

Deal Town Council, Town Hall, High Street, Deal, Kent, CT14 6TR. 01304 361999 - deal.town.council@deal.gov.uk - www.deal.gov.uk

To all Committee Members: You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Environment Committee at the Town Hall on **Wednesday 11th October 2023** at 7.15pm to transact the business shown on the agenda below.

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend.

Any member of the public may submit a written statement of no more than 500 words relating to any item on this agenda. These must be received by 10am on Tuesday 10th October 2023 by email to deal.town.council@deal.gov.uk or post to the above address. These statements will be circulated to all present at the meeting and become part of the public record of the meeting, names will be redacted.

Laura Marney - Committee Clerk

Date: 5th October 2023

AGENDA

1	Chairperson's opening remarks	Chairperson
2	Apologies for absence	Committee Clerk
3	Declarations of interest : To receive any declarations of interest from Members in respect of business to be transacted on the agenda.	Attach 1
4	Public Participation : Members of the public may make representations, answer questions and give evidence at the meeting in respect of the business on the agenda. This shall not exceed 15 minutes.	
5	The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Wednesday 16 th August 2023 for approval and signing: Decision required	Attach 2
6	Action on Litter Project: Decision required.	Attach 3
7	Air Quality Monitor - Community use by EKCA: Decision required.	Attach 4
3	Climate & Ecology Bill: Decision required.	Attach 5
9	Mill Hill Planting Update: Information to note.	Attach 6
	Date of next meeting: 13 th December 2023	
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Filming and audio recording of Town Council meetings, by representatives of the media and also by members of the public using small media tools, is permitted. Please refer to the council's protocol for recording of meetings for guidance, available to download on www.deal.gov.uk or on request.

Committee members: Cllr Beer, Cllr M Cronk, Cllr D Cronk, Cllr M Eddy, Cllr Bano, Cllr Cullen, Cllr Brookfield, Cllr Findley, Cllr Craggs, Mr D Carey and Ms B Brooks.

Declarations of Interest

Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)

Where a Member has a new or registered DPI in a matter under consideration they must disclose that they have an interest and, unless the Monitoring Officer has agreed in advance that the DPI is a 'Sensitive Interest', explain the nature of that interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a DPI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation permitting them to do so. If during the consideration of any item a Member becomes aware that they have a DPI in the matter they should declare the interest immediately and, subject to any dispensations, withdraw from the meeting.

Other Significant Interest (OSI)

Where a Member is declaring an OSI they must also disclose the interest and explain the nature of the interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a OSI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation to do so or the meeting is one at which members of the public are permitted to speak for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter. In the latter case, the Member may only participate on the same basis as a member of the public and cannot participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter and must withdraw from the meeting in accordance with the Council's procedure rules.

Voluntary Announcement of Other Interests (VAOI)

Where a Member does not have either a DPI or OSI but is of the opinion that for transparency reasons alone s/he should make an announcement in respect of a matter under consideration, they can make a VAOI. A Member declaring a VAOI may still remain at the meeting and vote on the matter under consideration.

Note to the Code:

Situations in which a Member may wish to make a VAOI include membership of outside bodies that have made representations on agenda items; where a Member knows a person involved, but does not have a close association with that person; or where an item would affect the well-being of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but not his/her financial position. It should be emphasised that an effect on the financial position of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc OR an application made by a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc would both probably constitute either an OSI or in some cases a DPI.

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The Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 16th August 2023 at Deal Town Hall at 7.15pm.

Present:

Cllr S Beer (Chairperson)

Cllr M Cronk (Vice Chairperson)

Cllr D Cronk

Cllr B Bano Cllr M Eddy Cllr S Brookfield

Cllr P Findley

Cllr L Craggs

Mr D Carey (Co-opted Member)
Ms B Brooks (Co-opted Member)

Officers:

Laura Marney (Committee Clerk)

Joanne Harper (Asst. to the Town Clerk)

