



Minutes of the **Aylsham Climate Emergency Group Meeting held on 2nd March 2026**



Present:

Grizelda Tyler (Chairman)
Michael Dolling
Yvonne Stewart

Sue Catchpole
Louise Harlow

Kevin Cunnane
Kate Mackenzie

Also Present: Guests Bidy Fisher (Felbeck Trust), Phil and Delia Arthur, Keith and Margaret Brooker, Hilary Lucier and Michael Scott
Faye LeBon (Town Clerk).

1. To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Bryce Davies, Catherine Fletcher, Corinne Houlden, Kay Montandon and Heather Walters.

2. To Receive Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

None received.

3. To Agree the Minutes of the 2nd February 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2026 were **agreed** as a true record of the business conducted at the meeting.

4. To Note Matters Arising from the Minutes, not Included on the Agenda

It was confirmed that the Family Learning Day would be on the 20th June.

The clerk will find out when the s106 Green Infrastructure funding would need to be spent.

5. Existing Projects.

a) To receive update and agree project for further Green Infrastructure funding

Kate advised that she is looking at a list and is awaiting extra costings.

b) To receive update on Climate Scam film event

It was reported that there was good feedback from the Climate Scam film. It was agreed that the film programme was a better alternative to Green Day. Yvonne will do an analysis of the discussion that took place after the film.

Whilst attendance was good, it was acknowledged that there was a need to attract people who were not already convinced that there is a climate crisis. It was also important to attract young people.

The next film is on 15th May.

Yvonne reported that she had been contacted by Cornwall Climate Care about a film they are working on specifically for young people.

Other suggestions for attracting young people to ACE were:

- Work with the Norfolk Wildlife Trust, which has attracted a group of young people already.
- Work with the community shed. Young people could assist with making swift boxes.
- Work with the school's Duke of Edinburgh co-ordinator
- Work with the uniformed groups eg: scouts
- It was acknowledged that it is sometimes difficult to work with the schools because their curriculum is already very full. Working with 16-30 year olds could be considered.
- A Youth ACE
- Bulb planting for families / uniformed groups
- Engage young people to help with marketing for films.
- Link up with the National Trust
- Biofluorescent walks and bat searches

It was noted that events to be held with those already engaged in the process could help to raise money for events for those who were not so engaged.

Grizelda suggested an ACE ceilidh.

c) Carbon Reduction and Local Businesses

Kay Montandon has been working on this project. She had recently visited businesses on the industrial estate to begin a line of engagement with them.

It was noted that the proposed Lidl store was planned with solar panels.

d) Outward Communications

Yvonne advised that she was unable to place a poster in the ACE noticeboard due to its height and composition. The Clerk will find out if cork board can be installed within the board.

It was agreed that the website needs a revamp. A small group should liaise with Patrick and Peter to decide what is needed. Grizelda and Yvonne will get a date from Patrick. A problem with the website was noted, in that an error message came up when submitting the contact form.

e) To agree actions for other planned events

Michael had provided a proposal to support recycling, in view of the dwindling projects through Terracycle. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

The Clerk will arrange for a sealable donations container for the blister packs.

6. To Agree Purchase of ACE Gazebo for use at Events

It was agreed to defer this item.

7. To consider showing of the National Emergency Briefing Film

Jenny Haycocks joined the meeting via zoom

Jenny updated the meeting to advise that the film will be ready to be broadcast after 7th April. So far in excess of 500 places have agreed to show the film. Discussions occurred as to when a suitable time to show the film. It was agreed to show the film after the elections on 7th May, in the hope of encouraging political figures to attend.

The National Emergency Briefing is creating a supporters pack which will help with promotion of the film.

Work continues to lobby the mainstream television stations to show the film.

Momentum needs to be maintained after the showing of the film.

There are links associated with the National Emergency Briefing and a WhatsApp group that can be joined. Jenny will send these details to the Clerk to circulate. The WhatsApp group can also be joined through the Zero Hour website.

Jenny was thanked for her update

8. To Receive Group Updates, not elsewhere covered in the agenda

Transport

This group continues to look at the Penfold Street junction. The alternative design has now been tested with a fire engine and a bus.

The Clerk will circulate the results of the market place survey.

The Clerk will find out what the uptake has been for the Cargo Bike.

A new crossing at Burgh Road is now quite likely.

Energy

It was reported that people are still requesting to use the thermal imaging camera. Michael advised that the Green Doctor is hoping to link up with ACE. Concerns were raised over cowboy builders that had been associated with the government's home insulation scheme. The Clerk advised that the Town Council would not recommend specific companies, but would refer to Trusted Trader.

