



**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024 via Microsoft Teams call**

Attendees:	Bruce Penson (Chair) Dave Peet	Cllr Peter Graves Tracey Haskins	Chris Lacey Salvatore Diliberto
Apologies:	Jeremy Yates Lara Beattie	Rupert Devereux	Sarah Brown

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
1.	<p><b>Minutes of the previous meeting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes from the meeting 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were approved.</li> </ul>	
2	<p><b>Woking Borough Council update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greener Woking Working Group December meeting notes will be online shortly (earlier notes available at <a href="#">Greener Woking working group   Woking Borough Council</a>)</li> <li>Also aiming to publish information regarding the strengthened 'biodiversity duty' applicable to public bodies including local authorities such as WBC.</li> <li>Planet Woking - welcome items for sharing as always. Please send to: <a href="mailto:green@woking.gov.uk">green@woking.gov.uk</a></li> </ul> <p>The group might also find it helpful to know some Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) guidance is already available online at <a href="#">Guidance on Biodiversity Net Gain - Woking 2027</a> As mentioned, further local guidance to be published shortly.</p>	
3.	<p><b>WEAct update:</b></p> <p>Update from Rupert (by email)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WEAct now as a charity is working to update Policies and our Comms.</li> <li>We are still trying to gain members and get people signed up to receive our new newsletter.</li> <li>We don't charge a subscription and have a very simple process for sign up on our website.</li> <li>Today's challenge is to work on the process to help our donors obtain Gift Aid. Could be in-house or sign up with an organisation like CAF/CAF bank.</li> <li>We are hoping to continue to work with the Borough to look after the commons, SANGs. This week our team we have hoisted three Owl boxes. These boxes made locally are suitable for Tawney or Little owls.</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: to sign up please use the sign-up field at the bottom of the home page on the WEAct website: <a href="#">Welcome to Woking Environment Action</a></p> <p>Peter mentioned he took some equipment to the repair café including a kitchen aid device and they were all repaired – not a simple job. 15 repairers with different skills. Must be able to carry in item – beyond that not many limits.</p>	



4.	<p><b>Events:</b></p> <p>WEAct repair café latest dates: <a href="http://wokingenvironmentaction.com">Woking Repair Cafe (wokingenvironmentaction.com)</a></p> <p>Bruce is working on environment theme for a future Woking Chamber networking meeting – call with Brune Torrente at SCC following the committee meeting.</p> <p>UPDATE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loan programme still in the works.</li> <li>• Also, decarbonisation workshop to be schedule.</li> <li>• Agreed to catch up when above are in place to agree on a date to present at the Chamber networking.</li> </ul>	
5.	<p><b>Resources for website:</b></p> <p>No new resources. Bruce working on collating information from previous meetings.</p>	BP
6.	<p><b>Any Other Business:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peter collected some refurbished laptops from Pro Drive and was very grateful.</li> <li>• Salv asked how to contact Pro Drive with regards to dropping off laptops for refurbishment. UPDATE: please email quantity and models to <a href="mailto:hello@prodriveit.co.uk">hello@prodriveit.co.uk</a> with “Laptop refurbishment initiative” in the subject.</li> <li>• Dave &amp; Rebecca looking at Woking Hospitality Alliance Group – looking to see if it can be taken on through the chamber. Trying to encourage hospitality companies to buy local to reduce ‘food miles’. Sponsorship for first event in March secured.</li> <li>• Chris mentioned BNG for developers – confusion as to how it will affect the housebuilding industry. Local developers would like guidance. Not sure how many companies locally might be affected. Smaller schemes come within scope in April. Woking Council producing advice on this. Surrey CC might be a good contact point. CL to do some research &amp; report back to the committee.</li> </ul>	CL
7.	<p><b>Dates for next environmental committee meetings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024 @ 12.30 pm</li> <li>• Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 @ 12.30 pm</li> <li>• Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024 @ 12.30 pm</li> </ul>	