

WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

Climate Change Working Group

MINUTES

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

Wednesday 25th March 2026

CC Chair – Gemma Dempsey-Gray

1. Agree Minute taker: Offer from Cllr Chenery accepted.

2. **Those Present:** At The George: Cllr Chenery, Jennie Greenhalgh

On Whatsapp facetime: Mike Hynes, Pauline Huggins, Sonya Exton, Arthur Stansfield

Apologies: Gemma

3. **Litte update and Next litter event**

Saturday 11th April will see an event in the village featuring Jason Alexander (JA). The event will be for families and children involving can art, a can wildlife area/bug hotel and possibly a treasure hunt. We await feedback from the library to host a Womble station (litter pickers and bags for general use). The 11th April event will need assistance from this group. We may create an all-encompassing stall for the event and Pauline to ask Niki if she wanted to attend. The 11th April will coincide with the British Legion's centenary events which we'll need to collaborate with – they will have a bouncy castle 10am to noon. Steph is ok for a Nature Corner to allow us to make a bug hotel. JA will bring tools. Arthur kindly offered to donate some bricks and liaise with Jennie on how many and where to drop off. JA will arrive at 11am dressed as a Litteraptor to appeal to children. Pauline has bamboo and offered to make some bug hotels. Mike to ask Potsford to set aside a bird/bat box or purchase at the Spring Market. Mike to ask the Men's Shed to design and make a sign/plaque for the event – Jennie to contact Cath. David to borrow a council gazebo and set up by 9am. Jennie to ask JA if he wanted a treasure hunt. Anne may be able to set up a nature/Green Gym display – David to ask her.

Adverting the event – needs to be sorted and may include a map to show where the Beehive is, plus where to park if coming by car.

Risk assessment for the event – agreed to pre-assess the risks and complete a form on the day. Jennie to look on Amazon for more gloves.

4. **Finance Matters**

Jennie has asked AI if ok to spend monies on small litter picking items. The Deben Climate Centre need to submit a grant application for the £250 for river testing. Arthur to advise them.

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5. **Cans**

Pauline referred the group to everycancounts.co.uk. There is a company that collects crushed cans and pays you. Pauline now suggests we abandon this initiative as ESC will commence household can recycling this summer.

6. **Community Energy Project**

David referred to his note of 14th Feb after attending a Deben Climate Centre presentation. There is a desire to show the film Powerstation in The George to test local interest. Sonya advised that there were now projection capabilities at The George. She will investigate how to hire the film. Its aim is to inspire people.

7. **New members**

The group would welcome new members to share the variety of climate initiatives. We agreed to use the feedback spreadsheet from the litter presentation as several people registered their interest in supporting climate initiatives. We also ought to open up this opportunity to the residents of the village and we agreed to advertise this at the Annual Parish Meeting. We could then hold a get together in The George. Jennie and David to organise. Sonya to share her school's climate change feedback.

8. **Cemetery Management Plan**

Arthur asked if the recently adopted report was the same as before. David confirmed it was [and there had been a meeting with the cemetery volunteers in the interim] which now creates a contact point and lead officer (the Clerk) within the council for cemetery management, with the aim of working with the volunteers on future plans.

9. **Date of next meeting**

Agreed to use WhatsApp to fine tune the plan the 11th April event.