

Report from Cllr. Katrina Blench for a meeting of Brightling Parish Council 13.3.24.

Attended:

Climate Literacy Course - in person,
New Councillors Training course - Zoom.

Reports:

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND BIODIVERSITY

Brightling Parish Council made a Climate Action declaration so suggest we should now develop a Climate and Ecological action plan as requested by Rother based around the points in our Environmental policy. (Email - Climate and Ecological action plan checklist tool kit 7/12/23).

Rother has identified these action areas for the refreshed Climate Strategy.

Emissions from buildings, transport, and resource consumption need to be drastically reduced.

Biodiversity enhancements and clean energy generation provide opportunities for nature recovery.

Carbon sequestration and avoiding emissions.

Figures from Rother Climate Strategy-Brightling (Darwell) overall carbon footprint - 12400kg CO₂e per person -

LA Average - below 8000,

Similar LSOAs 10000. (Lower Super Output Area)

Aim by 2032 is 3000 to reach net zero by 2050.

Name	Grade	kgCO ₂ e per person
Total	E-	12400
Electricity	F	798
Gas	E	456
Other Heating	E-	774
Car Driving	F+	1880

Van Driving	F	274
Flights	A	2490
Consumption of goods and services	F	5690

Questions?

Would Brightling Parish Council like to hear more about Rother's Climate Action and get some advice to inform our Action Plan? **Dr Lucie Bolton** Climate Strategy Officer can be requested to speak at a Parish Council meeting.

How can Brightling Parish Council support Community events (on Energy Saving and Dark Skies held by BEG for example) as we would want to include them as part of our Climate and Ecological action plan?

Brightling Environment Group

Dark skies -

Caroline Hodge from **BEG** would like to put forward the following resolution for consideration by Brightling Parish Council.

"Brightling Parish to join a new regional dark sky initiative spanning Burwash, Mayfield, Goudhurst, Ticehurst and Wadhurst who are working with High Weald AONB to achieve certification as a 'Dark Sky Community' by 2026. The parishes will work together to align dark sky policies across the region, and to share resources, experience, costs of community engagement, and to apply best practices and lessons learned in developing a Lighting Plan for Brightling."

Dark Skies event (October) planning will start in April.

Energy Saving Event - *Warmer homes in Brightling and beyond: how to heat local homes for less - and reduce carbon emissions* held on Thursday 29 February 7pm Village Hall.

Very well attended - over 60 people. Questionnaire gone out to see if people found it useful. 13 people expressed an interest in their houses being surveyed with the thermal imaging camera - one of them is from Burwash Housing Association with 14 properties.

Footpaths and bridleways

First two walks will be on

Monday 22 April 2pm starting from Village Hall

Wednesday 26 June 6pm starting from Fern Hill

Welcome Pack - out for proof reading by Cllr Jane Oxenford.