Other: None

MINUTES

1	Chairperson's opening remarks: The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised of the fire evacuation instructions.	Chairperson
2	Apologies for absence: Cllr S Cullen	Committee Clerk
3	Declarations of interest: None Received.	
4	Public Participation: None Received.	Committee Clerk
5	The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Wednesday 14 th June 2023 for approval and signing: Members RESOLVED: To accept the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Wednesday 14 th June 2023 as a true and accurate record. (P) Cllr B Bano (S) Cllr D Cronk. All Agreed. The Chairperson duly signed the minutes.	Chairperson
6	Town Plan Priorities: Following discussion Members RESOLVED: To note the report and feedback any suggestions to the Committee Clerk. (P) Cllr M Eddy (S) Cllr D Cronk. All Agreed.	Committee Clerk
7	 Green Grants: Following discussion Members RESOLVED: To accept the following recommendations: Members to consider and agree the attached draft Green Grant Application form using the £3,340 carried forward from 2022-23. Members to consider and agree that the Green Grant Application forms (see attached) are considered in the same way as annual grants with the applications being considered by the Grants subcommittee with their recommendations going to F&GP for final decision. That the application deadlines are the same as for annual grant: Round 1: applications must be received by 5pm on Tuesday 31 October 2023 Round 2: applications must be received by 5pm on Thursday 29 February 2024 	RFO
	(P) Cllr D Cronk (S)Cllr L Craggs. All Agreed.	

8	iTree Survey Report: Mr D Carey advised that there are some inaccuracies in the identification of some of the tree species. Following discussion Members RESOLVED: To accept the following recommendations:	
	The iTree Ecosystem Analysis report is available on the DTC website.	Communications Officer
	2) The iTree Ecosystem Analysis report is sent to Sholden Parish Council, Walmer Town Council, Kingsdown & Ringwould Parish Council and Eastry Parish Council for their information.	Committee Clerk
	Members further RESOLVED: To ask the Climate Change Officer to note on the DTC website that the council is aware of the inaccuracies on the iTree Ecosystem Analysis report.	Climate Change Officer
	(P) Cllr L Craggs (S) Cllr M Eddy. All Agreed.	
9	Recommendation from Cllr Findley - Ecological Emergency Declaration: Following lengthy discussion Cllr P Findley proposed and Cllr M Eddy seconded the recommendation included in the agenda item. The following amendment was proposed by Cllr S Beer, this was accepted by the proposer and seconder. 1) The Environment Committee resolves to propose a Declaration of an Ecological Emergency to Full Council and refer this resolution and its implementation of actions on local nature protection and recovery to the Environment Committee, to include community engagement partnership working. 2) That the Chairperson of DTC writes to the Leader of Dover District Council urging the district council to declare an Ecological Emergency at the earliest opportunity. Members RESOLVED: To accept the amended recommendation from Cllr S Beer. (P) Cllr P Findley (S) Cllr M Eddy. All Agreed.	Committee Clerk
10	Committee Clerk Report: Following discussion Members RESOLVED: To note the report and thanked the Committee Clerk for her work. (P) Cllr D Cronk (S) Cllr P Findley.	
	Date of next meeting: 11 th October 2023	
	Chairperson closed the meeting at 20.09.	

DEAL TOWN COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To:

Councillor S Beer – Chairperson of the Environment Committee, Committee members

From:

Laura Marney - Committee Clerk

Date:

3rd October 2023

Subject: Action on Litter Project

Following on from the Deal Town Plan survey a vast number of comments were received from Deal residents regarding the amount of litter in Deal. This project was agreed in principle by Council as a Town Plan priority action for 2023/24.

While litter levels are not greater than in similar sized towns, it does not mean no action is necessary. Residents want to see clean litter-free streets, and the Dover District Council service that is operated by Veolia cannot guarantee this.

Many Deal Town Councillors have had residents contact them about the need for more action on litter and recycling in the area. Bins are stuffed full of takeaway containers and sometimes people's domestic waste. People eating and drinking in public spaces leave containers behind. Birds and foxes attack waste bags. Most recently, a plague of single use vape paraphernalia has been discarded on our streets.

There is a reporting system on the Dover District Council website, but this only deals with issues after the fact. More pre-emptive action is needed.

