

21 April 2026

To Councillors - Cllr Danny Bonnett (Chair), Cllr Kath Greenman, Cllr Maggie Tyrrell, Cllr Chris Bloor (Vice Chair), Cllr Chris Rowe, Cllr Christine Carter and all non-councillor Committee members

Please take notice that a meeting of the **Climate and Nature Committee** of Thornbury Town Council will be held in the **Council Chamber of the Town Hall** on **Tuesday 21 April 2026 at 7.30 pm**.

All above named Councillors are hereby **summoned**, and non-councillors invited, to attend the above meeting for the purpose of considering and resolving upon the business to be transacted at the meeting as set out hereunder.

SJ Gardham

Sharon Gardham, Climate and Nature Officer

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety, Human Rights and the need to conserve biodiversity.

Public participation: Please note that this meeting is open to the public. Please take note of the guidance notes for public participation [provided](#).

If you would not be physically able to use the stairs in the event of a fire, please inform us of your intention to attend this meeting no later than 9.00am on the Monday before, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

AGENDA

1. To note any apologies for absence
2. To receive any members' declarations of interest
3. To receive any representations from the public relating to items on the agenda
4. To approve and sign the minutes of the Climate and Nature Committee meeting held on 17 February 2026 (paper attached)
5. To consider the options for refreshed ecological surveys (paper attached)
6. To consider proposal to alter carbon calculations for 2026-27 to exclude the football club consumption (paper attached)
7. To note the plans for the Earth Day event and the launch of the Watermark Town initiative (paper attached)
8. To note the plans for Communications and Events for 2026-2027 (paper attached)
9. To note the schedule for 2026-27 Climate and Nature Committee and Thriving Nature working group meetings (paper attached)
10. To review the risks (and mitigations) owned by the Climate and Nature Committee from the Town Council's Risk Register 2026 and make recommendation to Full Council (paper attached)
11. To review the Committee's Terms of Reference for recommendation to Full Council (paper attached)
12. To note that the deadline for submission of items for inclusion on the next agenda is Tuesday 2 June 2026
13. Date of next meeting - 7.30pm on Tuesday 16 June 2026



THORNBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Climate and Nature Committee Meeting

held on Tuesday 17 February 2026 at 7:30pm at Council Chamber, Town Hall

Members present:	Councillors	Danny Bonnett (Chair) Chris Bloor (Vice Chair) Chris Rowe Christine Carter Kath Greenman
	Non-councillors	Ella Wiggans (Sustainable Thornbury)
In attendance:		Sharon Gardham (Climate and Nature Officer)
Members absent:	Councillors	Maggie Tyrrell
	Non-Councillors	Geraldine Barnes (Thornbury in Bloom) Guy Rawlinson (Holy Mowers) Emma Young (Plastic Free Thornbury)

CN2526.37 To note any apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were noted from Maggie Tyrrell, Geraldine Barnes (Thornbury in Bloom), Emma Young (Plastic Free Thornbury) and Guy Rawlinson (Holy Mowers).

CN2526.38 To receive any members' declaration of interest.

No declarations of interest were made by members.

CN2526.39 To receive any representations from the public relating to items on the agenda.

There were no representations from the public.

CN2526.40 To approve and sign the minutes of the Climate and Nature Committee Meeting held on 16 December 2025.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Climate and Nature Committee held on 16 December 2025 as an accurate record of the proceedings and the minutes were signed by the Chair.

CN2526.41 To consider dates for decarbonisation planning for 2026.

It was **RESOLVED** to agree the content of the decarbonisation plan, the dates for its completion, and the addition of decarbonisation planning as a standing agenda item at the Thriving Nature working group.

CN2526.42 To consider energy efficiency options for the council chamber.

It was **RESOLVED** to agree in principle to recommend to the Full Council the installation of destratification fans in the council chamber to improve the heat efficiency of the space. Further details are required for the paper that will go to the Full Council (see below). These additional details do not need to be brought back to the Climate and Nature Committee before the proposal is put to the Full Council. The

Committee expressed a preference for the more expensive fans that can be remotely reversed to aid heating and cooling.

CN2526.42.01: SG to discuss installation further with electrician to understand the options for fans (colour, finish), how loud they will be, and where they will be positioned. These details will be included in a paper to the Full Council in March.

CN2526.43 To consider Climate and Nature’s role in establishment of a memorial woodland in Thornbury

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the initial stages of developing a memorial woodland into the deliverables for Climate and Nature. Ideas for what elements might be included will be discussed at the March Thriving Nature working group. The Committee noted the desirability of ensuring a safe and accessible connection for non-vehicular traffic from the town centre and the Mundy Playing Fields.

CN2526.44 To note plans for the launch of the Watermark Town initiative on Earth Day (22 April).

Plans to launch participation in the Watermark Town initiative with an evening event at St Mary’s Church on 22 April were **NOTED**. Committee members agreed, where possible, to add the event to their diaries. Committee members were asked to send suggestions for speakers, panellists and/or participant organisations to SG. KG suggested the possibility of seeking financial support for the event from a local organisation.

CN2526.45 To note that the deadline for submission of items for inclusion on the next agenda is Tuesday 7 April 2026.

The deadline for the submission of items for inclusion on the next agenda was **NOTED**.

CN2526.46 To note the date of the next meeting of the Climate and Nature Committee is Tuesday 21 April 2026 at 7.30pm.

