

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 25 May 2023 at 11.00am.

PRESENT Cllrs Rose Allwork Dave Rickard
Kelvin Clayton

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

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: that Cllr Ian Bark be elected as Chairman of the sub-committee.

In the absence of the newly elected Chairman, it was

RESOLVED: that Cllr Rose Allwork be elected to chair this meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Ian Bark and Karen Hunt.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the notes of the meeting of the committee held on 30 March 2023 be agreed and signed by the Chairman.

5. PROJECT UPDATE

The Project Manager & Community Initiatives Officer reported that a grant application to SUSTAIN for the 'Food for the Planet' food security project had been unsuccessful, but that a £1,500 application to the Dorset AONB Sustainable Development Fund for the initiative had been approved, on condition that this include healthy eating. The Council would meet the match funding requirement, and the project would be delivered in partnership with the Landworkers' Alliance and Bridport Food Matters. A planning meeting had been arranged for 9 June, and the project was to be completed by February 2024.

Members discussed the definition of 'healthy food', and the Project Manager & Community Initiatives Officer undertook to query this with Dorset AONB.

The Project Manager & Community Initiatives Officer reported that one new volunteer Energy Champion had been recruited, and a planning meeting was scheduled for the following week.

RESOLVED: that the report of the Project Manager & Community Initiatives Officer be noted.

6. CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN REVIEW 2023

Consideration was given to a paper on the proposed review of the Climate Emergency Action Plan, ENCL: 3808. The Project Manager & Community Initiatives Officer summarised the report and a table showing progress against Action Plan actions since 2019. He asked members to consider future priorities, learning from this progress, to inform an updated draft action plan that would be tabled at the September meeting.

Members considered:

- Renewable energy as a possible area for future focus, along with targets. Cllr Dave Rickard queried whether a database of PV installations was available to assist with monitoring.
- Energy generation as a further potential priority.
- Sustainable food production as a further area for inclusion.
- The barriers to progress with the Council's Access & Movement Study.
- A continued focus on reducing the Council's own carbon footprint.
- Areas of influence, such as transport, for lobbying and encouraging change.
- Incorporating the results of community engagement, including those from the Community Charter Fair.
- Pushing towards a local power grid.
- Working with hard-to-reach communities.
- Further incorporation of climate change into resilience and emergency planning.
- Separating carbon reduction and climate adaptation for individual focus.
- A 'Dorset COP' in September 2023, being organised by Dorset CAN.
- The implications of the Community Governance Review for the Action Plan.
- The introduction of 'Quiet Lanes' in Bristol.

RESOLVED: that there should be online consultation prior to the tabling of a further report to the September meeting of the sub-committee.

7. COMMUNICATIONS AND UPDATES ON OTHER ISSUES

Cllr Rose Allwork asked whether the Council had been approached by Josef Coates-Davis regarding his proposed community bus service. The Town Clerk advised that he had addressed the last meeting of the Western Area Transport Action Group, but that there had been no direct approach to the Council. The Project Manager & Community Initiatives Officer would be engaging with him, however.

Cllr Kelvin Clayton reported that the Dorset CAN event, Dorset COP, was scheduled for 9 September 2023 at the Corn Exchange in Dorchester.

Cllr Dave Rickard advised that he would be attending the Western Area Committee of DAPTC that evening, at which topics of relevance to the sub-committee might be discussed.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: that the meeting scheduled for 20 July 2023 be cancelled.

RESOLVED: that the next meeting take place on 28 September 2023.

Cllr Kelvin Clayton reported his apologies for the September meeting.

The meeting closed at 11.54am.

The next Sub Committee meeting will take place on Thursday 28 September 2023 at 11:00am.