



**Date - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**Present** - Catherine Hunter, Becky Wood, IW (Lobsters), EW (Rays), BS (Starfish), TB (Penguins), GM (Dolphins), AM (Turtles), RT (Whales), CD (Octopus).

**Apologies** - AM (Seals), DW (Seahorses), OL (Fish), LA (Jellyfish),

### **Agenda:**

- 1. Cut your carbon campaign results**
- 2. Bags2school campaign**
- 3. Plastic bottle lids**
- 4. Get loud on litter**
- 5. Action Plan for 2026 - Eco Schools Accreditation**
- 6. Tubs2Pubs Campaign - Greene King**
- 7. Recycling of batteries**
- 8. Any other business**

### **1. Cut Your Carbon Campaign Results**

The Cut Your Carbon campaign was a great success within the school community. Six action challenges were set throughout November to encourage pupils, staff, and families to reduce their carbon footprint. The school achieved a combined carbon saving of 289.98 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e.

The most popular challenge was "Veggie Vibes," where participants prepared three vegetarian evening meals across the month, contributing up to 146 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e in carbon savings. The committee praised everyone's hard work and discussed the wider benefits of reducing emissions, including cleaner air, healthier communities, and the preservation of ecosystems and wildlife.

### **2. Bags2School Campaign**

At the end of November 2025, the Fountains Primary School launched a Bags2School campaign, inviting parents, carers, staff, and pupils to donate unwanted clothing to support the school's sustainability efforts. The campaign collected 150 kg of clothing, raising £45

for the Eco-Committee and its ongoing sustainability journey. Members highlighted the campaign's success in promoting sustainability, encouraging recycling, and supporting school projects.

### **3. Plastic Bottle Lids**

The school continues to collect plastic bottle lids on behalf of SchoolCycled - MyGroup, with a collection box in the reception foyer. The committee reported 9,115 earth tokens collected so far, which can be exchanged for recycled furniture and equipment for the school.

Members noted the campaign's benefits in reducing plastics sent to landfill and oceans, and in educating pupils about recycling, sustainability, and ecosystems. The committee will continue to promote the initiative to parents and the wider school community.

### **4. Get Loud on Litter**

Eco-Schools have launched a campaign encouraging schools to take action against litter. Committee members discussed previous initiatives, including the Great Big School Clean and local litter picks, which had improved the school and local environment.

Members agreed that creating a focused action plan targeting key areas of the school and community would be an effective next step. Multiple litter picks were proposed and supported by the committee to maintain clean and safe environments.

### **5. Action Plan - Eco Schools Accreditation for 2026**

Committee members discussed the Eco-School Accreditation application for 2026, which opens from May to July 2026. Three areas must be chosen from a possible ten, and previous year's actions cannot be repeated.

The committee agreed that litter and biodiversity would be the primary focus areas for the action plan. Members emphasized the importance of providing ongoing evidence of pupils' engagement and achievements in these areas.

### **6. Tubs2Pubs Campaign**

The Greene King Tubs2Pubs campaign was reviewed. The committee noted that supporting charities such as Macmillan Cancer Support remains central to the school's ethos. This is the school's third year supporting the campaign, and members expressed excitement about delivering the donated confectionery tubs to Greene King Head Office later in the week.

So far, the campaign has collected 170 tubs, which are shredded and sold to plastic manufacturers, with all proceeds going directly to charity. Committee members also dedicated time to sorting and counting all tubs collected.

## **7. Recycling of Batteries**

Committee member Brody, shared an important message he had seen on *Newsround*, relating to the PSHE curriculum. He explained that over 100,000 tonnes of electrical items are thrown away every year. These items contain precious metals that can be lost if not recycled and often include hidden batteries, which can cause fires in recycling lorries and waste centres.

Brody proposed creating a battery recycling scheme at the school and volunteered to lead the initiative. The committee supported this idea and discussed ways to raise awareness and encourage effective recycling throughout the school.

## **8. Any Other Business**

Members were asked to consider a school trip that would extend their understanding of environmental issues and help promote sustainability initiatives during the school year. The committee agreed this was an excellent idea, and options will be explored at the next meeting.

**Date of next meeting: Friday 13th March**