The date of the next meeting of the Climate and Nature Committee was **NOTED**.

The next Thriving Nature Working Group takes place on Tuesday 24 March at **7.00pm**.

Officer Report to Thornbury Town Council Climate and Nature Committee

Report Title: Supplier options for updated ecological surveys

Prepared By: Sharon Gardham

Meeting Date: 21 April 2026

Status: For Action



1. Detail

In 2022, Thornbury Town Council commissioned and received a series of ecological surveys of the green spaces it manages.

These surveys provided a baseline assessment of the ecological conditions on several TTC-managed sites and suggested actions that could be taken to improve biodiversity. The suggested actions were reviewed, and many have been implemented. Management plans and policies aiming to improve the biodiversity of TTC-managed green spaces have been implemented.

At the meeting of the Climate and Nature Committee on 21 October 2025, the committee considered a recommendation to refresh the surveys and associated management plans. Obtaining updated surveys and management plans will allow us to understand the impact of work already completed and build on it to best effect.

The recommendation to commission repeat surveys and refreshed management plans was accepted (Minute No. CN2526.20). £4000 was included in the 2026-27 Climate and Nature budget to pay for the refreshed ecological surveys and management plans (Minute No. CN2526.22). The in-scope sites are:

- Chantry Playing Fields
- Mundy Playing Fields (including Poulterbrook Field)
- St Mary's Churchyard
- Oakleaze Green
- Thicket Walk
- Chantry Road Play Area
- Thornbury Cemetery

Since the original surveys in 2022, the boundary of the cemetery has been extended to include the field adjacent, which has been proposed as a site for a wellbeing/memorial woodland/garden.

2. Implications

Environmental

Quotations have been received from three suppliers. Quotes were sought from locally based suppliers to minimise the environmental impact of travel and to support local businesses.

All suppliers work according to the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) code of practice.

Economic

The following quotations have been received from the three suppliers:

Supplier	Sites Included	Quote (excluding VAT)
Company A (Bristol-based consultancy)	Chantry Playing Fields, Mundy Playing Fields (incl.Poulterbook Field), St Mary's Churchyard, Oakleaze Green, Thicket Walk, Chantry Road Play Area, Thornbury Cemetery (including extension).	£1930
Company B (Bristol-based consultancy)	Chantry Playing Fields, Chantry Road Play Area, Mundy Playing Fields, St Mary's Churchyard, Thornbury Cemetery (excluding extension), Thicket Walk. Oakleaze Green was excluded on the basis that the original survey was only arboricultural.	£5302
Company C (Gloucester-based consultancy)	St Mary's Churchyard, Thicket Walk (quote was requested for all sites but only provided for these two. Further quotes were not requested given the high cost of surveying just two sites).	£2350

Obtaining three quotations fulfils the requirements of the Financial Regulations (section 5.9) for spending that exceeds £1500.

3. Recommendations

Each of the suppliers is equivalent in terms of environmental considerations and qualifications. Company A offers the best value for money and additionally has familiarity with the sites in question.

The Climate and Nature Committee is therefore asked to consider the recommendation that:

- Company A is contracted to repeat the ecological surveys of the TTC-managed sites listed above in the spring/summer of 2026.

Officer Report to Thornbury Town Council Climate and Nature Committee

Report Title: Mundy Playing Field Pavilion Carbon Calculation

Prepared By: Sharon Gardham

Meeting Date: 21 April 2026

Status: For Action



1. Detail

Thornbury Town Council (TTC) has been assessing its carbon emissions since April 2022 across four sites; the Town Hall, Mundy Playing Fields, Thornbury Cemetery and the Bakery Annexe. This includes an assessment of the consumption of gas, electricity and other fossil fuels (e.g. diesel and petrol).

Between the 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years, TTC saw a 31517 or 20% decrease in kWh (or equivalent) consumption of energy. This was primarily due to energy efficiency measures put in place at the Town Hall (achieving a 11.4% reduction in energy consumption) and the replacement of a fossil fuel-powered vehicle with an electric equivalent at Mundy Playing Fields (achieving a 34.7% reduction in overall energy consumption). This was despite small increases in consumption of 556 kWh at the Bakery Annexe and 684 kWh at the cemetery.

However, between the 2023-24 and 2024-25 financial years, TTC recorded a 20703 or 16.2% increase in kWh (or equivalent) consumption of energy. Whilst the Town Hall held steady during this period, showing a 63 kWh or 0.1% decrease in consumption, the Mundy Playing Fields recorded an increase of 20221 or 48.8% kWh. The Bakery Annexe and Cemetery also recorded small increases, although these were negligible (389 and 156 kWh increases respectively). This gives an overall net decrease of energy consumption of 3.8% over the entire period measured, which is not truly reflective of the extent of the measures taken by TTC to reduce its energy consumption.

During the 2023-24/2024-25 reporting period, Thornbury Football Club installed fridges and beer coolers which run on electricity 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Given that there have been no other known significant uplifts in TTC operations or fuel consumption at the site, and given the timing of the increase in consumption, it is assumed that they can be attributed to the change in Thornbury FC activities. Furthermore, the increased consumption has continued into the reporting year 2025-26, indicating that this is not a temporary spike, but is ongoing.