At present we have many volunteer groups actively tackling litter in Deal, which include Pick Deal Clean which focuses on residential streets. Deal With It Beach Clean event volunteers who remove litter and sea borne debris from local beaches and the Station Volunteers group who litter pick monthly at Deal Station.

Deal Town Council is looking to actively engage and work with these groups. We will seek participation from Walmer Town Council and DDC Officers to help us seek viable solutions.

The project would run from February 2024 until August 2024, with engagement between all potential partners starting in November 2023.

A budget of £3,000 will be needed for meetings, events, resources, communications, equipment and materials, partner contributions and volunteer time, this will be taken from the 2023/24 Environment budget. **Please see overleaf attached project template.**

Recommendation: The Environment Committee agrees to go ahead with this project and agrees to £3,000 being allocated from the Environment budget.

Decision required: Members to consider the above recommendation.

Carbon Emission Check List Wheel to follow.

PROJECT PROPOSAL TEMPLATE (Sections 1 – 8 must be completed. Section 9, over, is to be completed if a detailed plan is available.)

Project Title: Action on Litter Project

1 PROJECT AIM (A short statement - What changes do you want to see? What will the wider impact be?)

Deal Town Council to actively work with local volunteer groups to tackle litter in Deal leading to a reduction in volume of litter, cleaner streets and open spaces in Deal.

2 LEAD BODY:Deal Town Council LEAD PERSON:Laura Marney – Committee Clerk & other DTC Officers TBC.

POTENTIAL PARTNERS: Pick Deal Clean, Deal with It Beach Clean and Station Volunteer Group.

3 PROJECT SUMMARY (A longer explanation - What will happen? How will it be done? Who will benefit?)

To tackle the litter problem in Deal we need to look at the root of the problem. Just removing waste is not sufficient. Collective action is needed, to prevent litter as well as collect it, so a collaborative project is proposed. This will start with a collective discussion as the causes of the problem, possible actions and priorities for carrying these out. Where resources are required the project funds will provide them.

Appropriate actions will be agreed and both Deal TC and partners will undertake these. Deal TC will support and provide funds where necessary. Deal TC will provide communications.

At the end of the project period we will review, measure outcomes and report to partners and others at a project closure event.

4 PROJECT PERIOD (How long will the project run? When do you want it to start?)

The project will run from February 2024 – August 2024. Engagement with potential partners will start November 2023.

5 EVIDENCE OF NEED: (Why is it needed? How do you know?)

From the comments received in the Deal Town Plan Survey, residents want to see litter-free streets in Deal.

- **6 TARGETS** (What will have happened by the end? NB your targets must be measurable: Outcomes will be:
- 1. Businesses have a more responsible approach to food waste.
- 2. Visible litter reduction in the town
- 3. More volunteers helping to tackle litter.

Precise targets will be set by the group through research, discussion and agreement.

7 SUSTAINABILITY (Will the actions carry on after the project closes? Will it end and close down?) This project will end in August 2024 and will have achieved a more responsible approach to businesses causing food waste and reduced litter in the local area.

8 ESTIMATED BUDGET (How much do you think it will cost? Where will this come from?)

The following will come from the Environment Budget: Meetings and Events = £1000

Resources & Communication = £300, Equipment & Materials = £500.

Partner contributions estimated at £200 plus £2000 in volunteer time.

Total = £4,000 of which £1000 is in kind contributions.

OTHER RESOURCES (Will it need staff time? Volunteer support?)

Officer Time and Volunteer support, Town Hall Hire for meetings.

Please complete the ACTION PLAN below if a detailed plan is available. 9 PROJECT ACTION PLAN **ACTION REQUIRED** WHEN BY WHO **NOTES** Deal Town Council will invite In November 2023. Deal TC representatives from the 3 local volunteer groups to a meeting with elected Deal Town Council elected members. We will also invite Walmer TC and DDC Officers. Further meetings will be held to In January 2024. devise actions and agree viable solutions. A final meeting will agree a 6 month plan with targets and a communication strategy. Launch event. Mid-February 2024. Deal TC Actions to commence and February to August Deal TC continue. 2024. and partners Project closure and final report. October 2024. Deal TC

DEAL TOWN COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To:

Councillor S Beer - Chairperson of the Environment Committee, Committee members

From:

Laura Marney – Committee Clerk

Date:

29th September 2023

Subject: Air Quality Monitor – Community Use by EKCA

The Climate Change Officer has advised that Deal Town Council are now ready to move forward on priority areas 5 and 6 of our Carbon Reduction Strategy – Carbon Emission Balancing and Helping citizens and businesses.

