

For Council: 26 January 2026 APPENDIX 2
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Lichfield City Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Climate Change and Biodiversity Committee held
on Wednesday 14 January 2026 at 6.00pm in the Moulton Room , Guildhall**

PRESENT: Councillors J Blackman (Chair), R Harvey-Coggins, A Huges, A Lax, A Rushton and E Strain

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None.

19. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2025 be confirmed as a correct record [minutes adopted by council on 30 September 2025].

20. MATTERS ARISING

- a) Fishing on Stowe Pool. As a dual hatted Member, Councillor A Hughes agreed to raise with LDC the issues brought to the committee's attention by Councillor A Lax.
- b) Floating Habitat Havens. Councillor J Blackman was not able to offer any further information, however Members confirmed that LDC have already installed floating habitat havens on Stowe Pool, likely negating the need for LCC to do so.
- c) Carbon Emissions. Councillor J Blackman confirmed that he intended to conduct a survey on LCC's carbon emissions but had not yet done so.

21. UPDATES TO COMMITTEE PRIORITIES

Members considered the Deputy Town Clerk's agenda report detailing progress on identified priorities since the previous meeting:

1. Habitat Havens

The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that the Mayor, Sheriff, and Members of the committee had visited all the winners and entrants of the Bug Hotel competition. A detailed report of which was included in the Deputy Town Clerk's Officer report, submitted to December Council.

Councillor A Lax suggested that members of the public be asked via a press release where they would like to see other habitat havens created. Councillor R Harvey-Coggins proposed a further press release be issued when Festival Gardens is being prepared for wild flowering.

The Deputy Town Clerk also suggested that Members could engage with the public on this subject at the next Community Day, the date of which is yet to be confirmed.

2. Carbon Literacy Certification

Members considered Councillor A Rushton's written report on the content of the Carbon Literacy course he attended and agreed that many of the suggestions were not applicable to a Parish Council. However, it was suggested that Members could engage with the public on this subject at Community Days.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

22. ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIAL GOVERNANCE (ESG) POLICY

Members considered the draft policies and suggestions submitted by Councillors A Lax and A Hughes and agreed to combine the two into one concise policy to be submitted to Council for approval.

RESOLVED: That the Deputy Town Clerk combine the comments submitted into a concise draft ESG policy [Appendix A to these minutes]

REDCOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That the draft ESG policy be adopted.

23. FAIRTRADE STATUS

Councillor R Harvey-Coggins informed Members that the steering committee were asking for ideas and intended to plan more events in the future.

RESOLVED That the update be noted.

24. ACTION PLAN AND UPDATES

Members considered the updated action plan.

RESOLVED: That the updated action plan be noted.

25. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 25 March at 6.00pm in the Moulton room.

26. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor R Harvey-Coggins informed Members that LDC would be re introducing brown kitchen caddies as a result of a Government initiative regarding food waste.

Councillor A Lax suggested stickers be added to all light switches as a reminder to turn the lights off.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 6.51pm**

ACTION PLAN

Version 9 Updated 14.01.26

ACTION	ACTIONED BY	COMMENTS	TIMESCALE
Habitat Havens	Deputy Town Clerk Members.	- All entrants and winners of the bug hotel competition have now been visited.to commend their efforts - Members to engage with the public regarding Habitat Havens	. Next Community day.(date tbc)
Carbon Literacy Certification	Cllr A Rushton	- Members considered Cllr A Rushton's report and decided no further action required - Members to raise with the public.	Next Community day.(date tbc)
ESG Policy	Deputy Town Clerk Members.	Deputy Town Clerk to combine comments submitted into an ESG policy for approval by Council.	As soon as possible
Fairtrade Status	Cllr H Ashton.	Members noted Cllr R Harvey -Coggins verbal update.	Fairtrade events to remain a regular Agenda item.

CCBD: 14 January 2026 APPENDIX A

Draft Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Policy

1. Introduction

1.1

Climate Change is the most critical challenge we face. It is a global challenge that has to be addressed at many levels from individuals, households, local community, business, and political organisations to national and international governments.

This Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Policy establishes the principles and standards that will guide Lichfield City Council in the discharge of its functions, the management of its assets, and the delivery of services to the community..

1.2

This Policy applies to elected Members, employees, and contractors, volunteers and any third parties acting on behalf of the Council should follow this policy.

This Policy covers all Council operations, assets, services, partnerships, and commissioned activities.

2. Environmental Standards

2.1 Climate and Carbon Management

As a Parish council Lichfield City Council will work with Lichfield District Council and Staffordshire County Council, and their successor bodies, to encourage local residents, businesses, and community organisations to address climate change.

The Council will:

- a. Work towards reducing operational greenhouse-gas emissions in line with national net-zero trajectories.
- b. Prioritise energy-efficient technologies and renewable-energy solutions in Council buildings and assets.
- c. Incorporate climate-resilience considerations into asset management, maintenance, and capital projects.
- d. Monitor and report annual carbon-emissions data where practicable.

3. Resource Efficiency and Waste Management

The Council will:

- a. Reduce waste arising from Council operations and increase recycling rates where possible.
- b. Promote reuse, repair and circular-economy principles in procurement and asset disposal.
- c. Minimise single-use plastics within Council premises and events.

3.1 Biodiversity and Land Stewardship

The Council will:

- a. Protect and enhance biodiversity across Council-managed land.
- b. Support pollinator-friendly planting, reduced pesticide uses and habitat-enhancement initiatives.
- c. Ensure environmental considerations are integrated into planning responses and community projects.

4. Financial Stewardship

The Council will:

- a. Manage public funds prudently and in accordance with statutory requirements.
- b. Integrate ESG considerations into budget planning, investment decisions, and asset management.
- c. Ensure value for money in all expenditure.

5. Implementation

5.1 Responsibilities

- a. The Deputy Town Clerk will act as the Senior Responsible Officer for this Policy.
- b. City Council Officers will ensure ESG principles are embedded within service plans and operational procedures.
- c. All employees and Members are responsible for adhering to this Policy in the course of their duties.

5.2 Training and Awareness

The Council will provide appropriate training to ensure Members, staff and contractors understand their responsibilities under this Policy.

6 Policy Review

This Policy will be reviewed every two years, or sooner if required by legislative changes, audit findings, or emerging best practice.