During recent discussions regarding decarbonisation road mapping, it was agreed that the scope of TTC decarbonisation planning and reporting should be limited to direct TTC operations (Minute No. CN2526.33). This stance is already reflected in energy consumption calculations for the Town Hall, which exclude 15% of gas and electricity consumed by attributing these to the rented offices used by the police. This is not, however, reflected in operations at the Mundy Playing Fields, where no such distinction or exclusion is applied by the Town Council.

The proposal outlined in this paper is to discount Thornbury FC energy consumption at the pavilion from our carbon emission calculations. This would provide a more realistic, fairer and manageable view of TTC's carbon footprint, thus allowing for more accurate and actionable measures to be proposed that will further reduce TTC's environmental impact.

As and when the pavilion is redeveloped, opportunities will be sought to reduce the overall carbon footprint of the site, and advice and support will be offered to Thornbury FC to in turn reduce their energy costs (environmental and financial), in line with the Football Association's five-year sustainability strategy.

TTC activities and areas of responsibility at the Mundy Playing Fields that account for energy consumption include:

- Running and use of vehicles (diesel and electric)
- Running and use of mechanical equipment (diesel, petrol, electric)
- Staff offices (welfare facilities including kitchen, bathroom and drying room, heating, lighting)
- Machine store
- Public toilets (including heating and hot water)

Thornbury FC activities and areas of responsibility that account for energy consumption include:

- Bar and kitchen
- Changing rooms and showers (home, away, officials)

While TTC operations are more varied and numerous, the energy consumption involved in these activities is not thought to heavily outweigh Thornbury FC consumption.

Given this and considering the sharp increase in energy consumption that coincided with the installation of drinks cooling on the site, a split of 50/50 is considered reasonable and is therefore recommended for the purposes of carbon calculation and reporting.

2. Implications

Environmental

While the proposal outlined does not address the overarching issue of energy consumption at Mundy Playing Fields, it does provide a clearer picture of TTC carbon emissions, which in turn will inform a more effective and realistic decarbonisation plan for the site. Furthermore, assessing these aspects separately will provide a compelling narrative for non-TTC stakeholders, which should encourage the adoption of more sustainable practices.

Financial

There are no financial considerations from a Climate and Nature perspective.

3. Recommendations

The Climate and Nature committee is asked to consider:

- Discounting 50% of the emissions from the Mundy Playing Field carbon reporting from 2025-26 onwards.

Officer Report to Thornbury Town Council Climate and Nature Committee

Report Title: Earth Day/Watermark Town Launch Event

Prepared By: Sharon Gardham

Meeting Date: 21 April 2026

Status: For Noting



1. Detail

At the February meeting of the Climate and Nature committee, plans for the celebration of Earth Day and the launch of our participation in the Watermark Town scheme were noted (Minute No. CN2526.44).

Since then, preparations have been underway to run an event on the evening of 22 April at St Mary's Church, Castle Street, Thornbury from 7-9pm. The evening will incorporate stands from local, relevant organisations and individuals, speakers from Thornbury Museum, Severn Area Rescue Association, and Thornbury Town Council and a panel of local water-themed experts who can take questions from the audience.

Members of the community can either travel independently to the event or can join one of three guided walks from different points in the town. The walks will follow stream or water side routes to the church.

The event will include an invitation to members of the public to contribute ideas for projects that we can complete to support our efforts to become a Watermark Town. Wessex Water (who support the scheme) will be in attendance to support TTC officers and councillors in gathering ideas and discussing the scheme.

The event will conclude with light refreshments, giving audience members a chance to visit the stands and chat with people about water-related subjects in Thornbury. This aspect of the event also offers an opportunity for local organisations to meet, network and make plans for future collaborations as they wish.

2. Implications

Environmental

Attendees have been advised to use active travel options where possible. Resourcing for the event has prioritised sustainability. For example, cakes will be entirely plant-based and sourced from Bristol-based firm Cakesmiths. All teas, coffees, etc. will be fair trade and organic where possible. Venue hire costs and speakers' fees support local charities and/or community spaces.

The Earth Day event supports the wider environmental priorities of the Local Climate and Nature Action Plan.

Financial

Venue hire and speakers' fees were funded by the 2025-26 Climate and Nature budget. Refreshment costs are covered in the events expenses budget line of the 2026-27 Climate and Nature budget.

3. Recommendations

The Climate and Nature committee are asked to note the arrangements for the Earth Day event. If committee members are attending the event and are not running a stall, assistance with set up, serving refreshments and packing away will be greatly appreciated.

