

ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL WELLBEING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the CLIMATE ACTION SUB COMMITTEE of Bridport Town Council held on Thursday 28 April 2022 at 11:00am at Mountfield, Bridport.

PRESENT Cllrs Rose Allwork (Chairman)

Ian Bark Karen Hunt

ALSO PRESENT: Will Austin (Town Clerk), and David Dixon (Project Manager & Community Initiatives Officer).

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for the Public Forum.

57. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Kelvin Clayton and Dave Rickard.

Cllr Rickard attended via Zoom; however, legal restrictions require councillors to be physically present at the meeting. Members noted the Government's failure to address this anomaly.

58. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

59. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the notes of the meeting of the committee held on 31 March 2022 be confirmed as a true and correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

60. CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

The Project Manager & Community Initiatives Officer reported that:

- A survey had been launched on 26 April, to help establish the community appetite for a car club and e-bike club in Bridport. The survey would run until the end of May and would include an opportunity for respondents to give views on on-street electric vehicle charging points. The survey had been promoted via social media, the Council's website, and a press release, and members were encouraged to share it widely through their own networks. Demonstrating demand through the survey was needed in order to maintain Co Cars' interest in the initiative.

Members considered:

- Other schemes already in existence in market towns. Axminster and Bude were cited as examples. It was noted that Axminster's scheme was as a satellite to a broader scheme implemented across East Devon by the District Council.
- The need to carry out follow-up social media activity close to the end of the survey period.

- The existence of apps that support the provision of buses on demand, for the benefit of rural communities.

RESOLVED: that Axminster and/or Bude Town Councils be invited to attend the next meeting of the sub committee.

RESOLVED: that the Project Manager & Community Initiatives Officer and Town Clerk should investigate apps offering buses on demand, and report back to a future sub committee meeting.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

61. PROJECT MANAGER & COMMUNITY INITIATIVES OFFICER

The Town Clerk reported that interviews for the post of Project Manager & Community Initiatives Officer had taken place on 27 April. No appointment had yet been agreed and the interview panel would reconvene to finalise the process.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

62. COMMUNICATIONS AND UPDATES ON OTHER ISSUES

- The Town Clerk apologised for a lack of progress with changes to banking arrangements. This would be pursued with the Finance & Office Manager.
- Changes to contract quotations, and difficulties engaging with contractors were presenting obstacles to progress with the installation of solar car ports. There was a need to complete the project by September/October to secure grant support, although it had been indicated that the deadline might extend to December.

63. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Sub Committee meeting will take place on Thursday 26 May 2022 at 11.00am.

The meeting closed at 11.19am.