

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE held 27TH JUNE 2022

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Harvey, (Chair after minute 55), Bampton Smith, Fenton, Hoyle, Needham.

Clerk: E Green

55. ELECTION OF CHAIR & DEPUTY CHAIR

It was moved by Councillor Needham

Seconded by Councillor

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: that Councillor Harvey be elected Chair of the Climate Emergency Committee for the year 2022/23.

It was moved by Councillor Harvey

Seconded by Councillor Needham

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: that Councillor Fenton be elected Deputy Committee Chair for the year 2022/23.

56. APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE & SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies were received from Cllr Stevens, N Diment.

57. Members` Interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.

None declared at this time.

58. Matters arising from Minutes of Advisory Meeting held 11th April 2022.

There were no matters arising.

59. To receive a verbal update from Jon Kedwards, HRTC Climate Emergency & Biodiversity Co-ordinator.

Jon gave a comprehensive update of his recent activities and projects. Whilst there has been a focus on the High Hirst Meadows Day event, training has also commenced on the Local Climate Engagement Programme. Work has also been started on an indicative map to show depths of peat and where burning is permitted. Natural England is also working on a peat mapping project. When circulated the information will also include details on how to report a burn.

A stall had been set up at the recent Open Spaces event and this material is now available for other events. A mailing list has been compiled with people who want information on either or both general climate activities and High Hirst Woodmeadow.

Contact has been made with Pennine Community Power regarding potential links and working in partnership.

In response to the Action Plans priority of Youth Engagement, a plan has been drawn up to work with Hebden Bridge Arts and The Cloud to provide 8-10 weeks of educational activities before moving to a second phase which will deliver a more creative approach.

It was moved by Cllr Needham

Seconded by Cllr Fenton and

RESOLVED: to agree funding from the allocated budget of up to £3,000 for the project.

60. HIGH HIRST PROJECT UPDATE

The High Hirst Site has now been designated by CMBC as a Local Wildlife Site, this will offer further protection when it comes to future use and planning applications.

There has been some interest in a 'Friends' group and an initial meeting has been held. There is a mailing list of approx. 20 people who are interested.

A Meadows Day has been organised on the 9th of July 11am – 4pm, with a full programme of activities throughout the day. If any councillors would like to volunteer to help, then please contact JK. It was suggested that a map be created that shows the site. JK will work on a press release for circulation.

In August (13th & 14th) a scything workshop will be held. Places will be offered at a subsidised rate for those who have expressed an interest in supporting the meadow in the future. Depending on the weather a haymaking course will be run the following weekend (20th August).

Future Priorities include;

Access – Meeting to be held with DAF & CMBC officer

Signage – Fire risk & interpretation boards

Pond/Pond Complex – Meeting with Freshwater Habitats Trust planned

It was moved by Cllr Needham

Seconded by Cllr Fenton and

RESOLVED: To note the information. Councillors interested in volunteering at the Meadow Day should contact Jon Kedwards.

61. ACTIVE TRAVEL

E-Bike 'Um will be held on Sunday 3rd July with funding from Hebden Royd Town Council, inspired by a talk by JK which was given to the Mytholmroyd Climate Group.

Cllr Needham updated that he had attended a meeting of the Encouraging Responsible Cycling Group. Todmorden is using funds from the Tons Fund to create a Cycle Hub at an enterprise centre. There are suggestions that a bike library or workshop could be developed but as yet there is no operator. The recent cycle survey had [proved useful with over 440 responses.

Cllr Harvey updated that the cycle parking provision was now installed.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey
Seconded by Cllr Fenton and
RESOLVED: To note the information.

62.

CLIMATE FRESK

A flyer has been created to hand out at future events which will allow people to register their interest for a Climate Fresk. When there is a list of approx. 20 interest people an event will be organised. A trail of a short version of Climate Fresk will also be developed and trialled at future Slow the Flow events to be held at Gibson Mill.

It was moved by Cllr Needham
Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and
RESOLVED: to approve £100 for the Climate Fresk Facilitator to attend the events.

63.

BUDGET & EXPENSES UPDATE

The budget was reviewed.
It was moved by Cllr Bampton Smith
Seconded by Cllr Fenton and
RESOLVED: to note the information.