Blue shading indicates in person events

Date	Event/Communication Type	Communication or Event	Where?	Tie-In Links	Details/Notes
01/06/2026	What to see and do in the Wildlife Garden this month	Comm	FB/Website		Monthly feature close to the first day of the month - use details from Podcast As the Season Turns/the Seasonal Almanac
01/06/2026	Promotion of June events - Thornbury Pride and Decarbonisation show and tell.	Comm	FB/Website/Posters	https://www.plantlife.org.uk/let-it-bloom-june-no-mow-may-is-over-whats-next/	Promotional post for decarb plan and Thornbury Pride
05/06/2026	World Environment Day	Comm	FB	https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/	Promotional post
06/06/2026	Great Big Green Week Event/Bristol and Bath Festival of Nature - 6-14 June @ Thornbury Pride	Event	Thornbury Pride	https://www.greatbiggreenweek.com/ https://www.bnhc.org.uk/festival-of-nature/	Tie in event with Great Big Green Week/Bristol and Bath Festival of Nature which takes place from 6-14 June. Theme is trees and forests. Possible Memorial Woodland engagement.
16/06/2026	Decarbonisation plan share	Event	FB - TTC wide?		Share our approach to decarbonisation planning and details of work carried out to date. Open up TH an hour ahead of C&N committee meeting to share information and discuss. Possible collaboration with ST/CATSA.
18/06/2026	Clean Air Day	Comm	FB	https://www.actionforcleanair.org.uk/campaigns/clean-air-day	Promotional post tying in with 2026 theme Update on decarbonisation planning and hints and tips for decarbonising travel.
22/06/2026	Bat Detector Loan Scheme Promotion	Comm	FB		Promotional post
29/06/2026	Welcome to new CNR members and signpost to other Thornbury Groups	Comm	FB		This is a regular post at the end of each month that welcomes new members of the FB group, encourages them to register for the CNR and signposts them to affiliated organisations.
01/07/2026	What to see and do in the Wildlife Garden this month	Comm	FB/Website		Monthly feature close to the first day of the month - use details from Podcast As the Season Turns/the Seasonal Almanac
02/07/2026	Plastic Free July	Comm	FB	https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/	Post encouraging people to make a pledge - include details of plastic alternatives
07/07/2026	Love Parks publicity	Comm	FB/Website/Posters		
21/07/2026	Big Butterfly Count	Comm	FB	https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org/	Share details on FB and put spotting sheets in Town Hall reception
28/07/2026	World Nature Conservation Day	Comm	FB	https://www.greenpeace.org/mena/en/five-ways-to-celebrate-world-nature-conservation-day/	Promotional Post
30/07/2026	Love your Park @ Mundy Playing Fields	Event	Mundy Playing Fields	https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/love-parks	School holidays Moth trapping event - drop in 9-10.30 Also, litter picking, nature scavenger hunt etc. Will need to cancel moth trapping if it rains
01/08/2026	What to see and do in the Wildlife Garden this month	Comm	FB	https://www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/blog/mitch-perkins	Monthly feature close to the first day of the month - use details from Podcast As the Season Turns/the Seasonal Almanac Encouragement to sign up to the Community Nature Reserve
01/08/2026	Love Thornbury event	Event	High Street		Beach on the High Street event - join TTC stand - watery themed engagement. Beach clean? Rivers to the sea?
10/08/2026	National Allotments Week	Comm	FB	https://thenas.org.uk/national-allotments-week	10-16 August. Maybe cross promote with Daggs Allotments.
20/08/2026	Bat Detector Loan Scheme Promotion	Comm	FB		Promotional post for bat detector loan scheme
	Plus water themed events/promotion - tbc				

