



# Green Ixworth

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[www.greenixworth.org.uk](http://www.greenixworth.org.uk)

## Good News

### **Very cool: trees stalling effects of global heating in eastern US.**

Vast reforestation is a major reason for a 'warming hole' across parts of US where temperatures have flatlined or cooled, finds a recent study. Trees provide innumerable benefits to the world, from food to shelter to oxygen, but researchers have now found their dramatic rebound in the eastern US has delivered a further, stunning feat – the curtailing of the soaring temperatures caused by the climate crisis.

### **UK government stops Sand Eel fishing.**

The UK Government has announced an end to industrial sand eel fishing in English waters of the North Sea. This comes after decades of campaigning and support from thousands of people who responded to the UK Government's consultation.

Last year's seabird census found that more than half the seabird species breeding on British and Irish coasts have declined over the last 20 years. Ending industrial sand eel fishing is the single greatest thing we can do to support our most vulnerable seabirds right now, because many species rely on these small fish to feed their young. By stopping sand eel fishing it will build seabirds' resilience to Avian Flu and many other human-made pressures, such as climate change and poorly sited offshore developments.

The news gets better. Shortly after the UK Government's news, the Scottish Government announced the closure of all Scottish waters to industrial sandeel fishing, making this is a huge moment for our precious seabirds.

### **UK quits treaty that lets fossil fuel firms sue governments over climate policies.**

Britain joins France, Germany, Spain and the Netherlands in withdrawing from charter which 'penalises' shift to net zero.

The UK will quit the controversial energy charter treaty (ECT) after efforts to align it with net zero emissions plans failed, the government recently announced. The treaty allows fossil fuel investors to sue states for lost profit *expectations* in an opaque corporate arbitration system set up to protect fossil fuel investors in the former Soviet economies in the 1990's. 12 months notice is required, so from 2025 it means that a future Government should be able to reduce/remove exploration and production licences for all fossil fuels.

## Not such good News

### **Munich or the UK – which owns more of Britain's Wind Farms?**

In a world of rising supply chain costs, geopolitical shocks and higher borrowing costs on financial markets, a state-backed firm could help de-risk the cost of renewables projects

for private firms by co-investing alongside them. It is already the norm in Britain – except it is by overseas governments rather than our own.

Figures from the think tank “Common Wealth” show how 42.2% of the installed capacity from operational and under-construction windfarms in the UK is owned by foreign public entities, including state-owned enterprises and public pension funds. The UK government owns less of that capacity (0.03%) than the city of Munich does (0.85%).

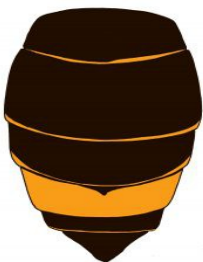
## Asian Hornets



Whilst European Hornets are harmless unless disturbed, the Asian Variety is a mass killer of bees. They can destroy a hive or wild nest of various species of bees. Below are details of the differences between the European and the Asian variety. Whilst living in France the editor, only knew that Asian Hornets were present, in winter, when the nest was exposed in the top most branches of an old oak tree in our garden. After it was blown out of the tree in a storm, the estimated height was about

90cm and its girth about 70.

Given the damage they do to honey and wild bees, it is important to remove these alien invaders. Now is the time to start looking for them as they nest build.



The first obvious differential feature is the abdominal colouration. The **Asian hornet** is mostly black with a yellow/orange band towards the end of the body. The extremities of the legs are yellow and it has an orange face. Sometimes, there can be a bit of variation in the colouring on the main part of the abdomen but as a rule of thumb, this is very reliable.



The **European hornet** resembles a large wasp and has a yellow and black striped abdomen, with some brown variation. It also has a brown thorax, which is the body part between the head and the lower body and holds the wings and brown legs. The face is yellow and brown and it is also the larger of the two hornets.

### What to do.

If you ever suspect that you have caught or seen an Asian hornet or nest, please report your sighting. Even if you are in any doubt you should report it anyway: [http://www.brc.ac.uk/risc/alert.php?species=asian\\_horn](http://www.brc.ac.uk/risc/alert.php?species=asian_horn). For more information: [Asian Hornets in Europe and the UK \(rspb.org.uk\)](http://www.rspb.org.uk)

## Copart back on the scene in Stanton?

Green Ixworth is working with local parish councils including Ixworth, to continue the fight against the Shepherds Grove development which includes the US car breaker Copart. You may recall they have a dreadful reputation for pollution with massive fines in the UK and USA, the most recent event was a major fire at their site in Rochford, Essex which

destroyed 700 cars out of the 2,000 stock producing toxins from burning fuels, plastics and tyres, heavily polluting the area.

In May 2023 the developer Jaynic announced Copart were no longer a client. However they did not alter the plans which had been submitted to West Suffolk for approval. At the recent meeting of Development Control committee the plans were thrown out on a minded to reject vote by 10 to 3 with an abstention. Present at the hearing was a representative from Copart.

Why are they back on the scene? GI have written to Jaynic for an assurance that if the application were successful Copart would not suddenly pop up as a new occupant of the very specifically designed site having missed the approbrium which would otherwise have been cast upon it.

### **Inadequacies of the National Grid exposed**

We have known for some years that capacity of the grid was preventing the connection of sustainable energy generation. The recent article in the Guardian, see below, identifies that the the grid is incapable of providing connections for new housing. The two issues rely on a massive upgrading of the grid if we are to reduce our carbon output and provide relief for all those suffering from poor or too expensive housing. Responsibility lies with the privately owned National Grid, the electricity regulator OFGEM and the government who set the rules and “manages” OFGEM.

More info at: [Capacity crunch on National Grid is delaying new homes in UK by years | Housing | The Guardian](#)