

## HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL

### Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE held 27<sup>TH</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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. twenty people who are interested.

A Meadows Day has been organised on the 9<sup>th</sup> 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 (13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>) 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 (20<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. twenty 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 22<sup>ND</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> 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.

## HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL

### Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE held 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022

#### MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Needham (Chair), Bampton Smith, Hoyle & Wood.

**Town Clerk:** Jason Boom.

**Clerk:** E Green

**Co-opted Member:** Neil Diment.

**As neither the Chair nor the Deputy Chair were present the meeting:**

It was moved by Cllr Needham

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

**RESOLVED:** that Cllr Needham act as the meetings chair.

- 205. To receive apologies for absence and any substitutions.**  
Cllrs Fenton, Harvey & Patient, Stevens with Cllr Wood acting as a substitute for Cllr Harvey.
- 206. To receive members` interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.**  
None were declared at this time.
- 207. To report on matters arising from the minutes of meeting held 22nd August 2022 not itemised on this agenda.**  
No matters were arising.
- 208. CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND BIODIVERSITY COORDINATOR**  
The Town Clerk outlined the recruitment process and that the successful candidate who will commence in the last week of November 2022.
- 209. CALDERDALE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN CONSULTATION**  
The meeting was advised that Cllr Harvey had submitted a response to this consultation. The opportunity had been widely circulated by the Town Clerk to members. The consultation is available as below and runs until 20<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

<https://www.calderdale.gov.uk/v2/residents/environment-planning-and-building/sustainability/environmental-projects-and-campaigns/climate-action-plan>

The meeting agreed to write to CMBC highlighting the following points which could be captured as part of the consultation:

- A desire for HRTC to work with CMBC as part of the areas approach to the Climate Emergency.
- To make CMBC aware that a new Climate Emergency & Biodiversity Co-ordinator will soon be in post at HRTC and they will be the primary contact.
- The HRTC Climate Emergency forms the basis of our objective but is not exclusive and we would be happy to receive approaches from them on subjects outside of the plan.
- HRTC will be encouraging its members and residents to be involved with Action Plans of both bodies and implement changes wherever possible.
- HRTC has particular interest in active travel hubs and endorses CMBC's efforts in this area.
- HRTC would want to, and needs to, work in lock step with CMBC.

**210. ACTIVE TRAVEL**

A verbal update was presented by Cllr Needham relating to the WYCA Mobility Hub project in the Upper Calder Valley held in Hebden Bridge Town Hall.

The meeting focused on transport options and included integrated public realm proposals, signage and branding development. Seen as a place of transport transition at a prominent location and likely to be found close to existing public transport hubs and aimed at assisting users, encouraging friendly spaces and transport use.

HRTC to support this initiative, continue to be involved in the WYCA led events and look to bring these to our area. An event in Mytholmroyd is planned and HRTC should attend and find out and champion the concept. Local action groups and interested parties must be encouraged to attend in Mytholmroyd, these would include the Station Partnership, Mytholmroyd Climate Group, Redacre Allotments and Royd Regeneration.

A general discussion about transport hubs and the linking in with the local rail network took place.

**211. IMPROVING HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY EVENT**

Cllr Needham reported on the event held again in Hebden Bridge Town Hall exploring the retrofitting of buildings, the processing of energy and how a greener community can be planned and achieved. Practical examples were shared with how adaptations can be successful and also how they are sometimes not so successful. Emphasis was placed on insulation of homes and buildings with HRTC role viewed as acting to signpost opportunities and funding. HRTC could host an event in the future to illustrate options.

212.

### **HIGH HIRST UPDATE**

Paths for the High Hirst site, leading from the CMBC footpath to the 'viewing area' which has been increased in size, were discussed. Contractors, the first of three, are due this week, looking at the site and considering the costs to progress the project.

The path will be constructed of crushed stone, as identified by the site assessment with associated appropriate drainage. Research suggest that the that the costs will be less that £15k when completed including the interpretation material.

The adjacent footpath is due to be improved by CMBC and we hope they will be able to do this in the very near future.

The project must be complete by end of March 2023 to meet funding requirements.

Neil Diment advised that sheep have been on site grazing and are due to leave at end of October, the whole site has received a hard graze to allow early flowering plants to establish in spring 2023. The sheep have been monitored and well cared for with volunteers helping and new contacts have been made from the Dodnaze area.

Future Events on the site.

10<sup>th</sup> November fungi survey will take place with Steve Hindle after the area has stabilised following its sheep grazing.

