

CLUN CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT GROUP (CCEG)

Minutes of meeting by ZOOM on Thursday 23rd July 2026

Summary for next Council meeting

The Group was pleased to hear that the RCMG has had a useful meeting with the consultancy who have been engaged to write the 'blueprint for action' on the river. It seems that input from the group can aid the development of the plan.

The Group was also pleased to hear that the Council with SCC's plan to resume bus services to Clun. It is hoped that adequate consultation with the residents can ensure that the new service meets their requirements so that the bus is used to optimum. The Group hopes that the wider environmental impact of community transport in reducing pollution can be recognised.

The Group will liaise with those in Bishops Castle organising the showing of the Chris Packham's film, 'Public Emergency' in creating actions which can address the Climate Emergency and urges CTC to become active in any measures suggested. The film is showing at Clun Memorial Hall on Saturday 15th August at 4pm. It is hoped that councillors will attend.

The Group will have a stall at Clun Show as usual and continues to increase its presence in the community.

1. Declarations of interest; none

Attendees; Chrissie Verduyn (secretary and acting Chair) Mary Emerson, Catherine Humphreys (minutes secretary) Angela Martin, Alison Weeks, Ursula Freeman, Dave Thomlinson, Christina Anderson, Tom Wall, Rowan Cairns-Wade, Dave lewis,

Apologies: Robert Humphreys (in his absence Chrissie chaired the meeting) Brian Angell

2. Minutes of last meeting (18th June)

Corrections. Three names spelt incorrectly and amended

3. Council meeting feedback Angela reported;

No planning applications.

The Council was pleased to hear of progress on reinstatement of the bus in Clun. A full discussion is planned for the next meeting.

Catherine reported that she had raised at the meeting the lack of consultation over the new plan and that bus users may have a view on the proposals. Angela said she would highlight that concern.

Christine Page had contacted the council over air pollution. Dave said he had emailed her over her concerns but there had not been a reply. Details of her concerns will be forwarded to members. Angela forwarded information as follows: "The best link to include in the minutes on this topic, which provides concise and actionable steps with summaries of the thousands of studies, is: <https://www.wildlifeandwireless.org/>

Action Chrissie/Robert

The new clerk has started work.

Angela said she had attended a good meeting; Tours, Trails and Itineraries Tourism Workshop, organised by SCC hosted by Paul Gossage Marketing and Communications manager.

CTC are now in discussion with Bishops Castle TC over the ideas reported at the meeting. Dave asked if cyclists were included in the plan Angela confirmed they were. Also food outlets are to be highlighted.

4. 745 bus campaign

Chrissie reported that as suggested at the last meeting she had now extended contacts along the bus route. This included meetings at Bishops Castle (BC) and Lydbury North. Clunbury PC has expressed support.

At the Lydbury meeting Councillor Ruth Houghton (SC) had confirmed that the finance for the proposed service will be drawn from the Community Transport budget, and will be commissioned from Shrewsbury and Ludlow Community Transport.

Lydbury North is not included in the revised schedule but a link service including Kempton is hoped to be set-up. Tom said that given Lydbury is to be excluded it will also mean the service will not include Clunbury.

Chrissie said it was hoped that the service would become an SC tendered service. It was clear that publicity was key to bus usage.

Tom raised the issue of whether many users having bus passes would impact profitability.

Mary expressed concern that the bus did not stop at the railway station in CA. It was agreed that this needs to be suggested.

Chrissie concluded that we had now drawn-up a list of details which need to be addressed by SCC viz;

route , bus passes, stop at the station, days of service. In addition the value of a bus service needs to extend to an emphasis on reduced pollution from private cars and the reduction in traffic.

Action Chrissie/Robert

5. Public Emergency Film

Alison reported that the film will be shown at the Memorial Hall on 15/8/26 at 4.0 pm. It has been advertised in the Chronicle and posters will appear.

There are opportunities to view it on line. Also the organising group showing the film in BC on 9/9/26 has asked if we might send a representative to their showing, since they wish to develop ideas about what we can do locally. Chrissie will send information about their ideas.

Action Chrissie

Clun councillors have said they do not want to be directly involved with the showing in BC but Angela thought she may be available.

Tom asked if there could be a representative from the BC group at the showing in Clun and also if we could be given greater clarity about what was required from us.

It was agreed that this should be sought.

Action Chrissie to write to BC group.

Tom reported that he had successfully engaged Clunbury Parish Council in the showing of the film in Clunbury in September. Date to be arranged.

6. Clun Show Sat 1st August

Chrissie reported that lack of finance means we cannot hire tables, so she and Mary will bring two.

Dave reported that he and Robert will use their EV questionnaire to canvas more views from residents.

Discussion took place about attendance. Chrissie noted who would help with set-up of gazebo and display at 10.00 am and also those who would be around to engage the public between 1-5 pm on the field.

It was confirmed that the RCMG is to be included in the CCEG display. There followed discussion about the two display boards of the Group the whereabouts of which is unclear. Mary reported that she wished to display information about the Friends of Clun Castle and if the Museum cannot accommodate in any display they have, it was agreed it could be shown on the CCEG stand.

Action; any help on the day would be useful

7. RCMG

Tom reported that there had been a meeting with the consultancy which has been engaged to write the 'Blueprint for Action' for the river. It has to be completed by March '27. Following this, the report will be considered by DEFRA and Natural England. He said it may not appear for action until 2029.

Members of the RCMG who were present considered that it would be important to engage with the consultancy in ensuring that the river was granted a formal protected site strategy. To that end, the RCMG has offered to write 'pen portraits' of 8 areas of the river. The consultancy welcomed the offer. The response to an initial one will be gauged by the Group before further work undertaken.

Angela asked the fee being paid to the consultancy. Tom said it was unknown except that it exceeded £115,000. Angela said she would ask the question.

9. Events

South Shropshire Climate Action's event in November is to be preceded by events on 4 different topics. Dave reported that the first Energy and Buildings is to be held at Church Stretton on 5/9/26. Chrissie will be circulate information.

Action; Dave/ Chrissie

Alison said the SCA event on Land and Nature is to be held in Shrewsbury and organised at SWT on 15/9/26. There is no publicity yet, but she will keep the group informed. Chrissie suggested that the Group needs to be represented.

Tom said the ongoing plan to visit the Walcot Wiggle waterway was underway but proving difficult.

Clunbury Environment Group has set-up a map in the Village Hall onto which residents can record any environmental actions they are undertaking.

The fourth annual bracken bash is to take place. On 26/7/26 Meet at the carpark Fiddlers Elbow.

10. AOB

Mary reported that Friends of Clun Castle' had now completed the arrangements for a grazier and had a grant application in hand for water installation. In addition, they now had help from Community Payback workers and Young Rangers from SHNL.

Chrissie spoke of the success of the work on Himalayan Balsam (HB) and the ongoing discussions over the work needed at the Hurst brook in Sowdley Wood. Alison said there was HB in Leintwardine. Chrissie said the Clun group needed to restrict its area of work.

Dave said with the dry weather and roadside cutting, litter on the Newcastle road had come to light and an 'out of season' litter collection would be undertaken on 26/7/26.

11. Correspondence

Shropshire Climate Action had written asking if our Group would like to contribute to their newsletter. Chrissie offered to enter in brief anything suitable.

Action Chrissie.

12. Next meeting 20/8/28