

Notices of Motion submitted pursuant to Council Procedure Rule No 5.27

To consider the following Notice of Motion submitted by the Councillors listed below:

Nicolas Heslop
Martin Coffin
Robin Betts
David Lettington
Vivian Branson
Michael Base
Frixos Tombolis
Matt Boughton

We believe that a sustainable low-carbon future is essential for our own sake, and that of future generations – and is needed urgently to avoid the dangers of runaway climate breakdown.

A recent report published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) states that in order for us to limit the global temperature increase to 1.5°C, worldwide CO2 emissions need to decline by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030 and reach net zero emissions by 2050. This target will allow us to support the international commitment to keep the planet's temperature rise below 1.5°C (above pre-industrial levels) as agreed under the Paris Agreement. We also note the recent Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystems Services report on global species and habitat loss.

Further to this, Council resolves to:

1. Declare its recognition of global climate change and biodiversity emergencies;
2. Consider how the Council can strengthen local protection and enhance protection of species, habitats and ecosystems under available powers;
3. Review services and operations to ensure Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council has policies that support climate change mitigation, for example the provision of electric charging points across the borough, so that it is one of the most welcoming places in the country for driving electric and hybrid vehicles;
4. Request an initial report is made to the Cabinet setting out how, in partnership with other agencies, the Council will be making positive contributions to combat climate change.