

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Climate Change and the Environment Committee held in the Council Offices on Monday 9 February 2026.

The meeting commenced at 8.19 pm.

PRESENT

Cllr C Cunningham

Cllr P Jones

Cllr P Lewis

In Attendance: Mrs A Gater-Wildgust (Town Clerk) and four members of the public.

25.422 Election of Chair

Cllr Lewis nominated Cllr Jones for the position. Cllr Horn seconded the nomination. There were no further nominations. Members voted in favour of the nomination. Cllr Jones accepted the position.

25.423 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Miszewska.

25.424 Minutes

There were no minutes to approve. This is the first meeting of this Committee.

25.425 Water Fountain

To note that the Sea Changers grant had been received and the water fountain installed in the exterior wall of the Public Hall. BSTC will now be responsible for the annual maintenance of this unit, costed at £200.00 p/a for year 1 and year 2.

25.426 BSTC's Carbon Footprint + Community Footprint

- I. A review of work to date was carried out.
- II. Consideration was given to an email received from Business Information Point regarding a Carbon Action Plan. It was noted that the Clerk will be finalising the initial report once detail had been received regarding BSTC's land fill and recycling data.

25.427 Climate Change and Environment (CCE) Committee – Agreed Actions

Members reviewed the three actions agreed by the Town Council in July 2025 for the CCE Committee.

Solar Panels – Public Hall: Members noted that consideration of solar panels for the Public Hall had been deferred pending the report from the building surveyor regarding the condition of the roof and further detail on the carbon action plan becoming available.

Reducing Traffic Emissions: Members considered suggestions compiled by Cllr Lewis. It was agreed that Cllr Lewis would develop a draft proposal for consideration by Full Council regarding the "20 is Plenty" initiative, a voluntary scheme encouraging reduced vehicle speeds within the town. This would also be discussed with the Traffic Group.

Additional ideas discussed included the use of smiley radar signs as a form of positive speed awareness and requesting that the 30 mph speed limit be extended further outside the town. The Clerk provided an update from the Traffic Group on this matter. It was also suggested that a question regarding cycling within the town be included at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Tree Planting: Members noted that there are currently three Tree Wardens in the town. Cllr Jones also advised that, CGI UK, may be able to provide up to fifty trees annually to be distributed to a community organisation and agreed to provide details of this initiative.

It was also noted that the Lions Club may be willing to provide funding if a grant application were submitted, and that they are supportive of environmental initiatives.

25.428 Update on Beach Management Project run by EDDC

EDDC had confirmed that the survey has ended and were in the process of reviewing the results and also all of the material that was sent to them from residents. The next steps will be summarising the responses and material received which will feed into the options appraisal stage. Currently they are in stage 3 – Baseline Assessments which includes:

- Coastal Processes Understanding, including geotechnical assessment of cliffs.
- Environmental, Defence Assessment and Economic baselines.
- Do Nothing summary.

25.429 Statements on CCE

Members considered the development of a standard statement for Full Council to consider, which could potentially be included in the Town Council’s comments on planning applications.

Resolved:

That a moderately standard set of wording be developed. Cllr Jones agreed to draft wording for circulation to the CEC, with a view to bringing a recommendation to Full Town Council.

25.430 Community Event

Members discussed the possibility of holding a community event focused on climate and environmental matters during Gala Week 2026, with a suggested date of Wednesday 27 May (morning).

The event would involve a range of local organisations and groups hosting information tables and activities. It was suggested that refreshments (tea and coffee) could be available for a small charge and proceeds donated to charity.

Potential contributors and activities discussed included:

- Launch of “20 is Plenty” initiative
- Budleigh in Bloom – plants and compost information
- Devon Climate Officer / programme information
- Plastic Free Budleigh
- Lions litter pick information
- Budleigh Salterton Carbon Footprint project
- Poster competition
- BCMP initiative
- School Eco Champions
- Shop Budleigh
- Tree Wardens
- Seed bank / pollinator-friendly planting
- Community workshop activities

It was noted that the proposal would be brought forward for agreement by the Town Council and added to a future agenda for consideration.

25.431 Any Other Business at the Chair’s Discretion

No other business was raised.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 9.05pm.

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Chair

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Date