

ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the CLIMATE ACTION SUB COMMITTEE of Bridport Town Council held at Mountfield, Bridport on Thursday 13 February 2020 at 11.00 a.m.

PRESENT	Cllr	Kelvin Clayton	Rose Allwork
		Karen Hunt	Ian Bark
		Dave Rickard	

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: that Cllr Rose Allwork be elected as Chairman of the Sub Committee.

2. APOLOGIES

No apologies for absence were received.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk: ENCL: 3486.

Members considered the terms of reference for the Sub Committee as set out by the parent Environment & Social Wellbeing Committee, and possible recommended changes. Members focused on public engagement and

RECOMMENDED: that the terms of reference include provision for a Public Forum at Climate Action Sub Committee meetings.

5. RESOURCE SUPPORT

RESOLVED: that this item be deferred for consideration alongside the budgetary arrangements later in the meeting.

6. CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

The Project Manager updated members on current activity in relation to:

- Bridport Green Route. This was being developed as part of the action to promote walking and cycling.

- Bridport Area Tree Plan. This was being developed with support from Dorset AONB, and included where and what trees could be planted. It would also address geology, flooding, air pollution, carbon reduction and wildlife impacts. The Plan would consider areas beyond the confines of Bridport parish and relevant parishes would be engaged.
- Asker Meadow and Riverside Gardens Tree Planting. These initiatives were proceeding with support identified during consultation. 250 trees had been planted at Asker Meadows, with a further 400 and hedgerow to follow. 500 trees were to be planted at Riverside Gardens. The benefits of local food would be incorporated, including the planting of fruit trees.
- Mountfield Biomass Boiler specification. Low Carbon Dorset were preparing a specification for a potential boiler for Mountfield and possibly The Grove. There would be options for a Town Council-owned boiler installation, or for purchase of energy from a contractor-owned/installed boiler. The possibility of a PV 'farm' had also been introduced into the discussion and a paper would be brought forward.

RESOLVED: that a task and finish group comprising sub committee members be convened to consider potential biomass boiler and PV panel installations.

- Raise the Roof and Woodhub projects. A report was due to be received from Assemble shortly, which would include consideration of available building materials and how building related to the provision of affordable housing. Proposals would be brought forward following receipt of the report.
- Food Security focus. This would be a likely activity at the Food Festival, and assistance was being given to the group involved in this.

7. BUDGET

The Town Clerk reported that the Town Council had agreed to incorporate £100,000 into its capital programme to deliver the action plan, divided into two equal sums over the two years 2020/21 and 2021/22. The Council's Financial Regulations would need to be considered carefully to ensure that all expenditure was in line with the regulations.

Members considered the need for additional capacity to support delivery of the plan and associated outreach work, and to prioritise actions to assist in estimating the capacity required. Capacity could be achieved through additional staffing and/or contracted support. There would also need to be a carbon reduction budget to sit alongside the financial budget.

RESOLVED: that a report be tabled incorporating the top five or six priorities from the action plan, and the cost and arrangements for support and outreach work.

8. MAKING THINGS HAPPEN INTERNALLY

The Project Manager reported that:

- Officers were investigating the purchase of an electric vehicle.
- Low Carbon Dorset funding was being discussed and that this was available until the Autumn. A report on a possible biomass boiler and PV installation

would cover this, along with recommendations from a report to the Council from Low Carbon Dorset.

- Staff awareness needed further work to ensure that the climate emergency was fully embedded in organisational culture.

RESOLVED: that the report from Low Carbon Dorset be circulated to members.

9. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Project Manager summarised consideration of a possible Crowdfunder online platform, following a presentation at a meeting of members with Crowdfunder and consideration at Environment & Social Wellbeing Committee. The committee had referred the matter to the sub committee for consideration. He further advised that Dorset Council was considering a 'Projects That Matter' platform with Crowdfunder, which had the potential to extend to a Bridport-specific page.

RESOLVED: that the Crowdfunder presentation slides be circulated to members.

RESOLVED: that the Crowdfunder platform be reconsidered at the next meeting.

10. DATE OF NEXT AND FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED: that a sub committee meeting be arranged for two weeks' time, with monthly meetings to follow.

RESOLVED: that a task and finish group meeting be arranged for four weeks' time.

11. COMMUNICATIONS AND UPDATES ON OTHER ISSUES

No matters were reported for consideration.

The meeting closed at 1.11pm.