20<sup>th</sup> Novembers an opportunity to join in with a fungi walk with Steve Hindle, again, open to friends and volunteers initially and then open to the general public.

Neil Diment outlined the planned accessible interpretation boards for the site, one upright, the other of a lecture style illustrating the flora & fauna of the site.

Neil also outlined the practical and memorial signage also to be introduced to the site.

Thoughts were requested by the end of the week from the committee should changes be viewed necessary.

CROWS have agreed to install the panels when ready and appropriate footings to allow mud free access when viewing them.

The committee will be able to view the panels prior to final production and installation.

213.

### **BUDGET AND EXPENSES UPDATE**

It was moved by Cllr Needham

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

**RESOLVED:** the following expenditure was recommended:

- £15K for High Hirst interpretation boards, pathway and viewing area, this includes a 20% contingency.

- £200 to fund the upcoming ecology walks of Steve Hindle in November 2022.

The committee discussed the Budget Request for 23/24 and the need for it to be further developed. The committee should be ambitious and look for appropriate resources to continue its work.

The meeting discussed Brearley Fields and asked that this be included as an item on the next agenda.

Meeting finished at 9.15pm.

## HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL

### Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE held 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022

#### MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Harvey (Chair), Fenton, Hoyle, Needham, Stevens.

**Town Clerk:** Jason Boom.

**Clerk:** E Green.

**Co-opted Member:** Neil Diment.

**Climate Emergency & Biodiversity Coordinator:** Rachel Lightbird.

- 274. To receive apologies for absence and any substitutions.**  
Apologies were received from Cllrs Bampton Smith, Patient & Anthony Rae.
- 275. To receive members` interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.**  
None were declared at this time.
- 276. To report on matters arising from the minutes of meeting held 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022 not itemised on this agenda.**  
Brearley Fields was raised under minute 213 at the last meeting, with clarification being sought on the current status of the site. The Clerk has subsequently researched this matter and information has been circulated to councillors. The project is still live but there currently is no CMBC officer allocated to this project to enable progression. There is an understanding that CMBC would like to work with the Town Council once they are in a position to progress the project.
- It was moved by Cllr Harvey  
Seconded by Cllr Needham and  
**RESOLVED:** That the Climate Emergency coordinator contacts CMBC and keeps communication open with regard to this project, to ensure involvement as appropriate.
- 277. INTRODUCTION OF NEW CLIMATE EMERGENCY & BIODIVERSITY COORDINATOR.**  
Cllr Harvey introduced Rachel Lightbird as the new Climate Emergency & Biodiversity Officer. Rachel gave an overview of her role and previous experience. Councillors welcomed Rachel to the role and are looking forward to working with her.

278.

### **HIGH HIRST WOODMEADOW UPDATE**

Cllr Harvey gave an update of the recent activities at High Hirst. These include the recent fungi survey which was undertaken with volunteers. Thanks to Neil Diment for organising the sessions. Five different types of clubs (indicator species) were found as such, the Woodmeadow meets the criteria for Designated Local Wildlife site, and registration can be applied for.

A volunteer afternoon has taken place to remove the fence which was put up when the trees were planted, as these are now established and not at risk from sheep. The sheep have been on the field for a two month hard graze.

Future priorities; all the planned events have been undertaken but there are funds allocated for signage, wheelchair accessible path and a pond. The focus will be on the path, interpretation boards and signage with quotes and specifications due to be returned from potential contractors.

Met CMBC on the site, they have committed to improve their section of the path with HRTC extending the path for improved access.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Needham and

**RESOLVED:** That if an appropriate quote is received that the Chair with Cllrs Needham and Fenton and Clerk to may approve under delegation the authorisation of works so as to limit further delay.

Neil Diment suggested that an additional 'layby' is included in the path to accommodate a lectern style interpretation board with space for a person who may or may not be using a wheelchair to stop and read it with obstructing the path for other users.

Neil Diment reported on the recent visit to Three Haggas Woodmeadow and that a return visit for their staff is planned for the new year.

A scything refresher course has been booked for late July 2023.

Neil Diment updated on the process for acquiring the interpretation boards. A brief was circulated and a number of contractors approached. Three contractors responded and these were considered by Cllrs Harvey, Needham and Neil Diment. The quotes were considered against cost, experience of past work and guarantee of quality. Marcus Byron was selected as the recommended preferred contractor.

