



Minutes: Climate Change Forum

9 February 2026

MS Teams

Attendees:

Cllr Robin Betts - Chair
Sarah Barker (SB)
Jennifer Bate (JB)
Gill Fox (GF)
Fran Long (FL)
Cllr Anita Oakley (Cllr Oakley)
Cllr Kim Tanner (Cllr Tanner)
Norman Taylor (NT)
Cllr Tom Shelley (Cllr Shelley)
Min Stacpoole (MS)
Louise Stewart (LS)

Apologies:

Cllr Steve Crisp (Cllr Crisp)
Cllr Paul Hickmott
Cllr Frani Hoskins
Julianna Munoz
Guy Nevill
Cllr Mike Taylor

1. Welcome and apologies

- 1.1. The Chair welcomed Forum members and introduced several new attendees to the Group. Apologies were received from Cllr Crisp. The Group discussed recent attendance levels and whether current meeting times are suitable.
- 1.2. Action: Chair/LS to review invite list and circulation list.

2. Minutes and actions from previous meeting

- 2.1. The main action from the previous meeting was the supermarket letter regarding seasonal, local and single-use plastics. The Chair confirmed this would be addressed later in the agenda. The action relating to the TMBC business newsletter was also discussed.
- 2.2. Action: LS to revisit the newsletter item with Group suggestions and liaise with TMBC Economic Development and Special Projects Manager.

3. Supermarkets: seasonal eating and packaging

- 3.1. LS confirmed that the supermarket letter had been emailed to several large stores using multiple contact details, covering all relevant supermarkets in the borough. Responses were minimal, with no indication of willingness to work collaboratively with the Group; one response was a holding reply.

3.2. The Chair confirmed this work would be placed on hold and revisited at a later date. Potential future approaches could include soft plastics and a supermarket league table.

4. Pollution from plastics

4.1. Cllr Shelley provided an overview of the health and environmental impacts of plastics. The Group discussed the importance of individual positive actions to reduce plastic use.

4.2. Ideas discussed included a plastic poster campaign with schools; potential petitions/a campaign with local coffee shops focused on plastic lids.

4.3. Action: LS to explore a plastics school poster campaign.

5. Refill / water fountain: Haysden Country Park

5.1. FL discussed access to water refill facilities, including availability at local leisure centres.

5.2. Action: LS to share information with ttractive regarding the Green Business Grant and potential water fountain installation.

6. Public transport in Tonbridge

6.1. FL highlighted the lack of later bus services within the Tonbridge area. Wider public transport provision and local infrastructure were also discussed.

6.2. Action: CCF to draft and send letter to KCC Councillor for Tonbridge.

6.3. Action: SB to provide contact details of the new KCC Head of Transport.

6.4. Action: CCF to invite the new KCC Head of Transport to a future CCF meeting.

7. Empty retail shops/units for community use

7.1. NT shared details of a community hub in Bromley, located within The Glades Shopping Centre. NT highlighted the range of local community groups that could benefit from such a hub and the potential for sharing information and resources.

7.1.1. Action: NT to invite representatives from The Hub (Greener to Cleaner) to a future CCF meeting.

7.1.2. Action: LS to share video of the Hub with the Group.

8. Round-table updates

8.1. JB shared details of the CASP Green Homes event scheduled for 25 April, at Shipbourne Village Hall. The event will be open to the public and will include a range of stalls providing climate action information and updates on the Home Energy Project.

8.2. Action: JB to share promotional materials.

8.3. Action: LS to confirm attendance.

9. AOB

9.1. Action: LS ensure Green Business Grant is on relevant TMBC webpages.

9.2. NT noted the Tunbridge Wells Climate and Nature Fair, 3 May in Calverley Grounds.

10. Action Summary

No.	Action	Lead
1	Review invite list and circulation list	Chair/LS
2	Revisit the business newsletter item with noted suggestions	LS
3	Explore a school poster campaign on plastics	LS
4	Contact tmactive to highlight the Green Business Grant Fund and water fountain installation	LS
5	CCF to draft and send letter to KCC Councillor for Tonbridge regarding Tonbridge bus services	LS
6	SB to provide contact details of the new KCC Head of Transport	SB
7	CCF to invite the new KCC Head of Transport to attend a future meeting	LS
8	NT to invite representatives from The Hub (Greener to Cleaner) to a future CCF meeting	NT
9	Share video of the Hub with the Group	LS
10	Share promotional materials for the CASP Green Homes event	JB
11	Confirm attendance at the CASP Green Homes event	LS
12	Ensure Green Business Grant is on relevant TMBC webpages	LS

11. Meeting closed