9. Finance

a) To receive updated ACE budget

The Clerk provided an update on the ACE budget in both the earmarked reserves and the revenue budget, along with committed funds.

Revenue Budget	£3,907.50
ACE Events	£554.34
Other Income	£1,406.83

This would be moved to ACE earmarked reserves at the end of the financial year.

General ACE earmarked reserves currently stand at £909.00.

Grizelda will bring the cash from the Climate Scam film to the Town Council for banking.

10. Items for Future Agendas

Proposal for Lidl store

Green Doctor
Recycling project

The microphones are to be set up for the next meeting.

It was noted that The Book Hive wishes to start a Climate Reading Group. The first meeting will be in the Quaker Hall at 5.30pm on 1st April.

11. To Agree the Date of the Next Meeting as Wednesday 8th April 2026 at 7pm

This was *agreed*.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.40pm.

Signed _____

Date _____

DRAFT



AYLSHAM TOWN COUNCIL ACE PROJECT PROPOSAL



Approved in Principle:

Full Approval:

PROJECT TITLE: Toothbrushes and pens recycling scheme

ACE SUB-GROUP(S) INVOLVED: Waste

LEADER OF PROJECT: Michael Dolling

OUTLINE of the PROJECT

Please write a brief description of the project, including full details of how the project will be delivered and any working partnerships involved.

A practical and financially sustainable toothbrush and pen recycling scheme that can meet the demand from local residents over the next year.

The free recycling programmes run by Terracycle and sponsored by corporates have ceased. This is probably in light of the End User Responsibility Scheme that is taxing manufacturers who produce single use plastics and passing this funding down to councils.

We therefore propose an expansion of the Medicine Tablet Blister pack recycling Scheme to include Toothbrushes and Pens. This would be funded by donations from those who use the scheme and collections would be at the Friday Country Market and 1st Saturday of the month, next to Quakers

The ACE bin at the church would be discontinued with Spectacles, printer cartridges and stamps continuing to be collected in small bins in the church.

We have negotiated with ReFactory (who recycle the blister packs, pens and toothbrushes) to establish that they will accept separate sacks of toothbrushes and pens at the same per sack gate fee as the blister packs. We will continue therefore to organise our own couriers when the sacks are full with the help of Andy at the Town Council.

Timescale:

Jan 2026 – Jan 2027

External Funding (please specify): Individual residents will be asked to contribute to the scheme when they bring their recycling.

Approximate funding required from ACE/Town Parish Council

£500 for production and distribution of posters, signage, article in Just Aylsham and associated publicity. This would include the cost of a 7.4 hours one off time to design the posters etc and the cost of two cash collection/donation tins in line with council policy on this.

ABOUT the PROJECT

What is the need for this Project?

Toothbrushes and pens are the two main items residents continue to ask if we take.

Who will benefit?

Aylsham residents and the carbon footprint of the town/UK/World!

How will those taking part help design, implement & evaluate the project?

We know there is demand for this as we have had 7.5 kg of toothbrushes collected in the last year and 13kg of Pens.

How many will be involved, and how they will contribute to the Project.

We would engage the High School Eco Group in the collection of these items and will encourage schools to have their own collection bin for pens.

We are also looking to engage with local dentists asking for sponsorship of the toothbrush scheme.

Is Town Council staff involvement required?

Yes, to financially administer the project and organise the collation and delivery of blister packs, toothbrushes and pens to MyGroup ReFactory in Hull.

We would also like to propose a consistent visible presence by ACE at the Friday Market and Monthly craft market, using the branded displays, leaflets and outreach materials created already for Green Days etc. and a rota of ACE volunteers willing to set this up and staff it.

If so, what will this entail?

1 hour a month grounds staff to pack and arrange pallet collection.
2 hours a month to receive cash, bank this and ongoing publicity.

What are the publicity requirements and who will lead on this?

We will need new posters detailing the changes, social media activity and prescription bag slips. Also, article in Just Aylsham. Would the TC be able to put this together with the help of ACE Waste Volunteers?

How will progress on the project be reported back to ACE?

Monthly feedback about rate that the pallet box is filling and an annual report of weight of blister packs, toothbrushes and pens recycled

How will the success of the project be evaluated?

We will recycle at least 30kg of toothbrushes and 30kg of pens over the next year.

WHEN WILL THE PROJECT BEGIN & END?

