

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL

**Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE
Held MONDAY 24th August 2020**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Harvey (Chair), Needham, Patient and Stevens.

HRTC Council Clerk: J Boom.

HRTC Deputy Clerk: Emma Green.

HRTC Marketing Officer: Lisa Murdoch.

Co-opted member Anthony Rae.

AGENDA

- 94. To receive apologies for absence and any substitutions.**
Cllr Fenton with Cllr Needham substituting.
- 95. To receive members` interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.**
None were declared at this time.
- 96. MEETING ARRANGEMENTS**
The Chair confirmed public rights of access and that contributions to meetings of this committee from the public would be welcomed.
- 97. DEPUTY CHAIR**
It was moved by Cllr Harvey
Seconded by Cllr Stevens and
RESOLVED: to elect Cllr Scott Patient as deputy chair of the Climate Emergency Committee 2020-21.
- 98. To report on matters arising from the minutes of meeting held 27th January 2020 not itemised on this agenda.**
No points were raised.
- 99. CLIMATE EMERGENCY POLICY & ACTIVITY UPDATE**
Cllr Patient, the retiring chair, reviewed the actions of the past twelve months which while curtailed by the Covid 19 Pandemic had established a solid base

on which to build. The initiatives that had been developed were positive and he highlighted the following:

- Carbon literacy training for HRTC Councillors & Staff.
- The undertaking of a HRTC Carbon Audit
- The supporting of the Youth Climate Strike and other parish councils who are looking to declare a climate emergency. He stated this support should be developed.

The meeting felt there were many initiatives/frameworks to support and they must try to be focused on one if possible, being mindful of the legal footing of the Neighbourhood Plan when doing so.

Cllr Patient highlighted the actions suggested at the bottom of his report.

The latest iteration of the Neighbourhood Plans section on Climate Change was discussed after it had previously been circulated, Anthony Rae lead the discussion.

He outlined the section had been refreshed and revisited prior to the Regulation 14 public consultation to be held by Calderdale MBC. Now entitled Climate Emergency and Flood, it sets the scene at the National and local levels with reference to the West Yorkshire level.

It references flooding and the associated national planning policies looking to achieve ‘**radical reductions**’ in carbon gases. It considers flood resilience and the imperative to move towards a position of carbon zero. Looking for the opportunities for alternative future sources of alternative carbon zero power sources.

Policies within the plan seek to put in place requirements for reduced flood risk and increase carbon sequestration, encouragement of the use of the Neighbourhood Plans proposed design code to move towards zero carbon housing. Upland protection of the peat bogs to retain and increase their carbon sequestration.

The Neighbourhood Plan and its conformity with the CMBC Local Plan was discussed. The Neighbourhood Plan continues to work in lock step with the Local Plan to ensure they work together and support each other. It was confirmed that would be tested prior to adoption and when adopted would be

the responsibility of the Planning Authority, Calderdale MBC. It does have strength and has teeth, it can and will ask for what the community wants.

It was noted that Devolution discussions regarding the Leeds City Region may well have an impact on the policies and how they are developed, adopted and implemented.

Thanks were expressed to Anthony Rae.

Communication from CMBC was considered highlighting the issues they face on recycling contamination with high street waste collections. This currently prohibits an increase in this which HRTC are keen to support and expand. The committee was disappointed that we cannot proceed at the moment but will revisit when the situation allows.

100.

MARKETING PLAN

Lisa Murdoch outlined how the marketing plan had been developed and how the actions had been achieved. The HRTC website had a landing page with information of our plans etc. A green directory had yet to be developed, support was requested from Lisa. Committee to endeavour to support as much as possible and provide information / green news for Lisa as regularly as able. Lisa to circulate her working hours so committee are aware of when to best contact her.

Community Funding documents have been updates and publicity/media has been produced encouraging them to think green and how to communicate it, and HRTC involvement,

HRTC passing of single use plastic motion discussed with reference to Picture House. HRTC events continue to look to use green suppliers and engage green traders wherever possible.

The Wildflower planting scheme on the A646 had been publicised and had attracted support from the local wildflower collective which will be help with capacity.

It was agreed that the Marketing Officer would consider the CMBC Climate Emergency branding, to ensure we pull alongside to them and support them and that it may be useful to introduce bigger concepts not just the local initiatives.

101.

ACTION PLAN

Not able to be completed today due to time constraints. The committee discussed Action Plan principles in the available time. Keypoints discussed:

- Local initiatives are not necessarily likely to have the greatest effect.
- Carbon peat lands needs to be the priority to ensure they retain their ability to pull huge amounts of carbon out of the environment, the sequestration of carbon.
- Again, we should encourage the community to switch to green electricity.
- Engage with schools, undertaking and encouraging green audits by providing resources.
- Promote a to change attitudes, through excitement and engagement.
- Adopt a bottom up approach as well as targeting the 'big wins'.

An informal meeting was agreed to develop the Action Plan. Availability of members present concluded that Thursday 17th September 2020 10.00-12.00 would be the preferred time. Chair to develop starter outline of Action Plan prior to meeting.

The meeting finished at 9.00pm