



27th July 2026 at Bridge End Cottage, Ockham

Clare confirmed a transcription tool was active (Plaud). Settings had been chosen to delete files from Plaud's servers after processing and the transcription processes which uses 3rd party AI providers had stringent enterprise agreements and is compliant with various trust standards.

Attendees: Catherine Young (Chair), Clare Bevan, Jane Howard, Rhys and Mel Beynon, Beverley Nash, Sylvia Taylor, Penny Whitlock, Rachel Holloway and Pip Davis.

Apologies: Chris Janey, Juliet Robinson, Roy Proctor, Anna Mitchell, Bob Spackman.

This meeting covered a broad range of topics, from reviewing past events to planning future community engagement, and included updates from various network subgroups.

A key focus was on planning future screenings of the "People's Emergency Briefing" film, with a CAN-led event proposed for autumn and a U3A-hosted one for spring 2027.

There will be a significant push to develop the CAN website, streamline social media, and secure larger features in parish newsletters.

Updates from subgroups highlighted successes and challenges: Grace and Flavor reported a fantastic first harvest of melons from its new polytunnel; St Mary's is planning a biodiversity survey of the churchyard; and the Repair Café announced statistics indicating its considerable successes. A key volunteer's departure will require recruitment for an accounts role, and the adoption of a new international database to track repairs.

The group also discussed significant local issues, including the challenges of recycling hard-to-recycle items like pill packets, leading to a plan to lobby for better waste contracts.

An open meeting of Leatherhead Deanery Synod at 7pm on October 14, 2026, at St Mary's West Horsley, regarding the new Taylor Wimpy development was mentioned. Although primarily intended as an opportunity to discuss the role of parishes in welcoming new inhabitants, it may include opportunity for the group to advocate for sustainability and climate-conscious planning.

Key Action Items

- **Confirm whether Sylvia I hopes to re-join meetings.**
- **Plan CAN-led autumn community screening of "People's Emergency Briefing":**
 - Identify and appoint an event coordinator (ask Chris; ask Anna as co-chair).
 - Liaise with presenter(s): Ben (Surrey CC/Zero Carbon Guildford) and/or Claire Brown.
 - Coordinate with churches/parish councils for venue(s) and support.

- **Liaise with U3A for a spring screening:** Write to the U3A chair to add the film to next year's program and clarify public vs. members-only access. **Engage additional partners for screenings:** Contact Bob (Methodist) about a potential screening and explore including other churches and parish councils (e.g., Ockham).
- **Publicity and outreach - push via parish newsletters:** Request larger features on CAN and the Repair Café, including recent statistics and impact, for autumn editions.
- **Website development with Mark Blowers:** Define a simple, accessible structure (newsletters, minutes, photos), enable multi-admin posting, and ensure date-sensitive content is maintained.
- **Social media coordination:** Catch up with Anna to finalize Instagram access and posting workflow. Clarify cross-posting between Instagram/Facebook and ownership of official posts with Jane and Sylvia.
- **Recruit for Repair Cafe Accounts Role:** Find a replacement for Alex to manage the accounts before his departure in Oct/Nov 2026.
- **Organize Repair Cafe Database Training:** Arrange training courses for volunteers and committee members on the new online database facility.
- **Facilitate Alternating Meeting Schedule:** Consider returning to an alternating meeting schedule to allow a former member who works on Monday mornings to rejoin the recycling group.
- **Lobby for Pill Packet Recycling:** Raise the issue during discussions for the new West Surrey waste contract and advocate for alignment with East Surrey. **Investigate Specialist Recycling Companies:** Look into specialist companies that handle hard-to-recycle materials.
- **Engage with East Horsley WI:** Explore ways to connect with East Horsley WI to broaden the group's reach.
- **Arrange Speaker for a Future Meeting:** Consider inviting a speaker, potentially the WI "eco-warrior" or someone from Taylor Wimpy, to talk to the group, perhaps around Christmas. [Catherine; ongoing]

Date of next meeting: Thursday 17th September 7pm WHVHall