

**PRESS RELEASE**

**For immediate release**

**GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL INTRODUCES NEW ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Having passed a Climate Emergency & Biodiversity Motion on 25 July 2019, Godalming Town Council has taken a step closer in its quest to be carbon neutral by 2030. At the Full Council meeting on Thursday, 26 September, Members agreed to the formation of a new Environment & Planning Committee with the first meeting planned for January 2020.

The purpose of the new Environment & Planning Committee will be to address and, where appropriate, formulate policy for consideration by the Council and to discharge the Council's functions relating to the local environment and infrastructure. The Committee's functions will include identifying key environment and planning issues whilst taking into account the natural and built environment. Consideration will be given to issues in relation to local, regional plans or other planning, highway matters brought to the Town Council's attention.

Members will make decisions on applications made to the Council by local organisations for funding from the Council's new carbon-reduction and mitigation grant scheme which was introduced on 25 July. It is hoped the grants will encourage and enable carbon reduction within Godalming.

When considering planning applications the Committee will seek to ensure compliance with policies set out in the Godalming & Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan.

For dates and timings of the new Environment & Planning Committee, please visit Godalming Town Council's website [www.godalming-tc.gov.uk](http://www.godalming-tc.gov.uk)

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