



**NOTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUB-GROUP MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2025 COMMENCING
AT 6.00PM IN THE PARISH OFFICE, GOUDHURST ROAD,
MARDEN**

1. Present:

Cllrs Anne Boswell (AB), Paul Dobinson (DB), Adrian Rabot (AR).

2. Apologies:

Cllrs Grace Couch, Mike Summersgill, Andy Turner and one member of the public.

3. Notes from Environmental Sub-Group held on Tuesday 29th July

The notes of the meeting held on 29th July were agreed.

4. Action List from Environmental Sub-Group

The Clerk and Admin Assistant have updated the action plan and PD agreed to read through to see if can be in a different format.

5. Marden Plastic Free Campaign

<https://plasticfree.org.uk/>

There was no update to be reported as no meeting had been held recently.

6. Parish Councils Environment Network (PCEN) meetings

Held on 30th July and AR & MS attended. MS also attended the further meeting held on 27th September.

No date has been set for next meeting.

7. MBC Carbon Literacy Training

It was envisaged that a session could be organised in February either one full day or two 3.5 evening sessions.

8. Green Homes/Retrofit Session

Proposed date: Sunday 17th May 10am-1pm in Marden Village Club.

AB/AR and a member of the public attended online session with the Domestic Energy Support Officer on the possibility of holding a Green Homes event in Marden which is a low/no cost project.

The proposed agenda would include: welcome & introduction with tea & biscuits; KCC provide information on home energy efficiency grants etc; visit (within walkable distance) to 1 or 2 homeowners who have installed a heat pump and/or done a retrofit (KCC to sign an agreement with homeowner/s); reconvene session with an installer/s and Q&A session.

Once confirmation had been received the proposal would be taken to January Amenities Committee.

9. Nature Recovery Fund

AR has sent an Expression of Interest form to MBC and the bidding is now open which is in three tranches – phase 1 £98k in Autumn 2025; phase 2 £195k in Spring 2026 and phase 3 £195k in Spring 2027.

It was suggested we liaise with MS on first round of successful funding and what grants have been approved.

AR agreed to draft (with a view to amending) a bid with a vision on how to increase biodiversity by sourcing local plant species (liaise with Marden Wildlife) and undertaking an audit in Summer 2026.

Possibly combine 3 areas – allotments/dementia garden, Southons Field Wildflower Meadow and Library area.

10. Hedge Planting at back of Marden Cemetery

Proposed Planting Date is Saturday 24th January. The tree delivery is likely to be from the last week of Nov to the first week of December.

11. Earth Charter Principles

MPC have endorsed in principle that they conform with the 16 Earth Charter Principles.

12. MBC Climate Change and Biodiversity Consultation

closing date 30th November. This was completed by AB and PD and the Deputy Clerk would be asked to place on social media.

13. MPC Climate Change Action Plan

MS would be asked to provide an update on whether MBC have devised a template.

14. Pond Warden/Pond Restoration

MS would be asked to update on whether the Heritage of Kent Ponds could be brought to Low Weald and advise on information on what the role of a Pond Warden entails so can put another shout out in the newsletter.

15. The Great Collaboration/Place Based Initiative

<https://greatcollaboration.uk/>

AR had completed two actions but the project is not very active and MBC not participating. Nothing to update.

16. Repair Cafés in Yalding and Tovil

Np update to report.

17. NALC National Network

A Climate Emergency session had been held on 10th October. AB forwarded notes – nothing of note.

18. MBC Thermal Imaging Cameras

MS would be asked to update on use of MBC cameras.

19. Any Other Business

ECVs – add to next agenda.

[– ECV's - raise at next meeting](#)

20. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 17th February at 6.30pm in the Parish Office.