham Market. • Electrical library- this may be a good way of sharing electrical equipment in the community- Stowmarket Men's Shed offers tool sharing https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/service.page?id=csTct9lvX8Q • Recycling- where does it go? ACTION next meeting nominate person to find out where recycled clothing goes. • Planning- the solar farm application has been withdrawn for a rethink. There is currently a problem with grid capacity to take unused electricity. Earth Day (22/04/23) Already agreed • SCC are providing a food waste/recycling stand • Choose refills will be coming • Share results of the heat survey Addition ideas discussed • making seed bombs • offering repairs • moth trap • solar panel advice stand • pledge wall • Scouts and guides stand • Bosmere Eco council ACTION Jo Hughes to contact • Recipe book with food waste to be made
AOB	N/A
Next Meeting	Tuesday 10 th January, 7pm, Green Room, Community Centre.