



Needham Market Town Council
Climate Awareness Group
MINUTES: Tuesday 11th October 2022
7pm, Green Room, Needham Market Community Centre

Present	Amanda Reardon (Chair); Nicola Booth; Andy France; Ross Piper; Martin O'Shea; Michele Francis; Jean Pittaway; Frank Lea; Jo Lea; John Reardon.
Apologies	Jo Hughes; John Matthissen; Jen Overett; Ruth Coomber.
Minutes of last meeting	These were agreed as an accurate record.
Updates	- Members were thanked for all email communications between meetings used to keep us up to date and to raise queries. It was noted that not all will receive replies but content is not ignored. - Following discussion with Town Council it was suggested that this group put forward a proposal for a dedicated budget. The amount considered was £2000. This will be proposed at the Community and Assets Committee meeting on 19th October. - Community Centre cost for Earth Day 2023 is £245. It was agreed that this group would propose to Town Council that this be covered by them as the amount may be payable prior to the event. This will be proposed at the Community and Assets Committee meeting on 19th October. - The communication methods agreed at last meeting will be put to Town Council at the Community and Assets Committee meeting on 19th October. There was a discussion about how to communicate best and to lead the narrative. Michele was able to speak about Stowmarket Eco-Group's experiences which are largely positive and any negative is swiftly tackled. - Following various emails, the Energy from Waste Facility visit has been booked for Tuesday 22nd November at 6pm. There are 9 of us booked to go. Space for one more. - A tracking document was proposed which would keep updates and plans all in one place and be a useful reporting tool for Town Council and members of the public. The format presented was discussed and it was agreed that Nicola will transfer it to an Excel spreadsheet which will make it easier to use. A column will be added for initials so as individuals can easily search and track their actions. - The Town Council's new website is up and running. This group have their own page, currently with limited content. This will be updated.
Project Planning	<u>Planning Committee Advisory:</u> - Martin presented the group with some information regarding wording which will be used to respond to planning applications asking for betterment of building regulations. <u>Biodiversity</u> - Five areas in Needham Market have been identified as potential starting points for replacing regular mowing with a regime to encourage greater diversity. A wildflower meadow on the middle school field was also discussed. - Michele was able to share experience from Stowmarket where there have been mixed responses but an overall positive outcome. - Andy will make contact with Richard Parmee to find out how we can proceed. <u>EV Charging Points:</u> - Nicola is waiting to hear from a company for further information. - Nicola has identified possible locations. - Subsequent to the meeting, Nicola has arranged a meeting with Ubitricity to advise on possible installations and grants. The representative has also been invited to our next meeting. Town Councillors will be invited. <u>Recycling/Waste Disposal Understanding:</u> - MSDC website publish details on where metals, plastics, paper and card are sent to and this was shared.

	• This does not tell us the whole picture. We will work on making further enquiries. • Visit to Energy from Waste facility booked. <u>Earth Day 2023:</u> • Community Centre booked. There may be means by which this cost can be covered in other ways – e.g., sponsorship. • We will now begin to seek stall holders and activity leaders.
AOB	• Thermal imaging camera – thank you for all responses. We have put in a request to borrow the camera to survey up to 30 homes in January or February. No homes will be surveyed without permission. We would like to look at the potential to survey the Community Centre. This is an opportunity which we have grabbed and how we use it, if we are successful, will need to be discussed. It is likely to be a trial situation as there are going to be other opportunities to borrow the camera and we will be able to build on experience to plan for smarter outcomes. • Hurstlea Road pond. Town Council have approached MSDC to look at the pond in terms of smell and rat issues. • The idea of a Repair Café was mentioned – agenda item for next meeting. • An agenda item on 'Local Energy' was requested.
Next Meeting	Tuesday 29 th November, 7pm, Green Room, Community Centre.