

Suffolk County Council meeting Thursday 3 December 2020, vote taken on Motion 2

Motion 2 – Proposed by Councillor Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw and seconded by Councillor Richard Rout.

This Council, which has declared a climate emergency and aims to be carbon neutral by 2030, acknowledges the importance of biodiversity to the climate and recognises that:

1. The planet is at a crossroads and action must be taken now to make space for nature to recover.
2. Nature is being destroyed at an unprecedented rate due to deforestation, over-fishing and destruction of wild areas. Wildlife populations have fallen by more than two-thirds in less than 50 years; there has been a 68% fall in over 20,000 different animal populations since 1970 (WWF, Zoological Society of London). Over 1.9 million square km of wild land has been lost since 2000 – over eight times the size of the UK.
3. Urgent conservation action is needed, along with changes to the way we produce and consume food.
4. The destruction of natural spaces and species causes damage to human life. Factors believed to lead to the emergence of pandemics - including habitat loss and the use and trade of wildlife - are also some of the drivers behind the decline in wildlife. COVID-19 and lockdown have also shown how important nature and biodiversity is for mental wellbeing.

Therefore, this Council resolves to:

1. Revise and update the 2015 Suffolk Nature Strategy to include a biodiversity strategy. Drawing on our Natural Capital Evidence Compendium (produced this year in partnership with Norfolk County Council and the University of East Anglia) the new strategy will set out how, with partners, we could increase Suffolk's biodiversity, halt the loss of habitats and species, and reintroduce declining species in suitable locations.
2. Investigate the creation of a Nature Recovery Partnership in the region to take forward this and other priorities.
3. Assess how Suffolk County Council can lead and guide partner organisations and stakeholders.
4. Continue to lead by example in the Council's use of its own land by adopting biodiversity-friendly land management practices where possible and practical.
5. Continue to look favourably upon any pilot proposals from partner organisations to improve and increase biodiversity.
6. Thank the County Council hosted Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service for providing a centre of expertise in the county and their work to help us improve ecological connectivity.
7. Write to the Secretary of State welcoming the Environment Bill, in particular Government amendments to enable Species Conservation Strategies and Protected Site Strategies, and asking what further support may be available to local authorities to enhance bio diversity within their areas.

Total results	
For	67
Against	
Abstain	

Conservative Group

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Mark Bee	For		
Peter Beer	For		
Stuart Bird	For		
Stephen Burroughes	For		
Louis Busuttil	For		
Jenny Ceresa	For		
Chris Chambers	For		
Andy Drummond	For		
Mary Evans	For		
Robert Everitt	For		
James Finch	For		
Jessica Fleming	For		
Quillon Fox			
Mick Fraser	For		
David Goldsmith	For		
Tony Goldson	For		
Nick Gowrley	For		
Gary Green	For		
Matthew Hicks	For		
Rachel Hood	For		
Beccy Hopfensperger	For		
Christopher Hudson	For		
Gordon Jones	For		
Michael Ladd	For		
Stuart Lawson	For		
Guy McGregor			
David Nettleton	For		
Graham Newman	For		
Alexander Nicoll	For		
Colin Noble	For		
Kay Oakes	For		
Patricia O'Brien			
Russ Rainger	For		
James Reeder	For		
Andrew Reid	For		
David Ritchie	For		
Craig Rivett	For		
David Roach	For		
Keith Robinson	For		
Richard Rout	For		

Richard Smith MVO	For		
Karen Soons	For		
Colin Spence	For		
Joanna Spicer	For		
Jamie Starling			
Melanie Vigo di Gallidoro	For		
Paul West	For		
Robert Whiting			
Steve Wiles	For		

Labour Group

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Jack Abbott	For		
Sarah Adams	For		
Helen Armitage	For		
Kathy Bole	For		
Kim Clements	For		
Sandra Gage	For		
Peter Gardiner	For		
Mandy Gaylard	For		
Jack Owen	For		
Keith Patience	For		
Bill Quinton	For		

Liberal Democrat, Green and Independent Group

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Trevor Beckwith	For		
Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw	For		
John Field	For		
Paula Fox	For		
Richard Kemp			
Robert Lindsay	For		
Inga Lockington	For		
Victor Lukaniuk	For		
Penny Otton	For		
Caroline Page			
Andrew Stringer	For		
David Wood	For		

Independent

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Steve Ardley	For		
Jane Storey	For		