

	Minutes	
Name of Meeting	Environment and Sustainability Forum	
Date and Time	20th June 2024 13:00 – 14:30	
Venue	Microsoft Teams	
Attendees	Name	
	Alaster Sims	Abi Reynolds
	Ally De Trey	Caitlin Woombs
	Caroline Gowing	Ian Boyd
	John Hobart	Margaret Nelmes
	Marianne Sullivan	Paul Ofei-Manu
	Penny Action	Robert Packham
	Sarah	Joanne Saunders
	Lois Southgate	Ian Stephens
	Holly Jones	Venetia Verey
	Apologies	Karen Lucioni
Lee Matthews		Jenny Hicks
Julie Jones-Evans		Natasha Dix
Trish Evans		
1. <u>Welcome and housekeeping</u>		
1.1 Al- welcomed everyone.		
2. <u>Solent Seascape Project</u>		
2.1 Caitlin Woombs displayed and provided a presentation on Solent Seascape Project.		
Q. Caroline - what are the biggest challenges you have?		
A. Caitlin - as we are covering different habitats there are various Challenges, the main challenges are, Water quality which is one of the biggest, pollution and disturbance.		
Penny advised Surface against sewage are hosting an event on Tuesday 26 th June 18:30 at the riverside. Also, Together for Mission Zero are hosting an event on 26 th June 18:30 at the IW College.		

<p>Q. Marianne from Bembridge Parish Council – We are needing to encourage younger people to get involved.</p> <p>A. Caitlin – we have a wide range of ages volunteering. We are working with schools and doing workshops. We are also looking at getting environmental/marine into the school curriculum.</p>	
<p>3. <u>Pre-submitted questions</u></p>	
<p>Q. No Mow May tends to meet a lot of resistance from residents who want nature controlled into suburban tidiness with verges cut short all year round. Would you agree that any 'project' of this type needs: 1) pre planning and consultation - (a letter sent out to local councils in late March or April is not adequate) 2) advertising and explanations 3) sharing of benefits (education) and good practice.</p> <p>Lots of our residents think verges are not cut to save IWC money. Don't know if there is any mileage in a sort of compromise- cut the edge strip short all year round and develop the central or hedge side of a verge to grow wildflowers and Spring bulbs etc. Am attaching a couple of photos (not sure which council put up the sign but could find out) The 'common' spotted orchid suddenly appeared this year in my garden in a patch that has not been mown for about three years. How do we get across the importance of giving nature some space?</p> <p>A. No Mow May is not run as a IWC project. No Mow May is a national campaign and the IWC supports this at several of its sights. We produce comms around which Council site are participating. For safety reasons, the council continue to mow roadside verges throughout May for safety reasons and mow several outdoor spaces that serve sport and recreation activities.</p>	
<p>Q. How can Island residents who satisfy the criteria for grant funding under the Eco4 Flex Scheme, Route 3 on medical grounds, receive grants to upgrade or create appropriate energy and/or heating systems if their house has a traditional clay tile roof, given that the only contractor, JJ Crump operating via the Eco4 system, declines to work on roofs with that structure?</p> <p>A. Email sent to Housing Team to provide a response.</p>	
<p>4. <u>AOB</u></p>	
<p>Sarah asked if we could have another talk on Waste, specifically around reducing plastic waste.</p>	
<p>Next Meeting 18th July at 18:00</p>	