

ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL

CLIMATE ACTION - LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORT

NAME:	Cllr Ruth Ashfield & Cllr Dougie Gordon
TOPIC:	Climate Action
DATE:	4 February 2025
UPDATE SINCE LAST REPORT:	<p><u>Relaunch of the Climate Change Working Group:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Due to a change of personnel in early 2024, the meetings of the Climate Change Working Group were paused.• There are now two new Lead Councillors for Climate Change – Cllr Dougie Gordon and Cllr Ruth Ashfield.• Deputy Town Clerk, Kyla Brown will support Ruth, Dougie and the Group.• Contact was made with the previous Climate Change volunteers and a meeting was scheduled for 21st November - which was subsequently cancelled as most invitees were unable to attend. <p><u>Bee Squared:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Since the last Report, ATC launched the Bee Squared initiative – working with local businesses 1800 packets of wildflower seeds were distributed.• Competition in the spring: a prize to be awarded to the best display of the wildflowers – photographs to be sent to beesquaredalcester@gmail.com <p><u>Seed bombs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In collaboration with All Things Rural and the RHS Campaign for School Gardening, ATC has worked with local Alcester Primary schools to distribute wildflower seed ‘Bee Bombs’ and teach the children about bees and wildflowers. <p><u>Herb pots:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In August, ATC organised a family session decorating herb pots and teaching children how to grow edible herbs from seed. <p><u>Local Climate and Nature Action Plan:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Since the last Report, ATC has received support from the Climate Officer at Warwickshire Association of Local Councils who has helped us to produce the first draft of a Local Climate and Nature Action Plan (LCNAP). This is very much a work in progress.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Input on the LCNAP was requested of the Climate Change volunteers over email but there were no comments forthcoming.
<p>FUTURE PLANS:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor amendments are being made to the LCNAP by Kyla and Tim Forman and will be reviewed by Lead Councillors before it is made available to the public for comment (mid Feb). • An unsuccessful submission was made by ATC to the SDC Community Climate Change Fund in April 2024. SDC has confirmed applicants are not precluded from applying again. Round 2 of the fund is now open and Kyla will tweak the application for resubmission before the deadline of 10th February. • A meeting of the Lead Councillors and Kyla is to be scheduled for early February. • A meeting of the rebranded Climate Change Group (including public volunteers) is to be rescheduled for mid- March.