



**Needham Market Town Council
Climate Awareness Group
MINUTES: Tuesday 21st March 2023
7pm, Green Room, Needham Market Community Centre**

Present	Amanda Reardon (Chair); Andy France; Jo Lea; Jean Pittaway; Nicola Booth; John Mattissen; Jo Hughes.
Apologies	Martin O’Shea, John Reardon, Ruth Coomber, Ross Piper.
Minutes of last meeting	The minutes were approved for the meeting on 28.02.2023.
Planning consultations comments – adaption needed to respond to different situations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regarding the planning comments we drew together for responses to consultations, it has been noted that MSDC sometimes annotate them to say that they are not always relevant or reasonable. Town Council had discussed the idea that the elements of the paragraph are numbered and responses only then include relevant items. Need to be careful it isn’t watered down too much but look at the way it is phrased. Current building regulations are linked with the size of the extension etc. so it may not work to link our ideas to this. The planning system cannot second guess the building regulations and each project will have its individuality which would need to be considered. Every case is bespoke and representatives from this committee could say. Could ask that there is a blanket condition that any improvements to a property should contribute a 20% reduction in energy consumption. There may be a cost however 7 years is deemed a reasonable pay back period for installing solar panels etc. Look to redraft when Martin is here.
Meadow Management – looking at the MSDC mapping tool (John M).	<p>https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/pre-application-advice/free-online-planning-guidance/interactive-mapping-service/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We were able to explore the layers on this mapping tool. By accessing the map features you can see areas where meadows can be managed in a more environmentally friendly way. Consider the area around the 3rd Cedar tree (near Burton Drive) as a place to be shortlisted for meadow management. Once areas are established, we can consider more areas and these can then be considered for future years. Different places need to agree a regime so that areas favour different wild plants according to when it was cut.
Thermal Imaging Camera – final details.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 forms have been returned. List has been collated and volunteers allocated days. An email has been sent to set the expectation from those who responded (See letter). Nicola to send a template so that we can make a report. We need to ensure we set the temperature credentials carefully.
Earth Day April 22 nd 9-4 but open 10-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needham in Bloom- seed bombs and information regarding allotments. Stowmarket eco futures are keen to come and have a stall- share information about what they are doing. Bosmere will not have anyone to man a stall, but they will have a display. Vegan baker enquired about Earth Day. Responded that it is a community learning event but welcome if they share ideas. Orchard barn- natural clay selfies. Change- pledge tree (there is a tree ready). Ross- bug related activity.
AOB	None
Next Meeting	Tuesday 11 th April 7pm