In November 2020 the Council purchased a Flow 2 – Plume Air Quality Monitor (for Councillor and Officer to use as part of their No Idling Campaign, which focussed on the pollution levels outside of local schools and on walking routes to the schools. This project has now closed, and No Idling banners are displayed at the schools (designed by pupils) to encourage cars to turn off their engines, posters are also in the waste recycling centre and Sainsbury's car park.

The Plume Labs Flow 2 is an air quality sensor that provides real-time measurements of particulate matter and mass concentrations. Data can be visualized and exported using the phone application for Android and iPhone via Bluetooth.

Deal Town Council have been approached by the East Kent Climate Action Group to borrow the Plume Air Quality Monitor. EKCA would like to use the equipment to gauge levels of pollution within Deal.

It would be viable for the PAQ Monitor to be made available for loan to local community groups at no charge so that they can record and monitor air quality within Deal. The groups could then share their data with Deal Town Council and Dover District Council for information.

The loan of the equipment would need to be subject to guidelines. **Please see attached draft Loan Agreement** that has been produced by Officers. This draft has been approved by the Council's Insurers. The agreement includes the link that the community groups would use to access all the instructions and training information needed for them to use the device efficiently.

Loaning this equipment should incur no additional cost to Deal Town Council and requires minimal Officer time. The Council would reserve the right to claim from the Community group should the equipment be damaged while in their care.

The Committee Clerk has contacted the manufacturer to check if the device needs re-calibrating as it has not been used for 2 years (if it does there may be a cost for this) and is currently awaiting a response.

Recommendations:

The Environment Committee agrees to the attached draft Loan Agreement.

The Environment Committee agrees to hire out the DTC Air Quality Monitor device to EKCA and other community groups.

Decision required: Members to consider the above recommendations.

Deal Town Council Equipment Loan Agreement

This Agreement sets out the terms of loan for the Plume Flow-2 equipment from Deal Town Council. References to "You" or "Your" refers to the recipient of the equipment. Please read the Equipment Terms of Loan carefully before agreeing to loan the Equipment.

Where the request to loan is confirmed, You confirm that You have read and agree to these Equipment Terms of Loan.

Eligibility for Loan

Deal Town Council's Plume Flow-2 equipment is available for local groups and organisations to loan for the agreed time period.

Supply of Equipment

- 1. The Equipment remains the property of Deal Town Council and it is supplied on a short-term basis for a minimum of 1 month unless Deal Town Council agree this in writing with You ("Loan Period").
- 2. You are responsible for the Equipment for the duration of the Loan Period and the risk of loss, theft, damage or destruction of the Equipment passes to You as soon as You take delivery of the Equipment.
- 3. Should a defect in the Equipment be identified, you must notify Deal Town Council immediately by calling 01304 361999 or emailing deal.town.council@deal.gov.uk, so that Deal Town Council may take appropriate action to repair or replace the Equipment.
- 4. You will keep the Equipment in a suitable and secure environment whilst in Your possession and You will maintain the equipment in the same good operating condition as it was at the time it was delivered to You or when You collected it from Deal Town Council. Please ensure the equipment is stored and returned in its original packaging.
- 5. You must check that the Equipment is in good and safe working condition each time before use by either You or the user.
- 6. Equipment provided must be used in accordance with the instructions, demonstrations and guidance available at Flow Getting Started Guide Plume Labs (zendesk.com). You are responsible for ensuring that any others you permit to use this equipment during your loan period are confident and trained in how to use the equipment safely and effectively.
- 7. Deal Town Council may need to contact You during the Loan Period (for example, in the event that a product recall notice is issued). You must respond promptly and without delay to any request from Deal Town Council to return the Equipment.
- 8. You must notify Deal Town Council immediately of any change to Your contact details.
- 9. This Agreement is personal to You and You are not permitted to assign or transfer any of your rights and obligations under this Agreement to any third party without Deal Town Council's prior written consent.

