

Minutes of the ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE of  
Bridport Town Council held in Mountfield, Bridport on Wednesday 8 January  
2020 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs: Kelvin Clayton (Chairman)  
  
Ian Bark                      Barry Irvine  
Sarah Carney                Anne Rickard  
Karen Hunt                  Dave Rickard  
   Steve Williams

ALSO PRESENT:            One member of the public.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Theo Langton addressed the meeting on emergency planning in relation to the  
climate emergency, making the following points:

- He was an ex-Beaminster Town Councillor with previous experience of  
emergency planning.
- This was a confusing and massive strategic issue.
- As a Flood Warden, he was concerned about his role in light of the climate  
emergency.
- The Community Resilience Development Framework advised on how to  
prepare for, respond to and recover from an event, and on planning and  
adapting to social and environmental changes to ensure resilience.
- Local action was needed to coordinate community activity within the national  
framework.

The Chairman thanked Mr Langton for his input.

**38. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ros Kayes.

**39. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**40. MINUTES**

Cllr Julian Jones noted that he arrived at the meeting after the presentation referred  
to at minute 29.

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 6 November 2019 were  
confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**41. CROWDFUNDER PLATFORM**

The Town Clerk presented to members on information provided at an informal  
meeting with Crowdfunder held on 16 December 2019. He displayed selected  
slides from the meeting, outlining a proposal for a funding platform to promote the

delivery of projects that contributed to the Council's Climate Emergency Action Plan. He also summarised a revised proposal circulated immediately prior to the committee meeting, taking account of issues raised at the informal meeting.

Members considered:

- The 'reach' of the proposed platform within and beyond the local community, and awareness of Crowdfunder generally.
- Respective roles of the Council, Crowdfunder and fundraisers in marketing aspects of the proposal.
- Measuring value for money from the proposal.
- The potential to work with other local authorities.
- The need for measured consideration of the proposal before a decision to proceed.

RESOLVED: that the presentation of the Town Clerk be noted, for consideration as part of the next agenda item.

## **42. CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN**

Members considered the following aspects:

- One Planet Living Working Group. Members considered the governance arrangements for the Climate Emergency Action Plan, which had envisaged a role for this working group. It was felt that a decision-making body was required that was sufficiently flexible to ensure that the Plan progressed as quickly as possible, supported by working groups, or task and finish groups, as needed.

RECOMMEND: that a sub committee be established comprising five members, with a remit to deliver the Climate Emergency Action Plan, and with a limit on expenditure to be agreed under delegation by the Chairman and Clerk.

RECOMMEND: that the sub committee members be Cllrs Rose Allwork, Ian Bark, Kelvin Clayton, Karen Hunt and Dave Rickard.

- Crowdfunder Platform. Having considered the proposals under the previous agenda item, members felt that further consideration was required.

RESOLVED: that this matter be referred to the newly formed sub committee.

- Flood projections, ENCL: 3473. Members considered an email from a local resident expressing concern about flood projections.

RECOMMEND: that the Climate Emergency Action Plan be updated to include reference to mitigation measures in respect of floor projection and flood risk, and pressure on Dorset Council for action on both emergency planning and flood defence requirements, taking account of the climate emergency.

- Deep Adaptation to Climate Change: notes of an open meeting held on 3 December 2019, ENCL: 3474. Members considered the notes of a meeting attended by the Project Manager and Community Initiatives Officer on behalf of the Town Council. It was noted that some of the proposed activity had already

taken place, and that there may be opportunities to engage the meeting organiser in the delivery of the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

RESOLVED: that the notes of the meeting on Deep Adaptation to Climate Change be noted.

- Feedback from Dorset Council's Parish and Town Council Climate Emergency Advice Seminar held on 19 November 2019, ENCL: 3475. Members considered the notes of this seminar. It was felt that it had not provided new information that would assist the Town Council in the delivery of its Climate Emergency Action Plan.

RESOLVED: that the notes of the Parish and Town Council Climate Emergency Advice Seminar be noted.

- Dorset Council 'Call for Ideas' ENCL: 3476. Members considered a report of the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED: that a response be agreed by the Chairman and Clerk under delegation, including the following:

- Highlighting Dorset Council's responsibilities.
- Emergency and flood plans.
- The need for the climate emergency to be considered in all of Dorset Council's work and policies.
- A review of past work undertaken.
- Engagement with experts.
- An audit of existing activity and expertise.
- Proper resourcing.

#### **43. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The Town Clerk reported that a referendum date had been set for 27 February 2020 and that the Neighbourhood Plan Joint Councils Committee would consider how to promote voting at its meeting on 9 January 2020.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

#### **44. RIGHTS RESPECTING WORKING GROUP**

The notes of the meeting held on 25 November 2019 were received. Members noted that a report summarising the meeting would be of assistance. The Town Clerk agreed he would pursue this.

RESOLVED: that the notes of the Rights Respecting Working Group meeting held on 25 November 2019 be noted and the decisions therein approved.

#### **45. DORSET HEALTHCARE**

The Town Clerk reported that following a meeting with Dorset Healthcare held on 6 November 2019, it had been suggested that further regular meetings be organised. Members were minded to pursue this.

RESOLVED: that a six-monthly meeting with Dorset Healthcare be requested, with the agenda to be agreed beforehand and Cllrs Sarah Carney, Barry Irvine and Ros Kayes to attend on behalf of the Town Council.

RESOLVED: that Cllr Sarah Carney report back to the committee following each meeting.

**46. COMMITTEE DRAFT BUDGET 2020-2021**

The Town Clerk reported that following consideration by the Budget Working Group and Best Value & Scrutiny Committee, the recommended revenue budget would show the Environment Committee budget being uplifted by inflation from £5,680 in 2019/20 to £5,795 for 2020/21. This excluded £100,000 for the Climate Emergency Action Plan, which was shown in the Council's capital programme.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

**47. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr Dave Rickard reported that Transition Town Bridport's green fortnight would have a theme of fashion, with events beginning in February. Cllr Anne Rickard reported that the Town Hall clock would glow green for the event.

Cllr Barry Irvine reported that the Arts Centre building was due to be signed over to the new owner in the week following the committee meeting.

Cllr Ian Bark reported that the Wassail would take place in the Community Orchard on 12 January 2020 at 2.30pm.

Cllr Kelvin Clayton reported that Cllr Ros Kayes had stepped down as Chair and trustee of Bridport Youth & Community Centre Trust. Cllr Clayton had taken on the position of Chair, and the AGM would take place in March 2020.

Cllr Karen Hunt reported that she would be Chair of Bridport Museum Trust from March 2020, and work was progressing towards a strategic plan.

**48. COMMUNICATIONS AND UPDATES ON OTHER ISSUES**

The Town Clerk reported that a draft management plan for Riverside Gardens would be published shortly, and that work was proceeding towards tree planting in the gardens. The need for planting to take place early in the year would mean that this would need to take place before the management plan was finalised.

Cllr Dave Rickard reported that he would be attending a meeting on the climate emergency organised by Char Valley Parish Council. Cllr Kelvin Clayton advised that he may also attend. The Town Clerk agreed to circulate Char Valley's Climate Emergency Action Plan.

Cllr Kelvin Clayton reminded members of the Energy Local Bridport event to be held on 20 January 2020.

The meeting closed at **9.20pm**.

**The next meeting of this committee will be held on 11 March 2020**