



Ware Town Council

Report of Climate & Biodiversity Manager
Report to Town Clerk
Date Monday 14th April 2025
Subject Climate & Biodiversity Report

Library of Things

- Insurance details and risk assessment complete and with Zurich to review and advise if additional cover is required.
- Detailed survey at Wodson complete and new locker design underway. Jan Stock has approved a larger space so that we can keep the same number of lockers as previously proposed for Asda.
- Tool selection drafted and with LOT to include in locker design. We can now include a carpet cleaner which is the most borrowed item so should help to increase revenue.
- Final details for Wodson meeting on 28th April complete and ready to present to the Board of Trustees.
- Need to pick back up on campaign page and get LOT to finalise this before working with Sarah to increase mailing list to 1500 people. Assistance from Councillors with getting a sign up link out to contacts/customers would be appreciated.
- Asda CEO has not responded to my challenge to a game of darts!!

Toilet Block

- Workshop now complete with the exception of a couple of minor items which are underway.
- HP will order 2 rising stools, 2 chairs and some minor bits so workshop can be used prior to LOT starting
- 4G internet connection arranged with Rydal for w/c 14/4/25 as 6th attempt to get BT to install hard wired internet has failed.
- CCTV to be commissioned following 4G installation, ready for official opening on 19th April.

Lido

- Working on roof insulation issue – an assumption was made by the architect that the existing roof was insulated but sadly it's not therefore insulation needs to be added in order to meet Building Regulation requirements. HP organising thermal calculations and carrying out payback calculations in order to put a case to Building Control that we keep the insulation to a minimum so as to reduce extra costs.
- Meter install booked with British Gas for 30th May in line with proposed road closure dates however we are still awaiting confirmation of these from UKPN.

Utilities

- New gas contract with Crown is in place and active on the portal.
- New electric contract with British Gas is in place however we are still awaiting access to the portal.
- Quotes have been requested for water/drainage as one of the existing contracts is due for renewal shortly. It appears there are a few water meters which were previously not carried over to existing supplier and are still with the old supplier. HP is working on carrying these forward to the new supplier when chosen.
- HP has been carrying out a review of all existing meters (gas/electric/water) and utility contracts as there are a number of anomalies which need to be sorted. A spreadsheet is being prepared co-ordinating all of the information and including meter readings so that this can be properly monitored moving forward.
- HP is working with Matt to map the meters on all WTC premises complete with meter reference numbers to match the new meter spreadsheet. This will provide business continuity and enable easier identification when paying utility bills.

Grant Funding



- All 9 grant funding projects are now complete, evidence has been provided and all monies have been received and allocated to correct WTC budget pots. There is a small refund to paid back as we did not use all the grant for the thermal imaging cameras.
- HP will keep an eye out for funding available for 25/26 which the Environmental Forum have stated is likely to be more biodiversity based.

Biodiversity Day



- This was a very successful event with 642 visitors and a lot of excellent feedback.
- The only negative comments were how busy it was in the space.
- HP would like to do another one in Autumn 2025 or Spring 2026 depending on other events.

The Great Big Green Week

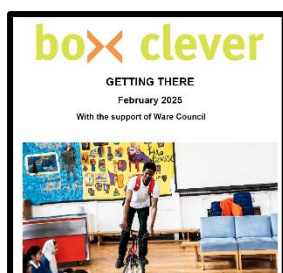


- 7th-15th June 2025
- HP is working with 100 Green in Baldock Street to do a volunteer day on 22nd May to include their staff and a few at WTC doing jobs in community spaces in Ware.
- So far we are proposing to do some work in the Priory and cemetery grounds, mulching of planted green spaces for Ware in Bloom, painting the sheds for Mens Shed and litter picking along the river and along Trapstyle Road. In addition we have asked allotment holders who are having difficulties due to ill health or family issues if they would like volunteers to come and help on their plots for the morning.
- HP is planning to launch the Ware Energy Hub during The Great Big Green Week with a stall in the Priory grounds.

Energy Hub

- HP has now received all of the links to information and is in the process of tailoring it to Ware properties. Banner and leaflets are also in place.
- HP will need 3 or 4 Councillors to volunteer for hosting the stall in rotation. HP will find out if funded training is still available for this. If not, HP can deliver sufficient training until the next online courses start.
- Suggest 3 monthly attendance at Tudor Square market on Councillors stall.

Walking to School Play



- The Box Clever “Getting There” play was delivered to 8 schools and 575 children.
- Feedback report showed excellent feedback with a very high percentage of children stating a better understanding of road safety and higher confidence in independently getting to/from school. All teacher feedback was very positive too.

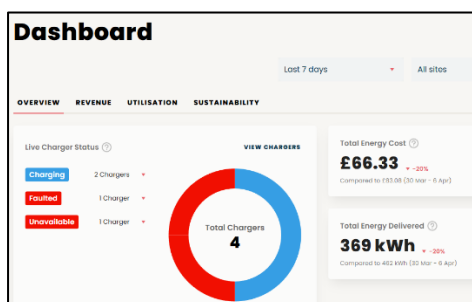
Rotary Club Presentation

- HP delivered a presentation on Library of Things for the Rotary Club breakfast meeting at Wodson Park.

Thermal Imaging Cameras

- They have been used by a few people but there’s not a great uptake from staff/councillors.
- EHDC have funded a number of cameras which will be available via libraries for public to borrow free of charge.
- HP will put together a better user guide than manufacturers one.

EV Chargers



- HP is now looking after the EV chargers and has access to the portal.
- The 2 original chargers have not been working properly for some time so HP is investigating.

Fletchers Lea PV

- We have been meeting with Rydal and a drone survey has been carried out to assess the Fletchers Roof for the suitability of PV. A structural survey will also be needed.
- If possible HP would like to link the PV to the Priory which has greater usage.

THINGS TO PICK BACK UP

- Estu Course 2nd half - May
- Carbon offsetting survey £11,000 – April
- Carbon Report – April/May
- Notch software for carbon counting – May
- ESG reporting – Green Business Benchmark - May
- Library of Things marketing list
- Website articles
- Thermal imaging camera user guide
- Progress compost bin and Vegware trial - Summer
- Plastic reduction at WTC
- Reviewing contracts/suppliers/events re environmental requirements