Cllr Fenton questioned the sustainability of materials used for the boards. Neil Diment agreed that this was important and that the timber

frames would be sustainable, but that the signs also needed to be durable and as such there may need to be a compromise. Longevity means that they do not need to be replaced frequently. The signage includes fire risk signs and a memorial plaque for Dongria Khond.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Needham and

**RESOLVED:** to select Marcus Byron as the contractor and agree a sum of £2900 to progress the works. Cllrs Harvey, Needham and Neil Diment will now work to finalise the content of the boards.

Consideration should be given to how QR codes can be used and link to additional information included. The clerk will advise the successful and unsuccessful contractors, and request reassurance that sustainable materials will be used.

279.

### **ACTION PLAN ACTIVITIES**

Mobility Hub consultation has been held. These sites are about linking modes of travel and active travel. WYCA will be developing these in the region and CMBC will be facilitating this. A consultation is currently live which can be completed by members of the public.

Rachel will make contact with the CMBC officer responsible for this project. Hebden Bridge and Mytholmroyd may both be potential sites for mobility hubs. Consider issues on limited mobility and issues caused by such as the long ramp to the Manchester bound platform.

Energy efficiency remains a priority and it is hoped that some actions can be undertaken to address this soon. The Picture House as a key asset could be a main starting point for this type of work.

What has the committee achieved this year?

National Lottery funding for works at High Hirst

Energy efficiency stall

Peat map – now online

High Hirst Woodmeadow development – thank to Neil for all the work on this project.

Climate Emergency and Biodiversity Coordinator is now a permanent post

Additional cycle parking in Hebden Bridge

Newsletters about green events and initiatives

It was moved by Cllr Stevens

Seconded by Cllr Fenton and

**RESOLVED:** to add these achievements to the website to highlight the work of this committee.

**280. CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE BUDGET REQUEST 2023-24**

Cllr Harvey presented the budget request which sees £4000 being added to the overall budget to take this to £25,000. Cllr Needham highlighted that there must be flexibility concerning the budget and that the priority of engagement with children and young people remains important and should projects be identified then this can be included. There are opportunities in to February to make changes to the request.

Cllr Fenton suggested an educational event aimed at adults focusing on one change, relatively cheap to do but has the potential to make large change. This would be included in a Green Event as per the budget request.

Retrofitting was discussed. It was suggested that there could be information circulated either via flyers or talks presented different organisations with energy saving tips but also contractors that may be able to provide the service. Costs benefit is of great concern to most individuals.

**281. CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE CURRENT BUDGET UPDATE**

There is just short of £9000 available in the budget. The chair in consultation with the clerk may approve spend that supports the work of the committee as per the action plan.

**Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE  
held 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT: Councillors: Harvey (Chair), Bampton Smith, Hoyle, Needham.**

**Also: Anthony Rae**

**Deputy Clerk: E Green.**

**Climate Emergency & Biodiversity Coordinator: Rachel Lightbird.**

- 356. To receive apologies for absence and any substitutions.**  
Apologies were received from Cllr Fenton, Stevens. Apologies were also received from Neil Diment.
- 357. To receive members` interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.**  
There were no interests declared.
- 358. To report on matters arising from the minutes of meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 not itemised on this agenda.**  
Item 278 – it was confirmed that the materials for the boards are boards are fully recyclable material and FSC timber.  
Item 279 – Summary of the CECs committees progress in 2022 will be completed by Cllr Harvey in the next couple of weeks.
- 359. UPDATE FROM THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY & BIODIVERSITY OFFICER**  
The Climate Emergency & Biodiversity Officer gave an update of their activities, which included meeting a range of people involved in climate action projects. There are three main projects that are being researched as follows:
- a) Climate Café  
Pupils from each of the schools in the area (years 5 – 7) will be invited to the Town Hall to learn about climate change and to present their own thoughts. This is an opportunity to inspire each other and take part in specialist workshops such as sphagnum moss, sustainable fashion, sustainable transport. Provisional date of 21<sup>st</sup> April ties in with World Earth Day. The schools have expressed an interest and the proposal will be presented at the next schools liaison meeting. The potential for funding through CFFC was highlighted? This is a positive action to enable children to feel empowered about climate. It was moved by Cllr Harvey  
Seconded by Cllr Needham and  
**RESOLVED:** to allocate £2000 for this project.

b) Retrofit Housing Scheme

The information was presented regarding Eclipse who have been providing fully funded attic room insulation for those on benefits or on an income of under £31,000 per annum. 40 rooms are being insulated in the Hebden Royd area. A new scheme starts in April which is broader looking at a whole house approach – Eco4. This has the same eligibility criteria but must increase the EPC to level C or above.

