

Climate Change Quarterly Bulletin - May 2026

Key climate change updates from Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council for Parish and Town Councils



Updates

Air Quality Management Areas

- 4 AQMAs revoked: Tonbridge High Street, A20 Larkfield, A20 Aylesford, Borough Green
- Air pollution levels now below national limits
- Monitoring continues across the borough, with Wateringbury remaining the only AQMA

Green Business Grant Scheme (Round 6)

- Launched February, closed April
- Up to £5,000 funding (50% contribution)
- Supports carbon reduction measures such as solar, LED lighting, insulation, double glazing
- 12 applications received, with 11 projects awarded funding
- Funded through the Business Rates Shared Growth Fund

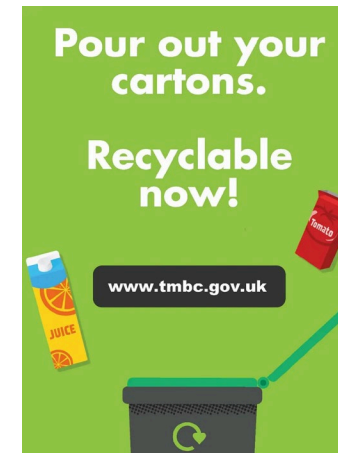


Waste & Recycling

- Tetra Pak cartons now accepted in green lidded recycling bins
- Waste contract award announced

Anti-idling

- School engagement ongoing
- Signage installed at Tunbury School, Walderslade
- Email: environmental.protection@tmbc.gov.uk



Habitat Enhancement

Over 2,000 native trees and whips planted since January. Planting programme ongoing.

Tree & Micro Forest Planting

Tonbridge Racecourse Sportsground

- Miyawaki forest planted
- Micro forest planted

Leybourne

- Existing Miyawaki forest enhanced

Swanmead Sportsground

- Micro forest planted



Expansion of Roadside Nature Reserves (RNR)

- 47 plots identified across the Borough
- 93.9% increase in total RNR coverage
- Reduced cutting to one annual cut and collect
- Native wildflower seed mix to be introduced across 20% of reserve areas
- Officers training supporting habitat monitoring



Habitat Enhancement

Woodland Management

Taddington Valley

- Woodland Management Plan progressing
- New entrance signage installed
- Nature trail and webpage launched

Holly Hill

- Public consultation on the new management plan being prepared

Haysden Country Park

- Brown hairstreak butterfly egg and caterpillar surveys
- Dormouse boxes installed

Walderslade & Kings Hill

- Coppicing undertaken



Thermal Imaging Camera Scheme

Helping residents improve home energy efficiency

- Scheme delivered during the winter period
- Over 40 residents booked the service



Benefits

- Identifies heat loss and cold spots
- Supports informed decisions on insulation and draught-proofing
- Encourages practical, cost-effective home energy improvements

Area	Residents
Aylesford	2
East Malling	6
Hadlow	1
Hildenborough	1
Ightham	1
Kings Hill	11
Larkfield	1
Leybourne	1
Shipbourne	2
Tonbridge	12
West Malling	4
Wrotham	2
Grand Total	44

Climate Action Shipbourne and Plaxtol (CASP) – Eco Fair

- Open homes event showcasing low-carbon improvements
- Research identified typical local housing types and retrofit options
- Developing practical upgrade pathways for residents
- Attended by KCC, TMBC Members and local groups



Climate Change Forum (CCF)

- Partnership supporting local climate change engagement
- Discussions include home energy, waste reduction and plastics

Get involved - climate.change@tmbc.gov.uk

- Share upcoming events
- Help us build a directory of Repair Cafes