Date	Event/Communication Type	Communication or Event	Where?	Tie-In Links	Details/Notes
01/09/2026	What to see and do in the Wildlife Garden this month	Comm	FB		Monthly feature close to the first day of the month - use details from As the Season Turns/the Almanac
05/09/2026	How to support bumblebees in the garden	Comm	FB	https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/bee-the-change/	Bee the Change - from Bumblebee Conservation Trust
08/09/2026	Secondhand September	Comm	FB	https://www.oxfam.org.uk/get-involved/second-hand-september/	Perhaps run a fix-it workshop - either with textiles or equipment. If former, see who might be able to run this (Christine has contacts?). If latter, perhaps run something with the Men's Shed.
11/09/2026	Heritage Open Day - Everyday Lives	Event	TH		Tie in with water - what a precious resource it is, the experience of using/getting water for people in the past, development of water use in Thornbury, ways to conserve water.
22/09/2026	Recycle Week	Comm	FB	https://www.recyclenow.com/news-and-campaigns/recycle-week	Promote and suggest ways to reduce, reuse and recycle, particularly in the garden. Pallet gardens, upcycling containers, reusing household items in the garden Recycle week runs from 22-28 September
23/09/2026	Start of seed gathering season	Comm	FB	https://treecouncil.org.uk/seasonal-campaigns/seed-gathering-season/	Promotional post - seed gathering season runs from 23/09 - 23/10. Promote the seed bank in Thornbury library.
27/09/2026	World Rivers Day	Comm	FB	https://worldriversday.com/	This is a celebration of the world's waterways
30/09/2026	Welcome to new CNR members and signpost to other Thornbury Groups	Comm	FB		This is a regular post at the end of each month that welcomes new members of the FB group, encourages them to register for the CNR and signposts them to affiliated organisations.
30/09/2026	Promote Foraging Event	Comm	FB/Website/Poster		Promotion of foraging event.
01/10/2026	What to see and do in the Wildlife Garden this month	Comm	FB		Monthly feature close to the first day of the month - use details from Podcast As the Season Turns/the Seasonal Almanac
03/10/2026	Fun Palaces	Event	St Mary's Shopping Centre	Thornbury-wide South Gloucestershire Council event	Activities as part of South Glos event - self-watering planters - make, decorate and plant (herbs?)
04/10/2026	Decarbonisation Roadmap Share Promotion	Comm	FB/Website/Poster		Promotion for decarbonisation roadmap sharing event.
14/10/2026	International E Waste Day	Comm	FB		Promotional post - tie in with Men's Shed?
25/10/2026	Decarbonisation Roadmap Share	Event	Town Hall		Event tying in with clocks change - talk about energy saving and ways to decarbonise. Share progress of our plan. In collaboration with CATSA/ST?
29/10/2026	Welcome to new CNR members and signpost to other Thornbury Groups	Comm	FB		This is a regular post at the end of each month that welcomes new members of the FB group, encourages them to register for the CNR and signposts them to affiliated organisations.
31/10/2026	Wild Foods Day Forage	Event	FB/Website		Bookable event via Eventbrite - Steve England foraging event (TBC). Thornbury Town residents only.
31/10/2026	Tree planting volunteer day promotion	Comm	FB/Website/Poster		Promotion of tree planting volunteering day
01/11/2026	What to see and do in the Wildlife Garden this month	Comm	FB/Website		Monthly feature close to the first day of the month - use details from Podcast As the Season Turns/the Seasonal Almanac
05/11/2026	Bonfire Night reminders	Comm	FB	https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/news/four-ways-to-look-out-for-wildlife-this-spooky-season	Reminder to consider wildlife on bonfire night - particularly hedgehogs in bonfires, etc.
10/11/2026	National Tree Week	Comm	FB	https://treecouncil.org.uk/seasonal-campaigns/national-tree-week/	Promotional Post - reminder about our self-guided tree trail
21/11/2026	Tree planting volunteer day	Event	Cemetery/Memorial Woodland		Public tree planting day - in collaboration with Forest of Avon (tbc depending on plans for Memorial Woodland).
24/11/2026	Promote Natural Christmas Crafts	Comm	FB/Website/Poster		Promotion of natural crafts event
30/11/2026	Welcome to new CNR members and signpost to other Thornbury Groups	Comm	FB		This is a regular post at the end of each month that welcomes new members of the FB group, encourages them to register for the CNR and signposts them to affiliated organisations.
01/12/2026	Watery-themed Christmas Tree?	Event/Comms	Town Hall		Have a watery themed Christmas Tree in the reception area.
01/12/2026	What to see and do in the Wildlife Garden this month	Comm	FB/Website		Monthly feature close to the first day of the month - use details from Podcast As the Season Turns/the Seasonal Almanac
05/12/2026	World Soil Day	Comm	FB	https://www.fao.org/world-soil-day/en/	Promotional post, plus share tips on how to improve soil health/composting. Possibly run a composting event in collaboration with Community Composting scheme.
05/12/2026	Natural Christmas Crafts	Event	TH		Making natural tree decorations and other crafts using natural/upcycled materials. Tie in with comms on waste reduction/plastic-free Christmas.
08/12/2026	Plastic-free Christmas	Comm	FB	https://plasticfree.org.uk/2020/12/02/10-tips-for-the-ultimate-plastic-free-christmas/	Share tips on how to reduce plastic use at Christmas
19/12/2026	Promote Willow Weaving event	Comm	FB/Website/Poster		Promotion for January willow weaving events
22/12/2026	Welcome to new CNR members and signpost to other Thornbury Groups. Wish members of the CNR a happy festive season.	Comm	FB		This is a regular post at the end of each month that welcomes new members of the FB group, encourages them to register for the CNR and signposts them to affiliated organisations.
24/12/2026	Happy festive season post	Comm	FB		Update on how many/area of CNR. How many trees planted/bug hotels filled - whatever has taken place this year

Date	Event/Communication Type	Communication or Event	Where?	Tie-In Links	Details/Notes
01/01/2027	What to see and do in the Wildlife Garden this month	Comm	FB/Website		Monthly feature close to the first day of the month - use details from Podcast As the Season Turns/the Seasonal Almanac
09/01/2027	Willow Bird Feeders/Roosting Pockets Workshop	Event	Town Hall		Work with expert to weave willow bird feeders or roosting pockets. Bookable event via Eventbrite. 8 years plus. Date subject to expert availability.
12/01/2027	Promote Big Schools Birdwatch	Comm	FB		Promotional post - perhaps targetted communication to local schools, particularly those that took part last year.
24/01/2027	Big Garden Bird Watch	Comm	FB	https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch	Promote RSPB event and share ways to support and attract birds to your garden Encourage people to use our green spaces for their bird watch
26/01/2027	Nest Box Building Promotional Lead in	Comm	FB/Website		Promotion for event on 14 Feb and follow up on big garden bird watch
31/01/2027	Welcome to new CNR members and signpost to other Thornbury Groups	Comm	FB		This is a regular post at the end of each month that welcomes new members of the FB group, encourages them to register for the CNR and signposts them to affiliated organisations.
01/02/2027	What to see and do in the Wildlife Garden this month	Comm	FB/Website		Monthly feature close to the first day of the month - use details from Podcast As the Season Turns/the Seasonal Almanac
02/02/2027	World Wetlands Day	Event	FB	https://www.worldwetlandsday.org/	Event at MPF? Update on Watermark Town projects
14/02/2027	Nest Box Building 11 plus	Event	Exhibition Room	https://www.nestboxweek.com/	2 sessions with 8 places each for 11+ bookable via Eventbrite
15/02/2027	Nest Box Building 5-11 year olds	Event	Exhibition Room		3 sessions with 8 places for children age 5-11 (accompanied by an adult). Bookable via Eventbrite.
28/02/2027	Welcome to new CNR members and signpost to other Thornbury Groups	Comm	FB		This is a regular post at the end of each month that welcomes new members of the FB group, encourages them to register for the CNR and signposts them to affiliated organisations.
02/03/2027	What to see and do in the Wildlife Garden this month	Comm	FB/Website		Monthly feature close to the first day of the month - use details from Podcast As the Season Turns/the Seasonal Almanac
06/03/2027	World Water Day event promotion	Comm	FB/Website/Poster		Promotion for world water day event. Include stats and information about water saving measures.
07/03/2027	Great British Spring Clean	Comm	FB	https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/our-work/eliminating-litter/great-british-spring-clean	Promotional post
16/03/2027	CNR Sign-Up encouragement	Comm	FB/Website/E-News		Tie in with the Spring Equinox which takes place on 20/3. Include information/links on wildlife friendly gardening.
18/03/2027	World Recycling Day	Comm	FB	https://www.globalrecyclingday.com/	Promotional Tie in with information about how and where you can recycle. Particularly garden items (plant pots, compost bags)
20/03/2027	World Water Day	Event		https://www.unwater.org/our-work/world-water-day	World water day is on 22/03. Raises awareness of those without access to fresh water (2.1 billion people). Event to tie in and celebrate our Watermark town projects
25/03/2027	Welcome to new CNR members and signpost to other Thornbury Groups	Comm	FB		This is a regular post at the end of each month that welcomes new members of the FB group, encourages them to register for the CNR and signposts them to affiliated organisations.
25/03/2027	Earth Hour	Comm	FB	https://www.earthhour.org/	Promotional post
31/03/2027	Welcome to new CNR members and signpost to other Thornbury Groups	Comm	FB		This is a regular post at the end of each month that welcomes new members of the FB group, encourages them to register for the CNR and signposts them to affiliated organisations.