There is the potential for a public meeting regarding retrofit with Carbon CoOp and BEAT. Community Land Trust delivered a similar meeting so there needs to be a differentiation to maximise impact. Data is available with postcodes and EPC ratings.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

**RESOLVED:** That further work will be undertaken to progress the concept of a public meeting and that information, and a budget request will be brought to the next meeting. Further links will be established with the Climate College in Todmorden and the works that are being undertaken regarding retrofit.

c) Living Greener A-Boards

The idea is that these boards tell people about the small/simple actions that they can take to reduce their own carbon output, reduce energy and save money. These are a functional community engagement tool and can be taken into various organisations. They are a prompt for conversation and exchange of ideas. It was noted that it is important to have a list of places where the boards can be used.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Needham and

**RESOLVED:** To allocate £2000 for this project to enable a local artist to be used in the design and delivery of this.

359

**LOCAL UPLANDS AND PEAT**

A verbal update was received from Anthony Rae regarding the findings of the recently published report on the condition of our local uplands. This is an important document because of the connection of the uplands with the valley bottoms in terms of natural flood management, which was identified following the 2015 floods. In early 2022 Moors for the Future were commissioned by CMBC and the EA to undertake a survey of the health of the peat bogs. Despite being outside Hebden Royd it is part of the potential solution to flooding and carbon sequestration. The report shows that 79% of the peatlands is damaged but may be improving. As a consequence, the peat is not sequestering carbon, but is actually releasing it. The UK peatlands have billions of tonnes are carbon sequestered and are an extremely important asset for the absorption of flood waters etc. The costs to restore these peatlands would be in the region of £12m. This particular report was

commissioned in order to assess the fire risk, not flood or carbon and there is more research to be undertaken to fully understand the impact. Now the facts have been established, the Town Council needs to understand what happens next. There is a forthcoming meeting of the Calderdale Flood Board which is an opportunity to ask questions as to what they are going to do next? The same question needs to be asked of Calderdale Climate Action Partnership. There needs to be pressure on these organisations to find the money to fund further research and ultimately work to restoration. Raising public awareness adds pressure to landowners, from discussion and debate.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr and

**RESOLVED:** The Climate Emergency Officer shall liaise with Calderdale Flood Management Board and Calderdale Climate Action Partnership and urge them to make a positive response to the report. They will also write a press release that we welcome the report and look forward to further work as a means of highlighting the issue. The Town Council will also raise the issue Cllr Patient as a Calderdale Councillor.

**360.**

#### **HIGH HIRST WOODMEADOW**

To receive a report on the progress of works at High Hirst Woodmeadow to include:

a) Path and pond works

It was updated that the path works have been started, funded through the award made by the lottery and the level access path almost completed. A series of four ponds have dug to create a wetland habitat.

b) Interpretation boards

Drafts are completed and looking excellent, in addition the Dongria Khond memorial signs have been designed and the wording sent for agreement from the family. Signage for fire and safety needs to be considered, these need to be informative but not over prescriptive - consideration to be given to the list of do's & do not's.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Needham

**RESOLVED:** To note thanks to Neil for his excellent work on the boards and to approve the spend of up to £300 to host a small unveiling to acknowledge and thank partners that have been involved in the project.

c) Site extension

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Needham and

**RESOLVED:** That HRTC progress dialogue with Calderdale Council estates to explore how to best proceed with leasing the field next to High Hirst Woodmeadow

d) South Pennine Park Awards (enc)

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

**RESOLVED:** To nominate High Hirst Woodmeadow for the award.

**361.**

**BUDGET UPDATE**

An overview of the budget was presented.

It was moved by Cllr Needham

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

**RESOLVED:** to note the information.

## HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL

### Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE held 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023

#### MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Harvey (Chair), Bampton Smith, Fenton, Hoyle, Needham, Stevens.