Estimate if unsure:

START:

Month & Year: march 2026

END:

Month & Year: march 2027

Procedure for ACE Projects

In the first instance, members are required to complete this Project Form, giving an outline of what the project involves and an approximate cost. This will be considered by ACE, and if it is supported, it will receive approval 'in principle' and will be able to progress to the next stage.

Members are then required to provide more details of the project, including plans, maps, drawings and work programmes.

The full proposal will be considered at an ACE Meeting and if necessary, the following Town Council Meeting. If the project gains full approval, it will be managed by the relevant sub-group with regular reports to ACE.

Please complete this form and send to the Town Clerk (townclerk@aylsham-tc.gov.uk) at least one week prior to the ACE meeting at which it will be considered.

Submitted by...Michael Dolling.....

Date.....26/02/2026.....



The Site



The site is located next to the A140 (Norwich Road) with Henry Page Road to the north and Hungate Lane to the west.





The proposals



A new Lidl store built to our very latest specification, including modern in-store facilities like our popular bakery and Middle of Lidl aisles within a 1,347 sq. m. net sales area



Ample customer car parking, including accessible, parent and child spaces and 12 Electric Vehicle Charging spaces with in-built capacity for more. **Covered cycle parking is also included**



Current proposals show vehicular access from Henry Page Road along with two new connecting footpaths



Existing trees retained where possible and new landscaping proposals including shrub and tree planting, along with an 0.73 acre area for biodiversity enhancements



Lidl has an ongoing commitment to enhance the environmental sustainability of its stores. A range of technology is used in store to minimise energy use, such as heat recovery systems and air source heat pumps. Solar panels on the roof would provide up to 25% of the store's energy requirements



Up to 40 new full and part time jobs for local people with a starting rate of £13.45 per hour, increasing with length of service

Our award-winning bakery!



Whether it's tasty Belgian buns, all butter croissants or our range of breads and cakes, we have something Aylsham residents love - all at great prices.

Awards



Lidl is the proud winner of the Retail Industry Awards Supermarket of the Year for the third year running.



Lidl have been named Grocer of the Year at The Grocer Gold Awards 2025.



Timeline & next steps

Thank you for attending our public consultation on proposals for a new Lidl foodstore in Aylsham. Please complete a feedback form to have your say. All feedback will be considered as we develop our proposal ready for formal submission. Thank you!

The below timeline is indicative and subject to change.



Public consultation



Planning submission



Planning decision expected



Start on site for construction



Store opening



0800 089 0361



lidl@new-stores.co.uk



Scan the QR code to view the website & provide feedback

ACE FINANCIAL REPORT (to 30th March 2026)

Revenue Budget (1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026)

Budget Allocated		£5,000.00
Expenditure		
Expenses 6" of Soil	£130.91	
Expenses 6" of Soil	£21.61	
Aylsham Show	£33.88	
Notice Board	£50.00	
Banner for Live Well for Less	£100.00	
Additional Printing for Live Well for Less	£111.26	
Café Expenses for Live Well for Less	£24.85	
Website Expenses	£619.99	
Cork for noticeboard	£21.64	
BALANCE		£3,885.86

Earmarked Reserves (ACE Events)

Income (6" of Soil)	£621.00
Expenditure (Cornwall Climate Care)	-£50.00
Expenditure (Hungry for Change)	-£98.29
Proposed Expenditure (Films Nov 25 and Feb 26)	-£100.00
Income cash (Riverlands) £245 gross	£204.17
Income card (Riverlands) £82 gross	£68.33
Card Charges (film screening)	-£1.39
Expenditure (Climate Scam)	-£89.48
Income (Climate Scam)	£232.90

BALANCE **£787.24**

Other Expenditure

Blister Packs (taken from Bottle Bank credits 25/26) £884.22

Other Income

Blister Pack Donations (April) £84.06

Blister Pack Donations (May) £108.80

Blister Pack Donations (June) £102.77

Blister Packs Donations (Aug) £136.05

Blister Pack Donations (Sept) £92.99

Blister Pack Donations (Oct) £71.73

Blister Pack Donations (Nov) £58.50

Blister Pack Donations (Dec) £26.93

Blister Pack Donation (Jan) £60.68

Blister Pack Donation (Feb) £155.35

Blister Pack Donation (March) £63.18

Veolia Grant £725.00

£1,686.04

Green Infrastructure Grant

Grant Income £5,000.00

Expenditure

S&M Supplies (Comm Shed) -£227.55

Balance £4,772.45

General Earmarked Reserves for ACE £909.00

At financial year end (31st March), the balance of the ACE budget will be moved into earmarked reserves for ACE to use in 2026/2027