



Minutes

Name of Meeting	Environment & Sustainability Forum	
Date and Time	18.05.23.23 at 18:00	
Venue	Microsoft Teams	
Attendees	Name	Name
	Abi Reynolds	Natasha Dix
	Maggie Nelmes	Venetia Verey
	Chris Quirk	Marianne Sullivan
	Rob Sau	Robert Packham
	Ally de Try	Carol Flux
	Dina Jung	David Newton
	Helen Hewston	Claire Critchison
	Tony Gillingham	Jenny Hicks
	Sarah	
Apologies	Ian ward	Trish Evans
	Bronwen Van Strien	Michael Murwill

1. <u>Welcome and housekeeping</u>	
1.1 ND - welcomed everyone. Previous minutes agreed.	
2. <u>Invasive Non-native Species</u>	
2.1 Carol Flux displayed and provided presentation on invasive non-native species.	
Q. Penny – Has Spanish blue Bells and they spread quickly but would like English Blue Bells. Also Is it worth putting native blue bell bulbs into the community land?	
A. Carol – It is to late for blue bells as they have already hybridised but also the Spanish are not harmful. Carol agreed that it is worth planting native ones still.	
Q. Natasha - Recently gardening shows, magazine and guides promoting drought resistant planting which encourages bringing a lot of species from other countries into our gardens. How dangerous is this going to be or is it more supportive of a warming planet?	
A. Carol – Needing to make sure you don't plant anything invasive. There is a case with climate change for some no native plants, but is it whether they are non-invasive plants.	

<p>Q. Natasha - Is there a national guidance or strategy on what it is safe to import and grow with a changing climate and supportive of the more drought resistant conditions?</p> <p>A. Carol – Not that specific but has a brochure on what you should and shouldn't be planting which were produced by Defra, but it is working on how to get the information out. Would be good to discuss further how we get this out in the community.</p>
<p>Q. Marianne – How do we arrange for a talk in Bembridge?</p> <p>A. Carol - Would be happy to arrange a talk and share resources.</p>
<p>2.2 Tony – In job role Tony is starting to find species that are starting to become invasive. There is a lot of pittosporum trees, and they are invasive in the Isle of Scilly, and with our warming climate these could become invasive. We are currently trying to remove Tree of Heaven.</p> <p>Carol - Tree of heaven is worrying one. We don't have a forum to talk about this, or how to report or policy. Natasha – this is something we are needing to raise in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LRNS) as it develops over the coming months.</p>
<p>Q. Maggie – In the 90' s saw parakeets in Shanklin Downs. We do have deer farms on the island.</p> <p>A. Carol - Overall we don't have a breeding population of deer. Our woodland is seen as very vulnerable and would be vulnerable to being browsed by deer. It is when they start breeding is then problem.</p>
<p>Q. Penny – With regards to getting the word out, suggested getting in contact with IWALC, Town & Parish Councils and TFMZ and happy to provide contact details. We have holm oak on the borders in the village which is maintained by IR.</p> <p>A. Carol – Island Roads have an invasive plan and suggested speaking to Island Roads.</p>
<p>Q. Venetia – Poison hemlock, who and how do we report and who cover cost?</p> <p>A. Carol - Not aware this was non-native but is poisonous. We don't have the funding on the island. We have received funding for water courses. Advised report it to the landowner.</p>
<p>2.3 David – to contact Island roads please see contact details on following link www.islandroads.com/contact-us/</p> <p>Natasha – If on Public Right of Way, this will need to be reported to our public Right of Way Team (Email: rightsofway@iow.gov.uk or phone 01983 821000)</p>
<p>2.4 Maggie – It would be an idea to educate children about plants and how to respect wild plants. A healthy respect for plants would be better than kill /removing as are part of our native heritage. Carol – Hemlock water droplet can be poisonous if you treat them well its</p>

ok and being careful in the countryside. If it is outside a school as such then it is best to report.	
<p>Q. Dina - It is not only the damage to nature but also the financial cost. If you are trying to sell a house with Japanese Knotweed it can knock thousands of pounds off your selling price. My opposite neighbour in London lost over £80,000 on the sale of his house - even though he tried to hide it with artificial grass</p> <p>A. Carol – advised it does need to be sprayed to affectively remove. Best to act when first noticed.</p>	
2.4 Tony - Potentially harmful garden plants, useful link www.rhs.org.uk/prevention-protection/potentially-harmful-garden-plants	
2.5 Natasha suggested can putting this on as standardised agenda item where we can bring forward any reports and keep a record while we work out best way to move forward on how we record and manage invasive species. Forum agreed.	
3. <u>Pre-submitted questions</u>	
<p>Q. What can the Local authority do to support Town & Parish Council in developing their climate strategies and sustainability strategies?</p> <p>A. Natasha – Previously communicated but received little response. We want to support the town and parish councils in doing. What can we do to help Town & Parish Councils more? What would be helpful to you to enable you to develop your plans?</p>	
3.1 Marianne – Not wanting questionnaire/ forms to complete, would like some straightforward guidance.	
3.2 Alley – currently doing things ad hoc, would be good to formulate a plan. We are wanting something complex and ideas on what we could do.	
Natasha – what you need is something that advises on a Local level, small budget and what you can do to communicate, engage, inform and encourage change.	
3.3 Penny – we are needing to push sustainability. Currently waiting for Island plan to go through. Is there not a list in the meantime that could be given as a criteria list. Who can they talk to regarding their concerns. Natasha – we must view the application by the current plan and by the principles that are set out within the planning context. Natasha explained the process for getting a draft strategy through. With regards to who to talk to, suggested speaking to Ward member.	
4. <u>AOB</u>	
4.1 Penny – Island Roads have planted trees which are dying. Is there anything can be done to make sure they are easy to water? Natasha and Tony to have a discussion and see what can be done.	

4.2 Sarah – hole in seawall in Fishbourne is getting bigger. Natasha confirmed this is on the list of repairs.	