Date	Event/Communitation Type	Communication or Event	Where?	Tie-In Links
01/04/2027	What to see and do in the Wildlife Garden this month	Comm	FB/Website	
27/04/2027	Annual Town Meeting - Celebration of Watermark Town status (fingers crossed!).	Event	TBC	https://www.earthday.org/
28/04/2027	Bat detector loan scheme promotion	Comm	FB/Website	
29/04/2027	Welcome to new CNR members and signpost to other Thornbury Groups	Comm	FB	
01/05/2027	What to see and do in the Wildlife Garden this month	Comm	FB/Website	
03/05/2027	No Mow May	Comm	FB	https://www.plantlife.org.uk/campaigns/nomowmay/
06/05/2027	Hedgehog Awareness Week	Comm	FB	https://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/give-hedgehogs-the-edge-this-hedgehog-awareness-week/
11/05/2027	Water Saving Week	Comm	FB	https://waterwise.org.uk/campaign/water-saving-week/
20/05/2027	World Bee Day	Comm	FB	https://www.plantlife.org.uk/campaigns/nomowmay/
23/05/2027	Bat detector loan scheme	Comm	FB	
27/05/2027	Welcome to new CNR members and signpost to other Thornbury Groups	Comm	FB	
01/06/2027	What to see and do in the Wildlife Garden this month	Comm	FB/Website	
01/06/2027	Sharing results of No Mow May - and introduce Let It Bloom June	Comm	FB	https://www.plantlife.org.uk/let-it-bloom-june-no-mow-may-is-over-whats-next/
06/06/2027	Great Big Green Week Event	Event	TBC	
29/06/2027	Welcome to new CNR members and signpost to other Thornbury Groups	Comm	FB	
Early June	World Environment Day	Comm	FB	https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/
End of April	National Gardening Week	Comm	FB	https://www.rhs.org.uk/get-involved/national-gardening-week
Mid-June	Clean Air Day	Comm	FB	https://www.actionforcleanair.org.uk/campaigns/clean-air-day

Details/Notes
Monthly feature close to the first day of the month - use details from Podcast As the Season Turns/the Seasonal Almanac
Celebrate granting of Watermark town status at ATM. Have information about water saving options and project ideas.
As bats emerge from hibernation, promote bat detector loan scheme again.
This is a regular post at the end of each month that welcomes new members of the FB group, encourages them to register for the CNR and signposts them to affiliated organisations.
Monthly feature close to the first day of the month - use details from Podcast As the Season Turns/the Seasonal Almanac
Promotional post. Ask people to share photos of their unmown lawns
Promotional post including ways to support hedghogs in your garden/green space. Possible work with schools to install hedgehog homes?
Promotional post with tips about how to save water and why it is important to do so. Include information about rainwater harvesting in the garden. Giveaway of water saving devices (collaboration with Bristol Water/Wessex Water)?
Promotional post with information about UK's bees and how you can support them in your garden
Promote as a half term activity (half term runs from 23/05)
This is a regular post at the end of each month that welcomes new members of the FB group, encourages them to register for the CNR and signposts them to affiliated organisations.
Monthly feature close to the first day of the month - use details from Podcast As the Season Turns/the Seasonal Almanac
Promotional post and invite results of No Mow May - plus invitation to take part in Let It Bloom June
Tie in event with Great Big Green Week which takes place from 6-14 June. Activities to tie in with theme for the year (TBC)
This is a regular post at the end of each month that welcomes new members of the FB group, encourages them to register for the CNR and signposts them to affiliated organisations.
Promotional post tying in with 2027 theme (TBC)
Promotional post plus ideas for wildlife friendly gardening. Possible tie in with Dags allotments. Plus promote CNR.
Promotional post tying in with 2027 theme (TBC)

Officer Report to Thornbury Town Council Climate and Nature Committee

Report Title: Climate and Nature Meeting Dates 2026-27

Prepared By: Sharon Gardham

Meeting Date: 21 April 2026

Status: For Noting



1. Detail

The following dates are proposed for the Climate and Nature Committee (C&NC) and Thriving Nature Working Group (TNWG) meetings from June 2026 – May 2027:

- 16/06/26: C&NC
- 28/07/26: TNWG
- August – no meetings
- 01/09/2026: C&NC
- 20/10/2026: C&NC
- 24/11/2026: TNWG
- 15/12/2026: C&NC
- 26/01/2027: TNWG
- 16/02/2027: C&NC
- 30/03/2027: TNWG
- 20/04/2027: C&NC
- 25/05/2027: TNWG

All meetings take place on a Tuesday evening. The Climate and Nature Committee meetings run from 19.30 – 21.30 and the Thriving Nature Working Group meetings take place between 19.00 and 21.00.