64.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

The Climate action plan was reviewed. Jon suggested that the plan should also include more on climate resilience.

It was moved by Cllr Needham
Seconded by Cllr Harvey and
REOLVED: that following the success of the High Hirst Woodmeadow the focus needs to turn to Carbon Reduction in the second half of the year.

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE held 22ND AUGUST 2022

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Harvey, Bampton Smith, Fenton, Needham, Patient, Stevens.

Also: N Diment

Clerk: E Green

121. To receive apologies for absence and any substitutions.

Apologies were received from Cllr Hoyle.

122. To receive members` interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.

No Interests were declared.

123. To report on matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held 27th June 2022 not itemised on this agenda.

Cllr Harvey advised the meeting that the Climate Emergency and Biodiversity Officer J Kedwards had resigned from their post. The committee thanked him for his contribution to the work of the Climate Emergency Committee. The Committee were advised that the role had been discussed at the recent Staffing Committee and that if ratified at Full Council the recruitment process would commence in September.

124. HIGH HIRST PROJECT UPDATE

Cllr Harvey provided a comprehensive update about the High Hirst Woodmeadow site. This included the Meadows Day event, the Scything Course and Haymaking, all of which received fantastic feedback from attendees. N Diment noted that these activities were important in meadow restoration, in recreating the farming systems that historically created the meadow, given that 97% of meadows had been lost this is essential to help recreate meadows and biodiversity. It was recommended to continue this regime for 6-7 years before introducing additional seeds. A haymaking festival was suggested for 2023.

It was reported that the key priorities now include access and the spending of the remainder of the lottery grant award which must be spent by March 2023. The interpretation boards are also a priority and at the very least some signage on the gates to say that this is now a designated local wildlife site, and to warn against the dangers of fire should be installed.

J Kedwards had met with Slow the Flow and the site is not suitable for an attenuation pond, however, there is still a desire to create a pond

which will support biodiversity and the Fresh Water Habitats Trust have been contacted for advice.

It was reported that the sheep will be back in site from early September for a six-week graze.

Moved by Cllr Needham

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

RESOLVED: to note the information with interest and to thank both Cllr Harvey and N Diment for their continued efforts and commitment in creating fantastic events at the Woodmeadow and progressing the work on it thus far.

In respect of the access, it was agreed that there should be full consideration given to the requirements and costings of provision, and that quotes be sought in line with this. It must show value for money as well as satisfying the requirements for accessibility.

125. ACTIVE TRAVEL

It was reported that the E-Bike 'Um Festival was very well received attracting a diverse range of people and highlighting partnership work.

In regard to the Cycle hub, the meetings are now bi-monthly, Todmorden are developing a cycle hub and Sowerby Bridge is developing a Pump Track, this is being delivered via the Town Development Grants. Cllr Patient updated that CMBC is now a pilot area for Mobility Hubs, connecting modes of transport across the area. It was also noted that there needs to be a strategic directing on this from the Town Board.

ACTION - Cllr Patient will forward the most recent report and Active Travel in Calderdale for consideration as to how Hebden Royd may link effectively with this.

126. BUDGET AND EXPENSES UPDATE

Cllr Harvey reported on the budget drawing attention to the key areas of the recent events.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Needham and

RESOLVED: to thank the Friends of Calderdale Countryside for their donation which allowed the purchase of rakes and scythes.

The committee gave approval to the following requests to fund:

Sheep drinking trough and equipment £220

Fungi walk and survey £500

Advisory visit from Freshwater Habitats Trust (awaiting quote)

127.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

Cllr Harvey reported that an indicative Peat Map in relation to burning had been created and shared but that the more detailed survey from Moors for the Future was awaited.

Under the action on disposable BBQ's it was noted that the Co-Op whilst not selling BBQs in locations which are need to Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty they do still sell them in Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd and this could be an area to lobby.

Whilst the proposed Youth Engagement Project had not come to fruition it is important to consider how to work with young people. It was shared that Hebden Royd School was working on being an Eco School and could become an example of best practice through the development of a toolkit.

It was also suggested that people should be informed about the small changes that they are able to make to impact climate change, it was shared that the Pumpkin Festival could provide the opportunity for this type of messaging.