



Minutes of a meeting of the **Calstock Parish Council**,  
**ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE EMERGENCY SUB COMMITTEE**  
held on **Tuesday 21 February 2023, in the Tamar Valley Centre at 1900**

Those present were; -

**COUNCILLORS:** Richard Newton Chance (Chair), Alastair Tinto, Andrew Brown, Phil Spurr, Alex Polglase, Jim Wakem,

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS:** Ken Finn, Peter Bloomfield, Gill Court,  
Miss Clare Bullimore (Deputy Clerk – *minutes*).

Alice Lewthwaite was introduced by Peter Bloomfield. Alice gave an informative presentation on Hedgerow management and funding available. It was agreed that the Committee should look for collaborative working with the AONB on promoting and showcasing this initiative.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Cllrs: John Wells, Dorothy Kirk, Mark Warwick

**2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS IN AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Alison Freshney, Jude Wood.

**4. APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING – 17-01-2023**

**Proposal/Resolution:** the minutes be approved – all agreed by those present at the last meeting – proposed: Alastair Tinto, seconded: Andrew Brown.

**6. DISCUSSION TOPIC – DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN**

Proposal/recommendation: to recommend to full council that the Strategic Plan (found at the end of the minutes) be approved and for three working groups to be formed with a lead councillor nominated for each group: Reducing Impact (Richard Newton Chance); Improve Health (Alex Polglase); Recovering Nature (Andrew Brown). It was also agreed to ensure that public engagement and communication is prominent in all actions agreed. Proposed: Alastair Tinto, seconded: Phil Spurr – unanimous.

An email will be sent out asking interested parties to sign up for one of the three working groups, understanding that there will be crossover topics for the committee as a whole to discuss and agree actions for.



It was suggested that each working group meet at the same time each month and would take notes and the main committee would endeavour to meet every other month to agree actions, oversee the work and formal minutes would be taken at these meetings.

**7. TAMAR VALLEY AONB NATURE RECOVERY**

Andrew Brown has asked Dan Cooke, Manager of the TVAONB to present at a future meeting.

**8. WILLOW TIT, UPDATE**

Andrew is working with other organisations including the National Trust and an open day will be held at Cotehele in April.

**9. TAMAR BEAVER MANAGEMENT GROUP – ANDREW BROWN**

Andrew has useful links for the Nature Recovery group to consider and was thanked for his time.

Next meeting: to be confirmed.

The meeting ended at 2000.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

# Environment and Climate Emergency Strategic Plan

Suggest this bit goes on the website as an intro:

*The Environment and Climate Emergency Committee of the Calstock Parish Council is working toward protecting the health, safety and wellbeing of all who live in this area with respect to the threats posed by the Climate Emergency. As a start it has put together a Strategic Plan to address areas of concern which align with the Cornwall County plan whilst focusing on local issues such as the River Tamar and pollution along the A390. Given that this affects everyone, and that the committee is quite small, we would invite any local resident, whatever their age or ability, to join us in attempting to tackle the issues below. If you have an interest in one or more of the issues and would like to help make a difference in our community and join a likeminded team please contact Clare Bullimore, Deputy Clerk.*

This to be the intro paragraph:

Calstock Parish Council is committed to reducing our impact on the environment across the Parish, reducing the impacts of a changing climate upon our community and protecting and enhancing nature and biodiversity.

In 2019 along with Cornwall Council and Parliament, Calstock Parish Council declared a Climate Emergency. The Cornwall County Council climate risk assessment highlights the very real threats posed by the changing climate. Cornwall is expected to be effected by more extreme weather with predicted high rainfall events and localised flooding together with prolonged periods of drought. The coming decade is likely to be the most important in trying to mitigate those threats.

We have set three policy objectives to address the challenge:

- Restoring Nature,
- Reducing Impact and
- Improving Health and Well Being.

Calstock Parish Council will set a target to be Carbon Neutral across its activities by 2030 and will encourage its suppliers and partners to set their own ambitious targets. With the adoption of our Climate Emergency Action Plan the Council will weigh all its decisions against these criteria and it will be central to everything we do. It is recognised that community engagement and communication will also be imperative. Actions agreed will be measurable and include engagement strategies within them.

Every policy and decision of the Parish Council should be measured against each of these.

Does it help with:

- **Recovering Nature**
- **Reducing Impact**
- **Improving Health**

### **Recovering Nature**

The aim is not just to preserve what we have now, but to recover the flora and fauna we have lost, to expand the natural world around us for its own sake and in doing so to create a much richer and more diverse environment for people to enjoy.

This aligns closely with the Cornwall Nature Recovery plan and AONB plans.

To encourage, support, sponsor and partner to act to restore flora and fauna in the parish through:

- Encouraging wild flower meadows
- Re-wilding marginal land
- Extending wetland environments
- Extending woodland and encouraging its natural management
- Protecting hedgerows and encouraging sensitive management thereof

Encouraging:

- Beavers
- Badgers (inoculated)
- Hedgehogs
- Willow tits and other endangered bird species
- Wetland birds
- Pine martins
- Goshawks
- Bats

Discouraging:

- Pheasants
- Feeding of species which predate those at risk eg Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers
- Grey squirrels

Potential partners: Tamar Valley AONB, National Trust, Cornwall Council, Cornwall Wildlife Trust, Tamara Project, Woodland Trust and other local environmental groups.

## **Reducing Impact**

Our collective impact on the world we live in has lead not only to a severe climate crisis, but also a crisis across the natural world with pollution, severe species loss, poisoned oceans and increasingly infertile lands. If we are to address this we have to reduce our impact.

This aligns with the Cornwall Climate Emergency DPD.

To encourage, support, sponsor and partner to act to reduce our impact on the environment through:

- Cleaning the river Tamar and its tributaries
- Reducing pollution - air, soil and water
- Encouraging environmentally sensitive farming practices
- Recycling
- Reducing single use plastics
- Better building design
- Public transport use
- New energy generation possibilities
- Area heating plans
- Encouraging better insulation
- Traffic control measures
- Grow local schemes
- Shop local schemes
- Procurement policy

Potential partners: Cornwall Council, SWW, the Rivers Trust, Tamar Valley AONB, National Trust, Tamara Project, Duchy College, Tamar Grow Local, Plymouth National Marine Park, the Tamar Catchment Partnership, Plymouth University and other local environmental groups

## **Improving Health**

As well as impacting the natural world, our activities are ruining our own health and wellbeing. Whatever we aim to do should be measured against its impact on our health.

To encourage, support, sponsor and partner to act to improve the health and wellbeing of our parishioners through:

- Encouraging footpath use
- Extending the footpath network
- Protecting and extending open access land
- Developing the skatepark
- Biking facilities and special routes
- Encouraging playground use
- Support for local sports clubs
- Community fridge/pantry
- Allotment use
- Supporting older age groups 'activities
- Helping people adjust to climate change

Potential partners: Cornwall Council, Ramblers Association, Tamar Valley AONB, , Tamara Project, Tamar Grow Local, local sports clubs, TV Health Centre and the patient participation group, Calstock footpath society