2. Implications

There are no anticipated environmental or financial implications.

3. Recommendations

The Climate and Nature Committee is asked to note the proposed meeting dates for 2026-27.

Meeting Calendar 2026-2027 Civic Year - DRAFT - VERSION 1

	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY										
MON		1								1	1												
TUE		2			1	CN		1		2	2												
WED		3	1			2		2		3	3												
THUR		4	2	P		3	1	3		4	4	P	1										
FRI	1	5	3		4	2		4	1	BH	5	5	2										
SAT	2	6	4	1	5	3		5	2	6	6	3	1										
SUN	3	7	5	2	6	4	1	6	3	7	7	4	2										
MON	4	BH	6	3	7	5	2	7	4	8	8	5	3	BH									
TUE	5		F&GP	4	8	FC	S	8	F&GP	9	F&GP	9	FC	6	4								
WED	6	10	8	5	9	7	4	9	6	10	10	7	5										
THUR	7	11	9	6	10	8	5	10	P	11	11	8	6										
FRI	8	12	10	7	11	9	6	11	8	12	12	9	7										
SAT	9	13	11	8	12	10	7	12	9	13	13	10	8										
SUN	10	14	12	9	13	11	8	13	10	14	14	11	9										
MON	11	15	13	10	14	12	9	14	11	15	15	12	10										
TUE	12	AMFC	C&N	FC	11	15	OS	13	F&GP	10	FC	15	CN	12	FC	16	CN	16	OS	13	F&GP	11	AMFC
WED	13	17	15	12	16	14	11	16	13	17	17	14	12										
THUR	14	18	16	13	17	P	15	12	17	14	18	15	P	13									
FRI	15	19	17	14	18	16	13	18	15	19	19	16	14										
SAT	16	20	18	15	19	17	14	19	16	20	20	17	15										
SUN	17	21	19	16	20	18	15	20	17	21	21	18	16										
MON	18	22	20	17	21	19	16	21	18	22	22	19	17										
TUE	19	OS	23	21	OS	18	22	20	CN	17	OS	22	20	CN	18								
WED	20	24	22	19	23	21	18	23	20	24	24	21	19										
THUR	21	P	25	23	20	24	22	19	24	21	P	25	22	20									
FRI	22	26	24	21	25	23	20	25	BH	22	26	23	21										
SAT	23	27	25	22	26	24	21	26	23	27	27	24	22										
SUN	24	28	26	23	27	25	22	27	24	28	28	25	23										
MON	25	BH	29	27	24	28	26	23	28	BH	25	29	BH	26	24								
TUE	26	30	28	25	29	27	24	29	TCC	26	30	27	ATM	25									
WED	27		29	26	30	28	25	30	TCC	27	31	28	26										
THUR	28		30	27		29	P	26	31	TCC	28	29	27										
FRI	29		31	28		30	27		29			30	28										
SAT	30			29		31	28		30				29										
SUN	31			30			29		31				30										
MON				31	BH		30						31	BH									

Please note the following:

1. Meetings are usually held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, but the ATM may take place at an alternative venue. Please refer to the published agendas for confirmation.
2. Additional meetings may be held beyond those shown on this calendar. See published agendas for details.
3. August: council in recess

BH	Public holidays
TCC	Town Council Closed

- * Additional meetings scheduled as required
- ** Except July/August
- *** Except September

AMFC	Annual Meeting of the Full Council	7.30pm	Yearly	In line with legislative requirements
FC	Full Council	7.30pm	Once every two months	Alternate months, second Tuesday of the month
F&GP	Finance and Gernal Purpose Committee	7.30pm	Once every two months	Alternate months, second Tuesday of the month
S	Staffing	7.30pm	Held annually *	First Tuesday of October
OS	Open Spaces	7.30pm	Once every two months	Third Tuesday of the month
P	Planning	7.30pm	Every six weeks**	On a Thursday
CN	Climate and Nature	7.30pm	Every two months***	Third Tuesday of the month
ATM	Annual Town Meeting	TBC	Yearly	Fourth Tuesday in April

TERMS OF REFERENCE

CLIMATE AND NATURE COMMITTEE

These terms of reference should be read in conjunction with Thornbury Town Council Standing Orders.

