



# Eco Council Meeting

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## Agenda

**Attendees:** Rosemellin, Treloweth, Portreath, Parc Eglos, Illogan, Halwin, Garras, Penpol, Marazion

**Absent:** Lanner, Weeth, Porthleven, Pennoweth, Sithney, Roskear, Pencoyls, Trannack, Godolphin

Welcome	Welcome to everyone who could join us today! A special welcome to Nick who has joined us from Biffa to talk about how the company works to lower their environmental impact and increase sustainability
MAT Excellence Awards	We are really excited to share that Crofty has been shortlisted for a national excellence award for the work that we do together to look after our environments. You can find out a little bit more by visiting the awards site: <a href="https://matexcellence.co.uk/shortlist-2026">https://matexcellence.co.uk/shortlist-2026</a> Chartwells (who we invited to our last meeting this year) have also been shortlisted for an award for working with Crofty 😊
Review of actions and feedback from previous meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the Eco Heroes displayed in your school? <i>All attending schools have the Eco heroes displayed in school now 😊</i></li> <li>• Have you discussed the Eco pledges in school (in assembly / with the school council etc?) <i>Not all schools have these displayed.</i></li> <li>• Have you put an article together about the Eco council to share on the school newsletter or the school's Facebook page? <i>None of the schools present had shared information about the council on Facebook / newsletter</i></li> <li>• Have you shared or displayed the information sheet about Chartwells that was sent out after</li> </ul>

	<p>the last meeting? <i>Three schools have displayed this</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Please can all schools work to try and complete the above actions as soon as possible.</b></li> <li>• In our last meeting, Marazion shared that they were looking to get some wood from one of the fallen trees on St Michael's Mount (following Storm Gorette). Are there any updates on this? <i>Marazion told us that they are speaking to the Education visits coordinator on St Michael's Mount. She has told the school that they lost so many trees and that there is lots of wood available but it is tricky to get it off the island due to the tides etc. Mrs Oliver (Head of School at Marazion) said that if any other schools would like to get some wood to make something in their school to get in touch.</i></li> </ul>
Green Careers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A green career is any job, role or occupation that contributes to preserving or restoring the environment and our planet</li> <li>• Many roles also require green 'skills' so while the main part of the job may not be environmentally based, there is a real need to think about sustainability</li> <li>• Last meeting we heard from Chartwells. For this meeting we are joined by Biffa.</li> </ul>
Biffa	<p>Nick from Biffa joined us for the meeting. Nick shared a PowerPoint that explained all about the work that Biffa do and how they are working to try and reduce the amount of waste we have and to reuse and recycle as much as possible. Nick also shared that levels of waste in Cornwall vary massively due to the tourists seasons and this is a big job to manage through the year.</p> <p>Nick kindly said that he would share his presentation with us. <b>Mrs Andrews will send out the presentation</b></p>

**to all schools when Nick sends it through.** The presentation included a film from Biffa that shares a summary of all the work that they do – this would be great to share in an assembly.

Everybody thanked Nick for a really interesting presentation.

We then asked some questions:

**Marazion** asked if Biffa recycle pens. Nick responded to say that it depends on the type of pens. Marazion school used to recycle all their pens but the company that did it stopped. Nick explained that this can happen quite often. It is important for us to calculate how much energy it takes to recycle things so if more energy (carbon footprint) is used to collect small boxes of pens for recycling than the savings made from doing that, companies can't continue.

**Portreath** asked where the recycling waste from our schools goes to when Biffa collect it. Nick explained that the recycling waste goes to their Redruth site. It is tipped out onto a conveyer belt, and a group of people pick out individual plastics, bottles etc and bundle them together. For example, 40 milk bottles can be bundled and sent to one of the Biffa processing sites up country. These are then chipped down into small parts and made into new milk bottles.

**Halwin** asked what happens to our food waste. Nick explained that it is collected and taken to a farm in Holdsworthy. It is then processed and then used as a fertiliser for spreading on the fields of neighbouring farms.

**Penpol** asked about the recycling of electronics. Nick explained that electronics are collected and then sent for reprocessing. There can be lots of precious metals in electronics and these are carefully extracted. The

	<p>different metals get collated and used to help to create new products.</p> <p>We also discussed the recycling of paper. Nick explained that it depended on the grade of paper. Good paper is processed and make into paper again, but it depends on the grade.</p>
What's next?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We will send out some information / poster capturing what Biffa have shared with us. Please share this within your school (on your Trust Council noticeboard, through an assembly, on the school Facebook page, newsletter etc). We will also send out the presentation that Nick shared with us</li><li>• Keep working on the pledges!</li><li>• Please can all schools work to try and complete the actions listed at the top of the agenda if not already completed. Thank you 😊</li></ul>
AOB	