**Also:** Rachel Lightbird (HRTC) Neil Diment (Co-opted Member)

**Guest:** Finn Jenson (BEAT)

**Deputy Clerk:** E Green.

**437. To receive apologies for absence and any substitutions.**  
Apologies were received from Cllr Patient.

**438. To receive members` interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.**  
No interests were declared.

**439. RETROFIT PROJET**  
Finn Jensen presented information about the BEAT Retrofit Project, which is led by volunteers. A series of public meetings have already been held, including the at the Hebden Bridge Town Hall where 70 people attended and Mytholmroyd Community Centre where 80 People attended. BEAT have provided Carbon Co-op £10k to undertake retrofitting work in Todmorden. Eight community champions have been selected, they have a full survey of their house, with a view to then then making the retrofit changes and allowing interested visitors the opportunity to view and find out more about the practicalities of making the changes. Public workshops are due to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 22<sup>nd</sup> May, these will be in Todmorden but all are welcome to attend. Part of the project includes upskilling the construction industry through a two day introductory course, to better equip them with the knowledge and skills to deliver retrofit. In Calderdale about 50% of older households are “hard to treat homes”, no cavity wall etc. and of these about 70% are private and the rest are housing authority. CMBC has council has some budget to retrofit housing authority properties but this does not extend to private homes.

The main aim of retrofit is to reduce heat loss. A deep retrofit, to the highest standard can reduce heat loss by up to 80% but this is very expensive and intrusive. There are low level interventions that can be made such as loft insulation. Peoples Power retrofit offer a full survey

at a cost of £500 to assess the requirements for an effective retrofit lists suggested interventions in order of effectiveness.

It is important that information is also shared on low level retrofitting lots of which can be done on a DIY basis. But it is important to understand airflows to prevent mould. It was highlighted that not everyone is capable of DIY – accessibility important as a means of engagement. It is also important to offer practical information such as the cost benefits.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

**RESOLVED:** To deliver an Introduction to Retrofit session at HB Town Hall. Carbon Coop will deliver this at a cost of £300 with some additional funding for appropriate materials and a gift for attendees of a small energy saving device, up to a maximum budget of £1000 for the event.

**440. TO REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2023 NOT ITEMISED ON THIS AGENDA**

There were no matters arising.

**441. UPDATE FROM THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY & BIODIVERSITY OFFICER**

A verbal update was given by the Climate Emergency & Biodiversity Co-ordinator regarding existing and new projects:

a) Climate Café

Presentation has been given to Schools Head liaison meeting – a number of schools have registered interest. The event will be held on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June and coincides with Great Big Green Week.

It was suggested that a SIYE art project could be incorporated using large canvas with the world which could be used for future engagement projects. The budget has previously been agreed at £2000 can the budget be increased to accommodate the art project.

Lots of other workshops are planned including sphagnum moss, fast fashion and transport of the future.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

**RESOLVED:** To maintain the existing £2000 budget, and not to proceed with the art project on this occasion.

b) Living Greener - A boards update

Concept design of the artwork was presented for the A Boards.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Needham and

**RESOLVED:** to approve the initial design and for the artist to work up the design ready for production.

442.

### **HIGH HIRST WOODMEADOW**

A report was given on the progress of works at High Hirst Woodmeadow:

- a) Riverside School - year 5 and 6 visit  
Students visited to draw images that would be included on the interpretation boards. This was a very successful day with excellent participation and interest from the children.
- b) Meadows Day  
National Meadows day on first Saturday in July. Event to be held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July, last year was a very successful meadows day, this year the plan is to rerun those activities that worked well plus the include a number of new activities. The event is for both adults and children. All activities will require be prebooking to help with planning and ensure the quality of delivery of the activity.
- c) Opening of interpretation boards/path ceremony  
The boards will be fitted on 6<sup>th</sup> April and the event will take place on 20<sup>th</sup> April invitations will be circulated in due course. This event will also include the unveiling of a plaque in memorial of Dongria Khond who was instrumental in the development of the site. The Climate and Biodiversity Coordinator is circulating invitations and will ensure an appropriate press release is issued.

443.

### **BUDGET UPDATE**

Information was provided on the current budget and requests for funding was considered for the projects listed below:

- a) Schools Climate café.  
It was moved by Cllr Harvey  
Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and  
**RESOLVED:** Not to increase the budget for this event and to maintain this at £2000.00
- b) High Hirst Woodmeadow - damson/pear tree prune  
It was moved by Cllr Harvey  
Seconded by Cllr Needham and  
**RESOLVED:** To approve £100 for pruning
- c) High Hirst Woodmeadow - Meadows Day bookings.  
It was moved by Cllr Harvey  
Seconded by Cllr Needham and  
**RESOLVED:** To approve up to £600 for costs
- d) High Hirst Woodmeadow - Tree guard removal and tree works  
It was moved by Cllr Harvey  
Seconded by Cllr Needham and  
**RESOLVED:** To approve £800 for tree works.

Meeting finished at 21:05