

**CLUN CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT GROUP (CCEG)**  
**Minutes of meeting by ZOOM on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**Summary for next Council Meeting**

The Group continues to be concerned about the now approved permission for the new chicken house at Little Hall Farm Newcastle and was told that it was raised at the TC meeting by a member of the public.

Further reference is to be made to opinion papers. The group understands that the Welsh Government has prohibited the practice of muck spreading from chicken farms, which may have led to land purchase in England to accommodate the need.

The Group was pleased to learn of the new Council website. Any material the Group wishes to place on the site will be channelled through Cllr Bowen.

Public concerns raised to the Group continue to be actioned. These are EV charging in Clun, food security for local food and collaborative use of gardens.

The Group continues to consider river and drainage matters and will be considering previous reports.

**1. Attenders;** Robert Humphreys (chair), Chrissie Verduyn (secretary), Catherine Humphreys (minutes secretary), Mary Eminson, Rowan Cairns-Wade, Ursula Freeman, Angela Martin, Brian Angell, Alison Weeks,

**Apologies for Absence;** Dave Thomlinson, Christina Anderson, Tom Wall

**Declarations of interest;** none

**2. Minutes of last meeting; (29/1/26) Approved**

Ref; Second page Local Food Security.

Catherine reported on her attendance at the event run by Shropshire Good Food Partnership (SGFP) on 12/2/26. She said that the plan for us to draw-up a list of local producers and their direct selling/outlets was on hold pending her hearing back from her writing after the meeting to SGFP to ask whether they already had such a list. No reply had been forthcoming. She said on balance she thought as a funded group they might be better placed to undertake this work if they had not done so already. It was commented that they were not funded however, Angela established that SCC had given them funds. Chrissie offered to f/up contacts with SGFP.

**Action CV**

Ref; Second page RCMG

In Tom's absence Robert reported that the 'blue print' work is now funded and tenders are out for the work. It is expected to be completed by 5/3/27.

Ref; Final page Dredging of stream in Clunton. No further information has been offered by Severn Trent.

**3. Finance**

Chrissie reported on behalf of Rowena who continues to manage finance but no longer attends meetings.

Finances have been boosted by payment of £10 for litter picking at the Green Man event. Robert repeated our thanks to Rowena for her agreement to await payment of the debt we owe her.

**4. Feedback from Council Meeting**

Angela reported.

Sam Walmsley not in attendance so no update on Waterloo Bridge.

A member of the public raised the issue over the permission granted for a chicken house at Little Hall farm Newcastle. It was not generally known that this had happened and discussion amongst the group followed.

It was agreed to recirculate Mike Kelly's paper **Action Chrissie**

In addition the letter from the planners **Action Angela**

The moratorium in Wales on muck spreading may mean that Welsh farmers are acquiring land in England for this purpose. Catherine said she understood there was a suspicion that this may have occurred on this site. It was decided to seek further advice about the approval of this site including raising with the EA. **Action Robert**

Alison reported that the retrospective planning permission for the building Jenny Knoll at Woodside had been turned down. It was unclear quite what would be required of the owners but Sam Walmsley has said action will be required.

The new Council website is better. Angela and Robert confirmed that all material is to go through Rowena.

There is to be an event at the Memorial Hall 14/4 7.30pm arranged by Herefordshire CPRE about Dark Skies

## **5. Clun in the Future updates.**

### **a) EV charging**

Robert reported that there had been a meeting with Robert Andrews (Chair Memorial Hall) but no firm progress yet.

Alternative ideas which will be followed-up from Octopus who have a scheme for community facilities and arrangements whereby an established home charging point can be hired by others. **Action Robert**

Robert said the next stage is to produce a questionnaire for Clun residents. **Action Robert/Rowan/Dave T**

Discussion followed about its distribution which produced clear ideas. Chrissie said she would help and they might also be returned to Richard Brights and Spa as collection points.

### **b) Street Garden Groups**

Mary reported that the first plan to use Ford St was now not thought viable. She suggested three locations in which this idea might gain support. The allotment tenants (Mary has already spoken to them) Open Gardens event (**Action Catherine to speak to Heather Morris**) and Carnival entrants.

Robert suggested a further group who had been at the Future event which were the Garden Organic group might help. (**Action Mary to speak to them**).

Mary said it was essentially a consciousness raising project promoting such things as biodiversity.

## **6 Air pollution**

It was agreed to carry this forward due to Dave not being in attendance.

## **7. Farming and River action.**

Brian said that there was material from the past about the impact and numbers of farms in the valley. Alison asked if this could be made available **Action Brian**

Generally people thought many farmers were definitely changing practice to more environmentally sensitive actions.

## **8 Website**

Chrissie reported that the material on our part of the Council website was lost. She said a new front sheet was needed and asked if everyone could look at the site and offer her any views. **Action Chrissie/All**

## 9. Flooding at Clun Bridge

Rowan said there are new sensors at Clun, Chapel lawn and Purlogue. Contact would be made with Mike Kelly to ask what system has been put in place. **Action** Rowan (Post meeting note. These are the Chester University Units- Contact Robert)

## 10. RCMG

Alison reported that a multiagency proposal for funding from Natural England to restore the mussels has been submitted. (No decision yet)

Alison has now met with the Wye River Action group. She said there had been careful planning to separate 'monitoring' from 'action' which seems a good way of progressing.

Robert reported that he had attended a meeting at which Severn Trent presented information titled 'Misconnections'. He explained this meant when foul or grey water is connected to surface water drains. Brian said there had been these problems in Clun sometimes due to mismanagement, but also because it was an old way of water management. He said Clun was mapped around 2018 by WSP and an internal report was written for SCC. It was suggested that the report might be obtained. **Action** Robert to contact Sam Walmsley.

## 11. Verges

Alison reported that South Shropshire Climate Action was arranging an event in the summer at which Janet Cobb would speak about verges.

## 12. Events

Farm Walk at Chapel lawn 6/6

Visit to Smiling Tree Farm. Date not yet set. Chrissie will speak to Dave Tomlinson who agreed to arrange. (and see below)

## 13 AOB

Mary said the discussions and plans for the Castle grounds were advancing. There had been a meeting with EH, SWT, Historic England which was positive. In addition there had been an application from a local grazier.

Events:

(SHNL is Shropshire Hills National Landscape; all require booking)

"Grazing for Nature" Pollardine Farm SHNL 24th March : Shropshire Hills Forum Clun Memorial Hall 29th April SHNL; Farm Walk , Upper Onny Farmers Group Westcott SHNL 28th March;

Dark Sky conference 14 April 7.30 , Clun Memorial Hall. Speaker from Presteigne group.

Chapel Lawn Farm Walk with James Middleton 6th June (SHNL)

to be arranged:

Visit to Smilingtree Farm Dave Tomlinson coordinating

National Emergency Briefing Film to be released in April. Will be shown in Clun (Bob Cunning) and BC. Dates not arranged as yet.

CPRE webinars from end of March on Climate Emergency. See website for details.

## 14 Correspondence; none

Next Meeting 16/4/26