Collection of the equipment

- 1. You may collect the Equipment in person from Deal Town Council's reception during advertised opening hours only. Delivery will be deemed to be complete once You have taken possession of the Equipment and agreed to the terms of this Agreement.
- 2. Where You arrange for the Equipment to be collected by a third party on Your behalf, You are responsible for any damage to the Equipment by the third party or any failure of delivery by the third party. Delivery will be deemed to be completed where the third party has taken possession of the Equipment.

Return of Equipment

- 1. The Equipment must be returned to Deal Town Council during the receptions advertised opening hours.
- 2. The Equipment must be returned to Deal Town Council in good condition by or before the end of the agreed Loan Period.
- 3. Deal Town Council reserve the right to charge You for any unauthorised alterations to the Equipment, any missing parts or repairs required to the Equipment that is deemed to have been caused by carelessness or outside the expected 'wear and tear' through normal use.
- 4. To the extent permissible by law Deal Town Council accepts no responsibility or liability for any losses, damages, costs and expenses suffered or incurred by You or any third party in connection with the Loaned equipment.

DEAL TOWN COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

To:

Councillor S Beer - Chairperson of the Environment Committee, Committee members

From:

Laura Marney - Committee Clerk

Date:

25th September 2023

Subject: Climate and Ecology Bill

As the Committee will be aware there is 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.

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 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.

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.

The Bill 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, environmental NGOs, businesses 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 1.5C, ensure emissions are reduced rapidly, for the best change of limiting warming to 1.5C.
- 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.
- 7. Giving people a say in finding a fair way forward through an independent and temporary Climate and Nature Assembly, representative of the UK population, an essential tool for bringing public opinion along with the unprecedented pace of change required.

Zero Hour is the campaign for the Climate and Ecology Bill, a plan for a new UK law that addresses climate change, global warming, and the nature crisis in line with the most up-to-date science. The Bill is the only proposed legislation before the UK Parliament that ensures a comprehensive joined up approach to the emergency.

Recommendations:

- 1. The Chairperson of the Environment Committee writes to Zero Hour, the organisers of the cross-party campaign for the Climate and Ecology Bill expressing DTCs support.
- 2. Climate Change Officer advises local press/media of DTC's support for Climate & Ecology Bill
- 3. Communications Officer to promote DTC's support of the Climate & Ecology Bill on the Deal Town Council website.

Decision required: Committee members to consider the above recommendations.

DEAL TOWN COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

To:

Councillor S Beer – Chairperson of the Environment Committee, Committee members

From:

Laura Marney - Committee Clerk

Date:

26th September 2023

Subject: Mill Hill Planting Update

At the Environment Committee meeting held in June, the Committee accepted the Officer recommendation for possible planting at Betteshanger Social Club with an amendment that the Committee Clerk also investigates other privately owned sites in the Mill Hill area. The Committee delegated decision to the Committee Clerk for this work.

Following on from the tree planting that has already been agreed by Kent County Council at various locations in the Mill Hill area, there is a remaining budget of £2,071.30 for the Committee Clerk to use.

The Town Clerk and Committee Clerk arranged a meeting with the Site Management Team of the Betteshanger Social Club. The Officers were given an extensive tour of the whole Social Club site and noted appropriate locations where possible planting could be achieved.

Officers will be liaising with Archers Low Nursery, who currently maintain the Deal Town Council planters in town and along the seafront, to arrange a visit the site in the next month so that they advise on sustainable planting options.

The Committee Clerk has also been in contact with a local business, who have a prominent site in Mill Hill (Bodyworks Gym) and has a meeting arranged to explore further options for planting at this location in Mill Hill.

Correspondence and a chase up email have been sent to the Goodwin Academy asking about the possibility of planting on their site, but to date the Committee Clerk has not received any response back from the school.

The Committee Clerk will bring back further updates on this project to a future Environment Committee meeting.

Decision required: Members to note the above information.