Environmental Working Group Meeting Notes
5th March 2024 at Friends Meeting House, Almeley at 6.00pm

Attendees: Vanessa Faulkner (chair), Jeff Glynn-Jones, Frank Mcnally, Mike Hodge.

Apologies: Colin Powell, Rose Proctor,

1. **Feedback from last Parish Council Meeting (21st Feb 2024)**
   - The proposed re-wording of three environmental documents has been accepted by the Parish Council. The three revised documents have been uploaded onto Parish Website.
   - The EWG Action Plan 2024 has been formally accepted by the Parish Council.
   - A 2024/2025 Parish Budget was approved, which included an amount to cover work for the EWG Action Plan (see following page).

2. **Other activities since last EWG meeting.**
   - Vanessa (on behalf of Almeley EWG) attended an HGN networking session – a networking day in Hereford, with 10 attendees from 8 Parishes (including Titley, Longtown, Peterchurch, Eardisland, Orcop, Putley, Llangrove). Of note, see the "Verging on Wild" presentation: https://www.herefordshirewt.org/vergingonwild

   - Attended a Zoom call with Herefordshire Climate and Nature Partnership Board. https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/climate-2/climate-change/5

     Of note, see *"Biodiversity Duty"* which is aimed at operating at the Local Authority level. https://www.gov.uk/guidance/complying-with-the-biodiversity-duty

3. Action Plan 2024 – Climate, Biodiversity & Resilience

	Item	Responsible	Status 5th March
1	Add Environment tab to parish council website	Vanessa	Done. An initial implementation has been made but some refinement is required.
2	Propose village Speed limit of 20mph	Green Group/APC	Initial research has been made by talking with other Parishes. Implementation is likely to be protracted due to a funding requirement from Parishioners, rather than Hereford Council. Next step: gauge strength of local feeling via Community Plan forum
3	Feasibility study for Solar panels for Village Hall	Mike	The likely output was modelled for panels mounted on the West pitched roof (facing primary school). Output would cover current electricity feed from British Gas. Next steps: (a). Present modelling to stakeholders; (b). Roof structure confirmation with Kingspan; (c). Nominate 3 installers to send tenders to; (d). Prepare grant application(s).
4	Biodiversity Plan for Commons	Green Group/APC	No progress yet. Scoping to start and to be discussed with the Green Group.
5	Sandbags for Parishioners	Jeff GJ/Rob Rimmer/APC	Discussing with Parish Council for take-up.

4. Next meeting

No specific date but towards likely May. Venue TBC