

7.00pm	<u>Welcome and introduction (5 minutes)</u> <i>Cllr Pamela Fleming</i> <i>Joint Deputy Leader - Environment, Business & Community</i>
7:05pm	<u>The campaign against Single-Use Plastics (40 minutes)</u> <i>A presentation by Cllr. Fleming. Two case studies from local groups on litter collection projects Barnes Tidy Tow Path Group and Friends of the River Crane Environment.</i>
7:45pm	<u>Village Planning Fund – update on Second Round of Village Planning Fund (15 minutes)</u> <i>Community Links Officers, Siobhan Oktay and Lynnette Lawson-Tyers will give a presentation</i> Questions and Answer session on the second round of funding.
8:00pm	<u>Crowdfunding – Colin Cooper (20 minutes)</u> <i>In this session, Colin Cooper, of South West London Environment Network, will update the Forum on the SWELN ‘app’ which can be used to assist groups to raise funding for local projects through ‘crowdfunding’.</i> There will be an opportunity to ask questions of Colin
8:20pm	Closing Comments <i>Cllr Pamela Fleming</i>

The campaign against Single-use Plastic

Village Group Forum

Tuesday 13th March

The facts of plastic pollution

300 million tonnes produced globally each year

Of the 8.3 billion tonnes produced over the last 70 years 6.3 billion tonnes of waste has been generated.

If this trend continues by 2050 there will be 12 billion tonnes in landfill, or the natural environment polluting oceans and rivers

Most plastic is designed to last a long time - it takes 450 years for a plastic bottle to biodegrade

The facts of plastic pollution



Half of all plastic produced is for single-use purposes

Annually we use 2.3million tonnes of plastic packaging; 13 billion plastic bottles; 2.5 billion disposable cups

and a 1 million plastic straws a DAY just in London

In addition there are bags, condiment sachets and take away serve ware

National Response to the Situation

In January 2018 the Government announced its 25 year Environment Plan including achieving zero avoidable plastic waste by end 2042

- Seeking views on how the tax system or charges could reduce single use plastic waste
- Working with industry to make sure more plastics can be easily recycled and the quality of collected recycled plastics is improved
- Encouraging the development of bio-based biodegradable environmentally-friendly plastic
- Removing all consumer single use plastics from central government offices

National response continued

- Extending the 5p plastic bag charge to small retailers
- Encouraging businesses to set up Water Refill points and an app with locations
- Plastic-free supermarket aisles
- Considering advice from the Voluntary & Economic Incentives Working Group that is currently looking at options for a deposit reward and return scheme for drinks containers



National Response continued

- Consultation took place between 2nd Oct 2016 – 20th Nov 2016
- Evidence submitted will be examined by the government's working group which includes brand and retail giants such as Coca Cola and Tesco.
- Builds on successful waste initiatives by the government, including the [5p plastic bag charge](#) which has changed consumer behaviour by reducing use by 83 per cent.

Richmond Council's Response

This Council condemns the devastating effects of plastic pollution and is committed to being an exemplar borough in reducing plastic use and waste by:-

- reducing the use of plastics within the Council and working with partners, schools, sports groups, businesses and residents to cut back on plastic waste and improve arrangements for disposal

Richmond Council's Response continued

- promoting reusable bottles and cups
- supporting Government and industry initiatives to reduce plastic waste including a bottle deposit scheme.

Richmond Council's Response continued

- developing a draft plastics purchasing policy
- make sure staff know how to recycle at work
- reviewing how improvements can be made in the workspace e.g. water fountains

What can individuals do?

- Start **shopping consciously**, reducing demand for plastic packaging.
- Use **reusable solutions** for food and drink 'on the go'.
- **share your knowledge** with friends and family.
- Join together to start **plastic/rubbish clearance** schemes

Progress to date

- Cafes are switching to compostable cups
- Cafes and pubs have agreed to withdraw plastic straws
- Groups are keen to get involved

Two case studies of good practice

Barnes Towpath Group

The Barnes Tidy Towpath Group is made up of local residents who are passionate about their community, the towpath and nearby waterways.

Friends of River Crane Environment (FORCE)

is a community based voluntary organisation working in the River Crane corridor in the London Boroughs of Richmond and Hounslow

Sources of Information

Richmond Council Website

http://www.richmond.gov.uk/services/waste_and_recycling/plastic_recycling/pass_on_plastic

Less Plastic Campaign

www.lessplastic.co.uk

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/call-for-evidence-drinks-containers/>