1. COMPOSITION

- 1.1 The Committee shall consist of a 6 Councillors.
- 1.2 All members shall be in position for one year. Membership of the group shall be determined annually at the Annual Meeting of the Town Council.
- 1.3 There will be up to six non-councillor members of the Committee, who will not have voting rights. These can be drawn from:
 - 1.3.1.1 The Thornbury Town Council Tree Warden (if this post is held by a Councillor/Committee member, then they will have voting rights in that capacity)
 - 1.3.1.2 A representative from Sustainable Thornbury
 - 1.3.1.3 A representative from the Holy Mowers
 - 1.3.1.4 A representative from Thornbury In Bloom
 - 1.3.1.5 A representative from Plastic Free Thornbury
 - 1.3.1.6 Additional members of the public as elected by the Climate and Nature Committee on the basis of their expertise, knowledge or experience in relation to climate or nature matters. The number of these additional members should take the non-Councillor membership up to six.

2. CHAIR

- 2.1 The Committee Chair must be a councillor and will be elected annually at the Annual Meeting of the Full Council.
- 2.2 The Committee shall elect a Vice-Chair, who must be a councillor, annually at the first meeting after the Annual Town Council Meeting.
- 2.3 The Chair, if present shall Chair the Committee meeting.
- 2.4 In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair a vote of committee members will appoint a Chair for that meeting.

3. QUORUM

- 3.1 The Committee shall be subject to a quorum of 3 voting members.

4. CONDUCT OF THE MEETING

- 4.1 All meetings of the Committee shall be convened in accordance with Thornbury Town Council standing orders and current legislation.
- 4.2 The meeting shall be administered by the Climate and Nature Officer.

5. AREA OF OPERATIONS

The Committee shall be responsible for all matters pertaining to climate and nature, including:

- 5.1 Tackling carbon emissions
- 5.2 Biodiversity management/enhancement
- 5.3 Climate and nature emergency action planning
- 5.4 Engagement with local and national stakeholder groups/charities such as the Wildlife Trust, Sustainable Thornbury
- 5.5 Engagement with other Town and Parish Councils and South Gloucestershire Council in relation to climate and nature matters
- 5.6 Map the environmental assets and achievements of the Parish
- 5.7 Research and apply for grant funding to fund environmental projects and initiatives
- 5.8 Climate and Nature projects, activities and events
- 5.9 Climate and Nature communications, both direct communications and feeding into wider Town Council communications (communications planning, contribution of articles etc)
- 5.10 Advising Full Council, or other Committees, on climate and nature impacts of proposals/operations
- 5.11 Public education/awareness campaigns

6. DELEGATED POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 To deal with any climate and nature applications, correspondence or consultations.
- 6.2 Delegation to spend on climate and nature related activities up to the amount agreed in the annual Town Council budget for Green Projects (Cost centre: 190/Nominal code: 4540)
- 6.3 To issue communications relating to the areas of operation of the Committee on behalf of the Town Council, via the Climate and Nature Officer
- 6.4 To engage with outside organisations on behalf of the Town Council
- 6.5 To develop the Thornbury Town Council Climate and Nature Action Plan for ratification by Full Council and following adoption to maintain this as a live document
- 6.6 To advise the Town Council on Climate and Nature matters, particularly relating to proposed projects or initiatives of the Town Council and refer resolutions or recommendations (which should be minuted) to the relevant committee as necessary e.g. buildings recommendations to Finance & General Purpose Committee and open spaces to the Open Spaces Committee.

7. HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 7.1 To satisfy itself that Health and Safety and governance procedures are being followed in relation to the Finance Committee remit.

8. ENVIRONMENT

- 8.1 To give due consideration to environmental, conservation and climate change matters in carrying out the functions of the Committee and in reaching all decisions.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

- 9.1 To consider equality and diversity (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and disability), tackling disadvantage, reducing social exclusion, and supporting society's most vulnerable groups, in carrying out the functions of this Committee.

10. FURTHER INFORMATION

- 10.1 The Committee shall appoint sub committees and working groups as and when it is deemed necessary and shall set out Terms of Reference for those bodies

10.2 The Committee shall undertake reviews of Terms of Reference as and when appropriate for sub-committees and working groups under its remit and should make recommendations to Full Council regarding its own Terms of Reference.

Officer Report to Thornbury Town Council Climate and Nature Committee

Report Title: Climate and Nature Risk Register Review

Prepared By: Sharon Gardham

Meeting Date: 21 April 2026

Status: For Action



1. Detail

The following risk is assigned to the Climate and Nature Committee:

Risk title	Category	Risk Detail & Consequence	Impact	Likelihood	Risk Rating	Risk Treatment	Risk mitigation controls in place (or required)
Climate emergency - Town Council actions	Legal/reputation/provision	The Town Council has declared a climate emergency. Failure to follow up appropriately with an action plan which embeds of climate and biodiversity action into Town Council operations will impact negatively on Town Council reputation and the environment.	3	4	12	Treat	Professional Ecological Surveys have been carried out for Town Council owned land to ensure the management of land to the benefit of biodiversity/nature, and to inform a tree planting strategy. Surveys have been reviewed by Open Spaces Committee and amended as necessary in light of operational considerations. New regimes to be implemented subject to resource. Climate and Nature Committee created. Climate and Nature Officer recruited to take forwards the creation of a Local Climate and Nature Action Plan and other climate and nature projects.

Mitigated Impact	Mitigated	Mitigated Risk Rating	Risk Owner	Date Risk Owner Reviewed	Date Full Council Reviewed	RA Reference
3	2	6	Climate & Nature Committee	5/14/2024	5/14/2024	

The Climate and Nature Committee it asked to review the risk (and mitigations) owned by the Climate and Nature Committee from the Town Council’s Risk Register 2026, for recommendation to Full Council.