

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE
Held WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2023

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Harvey (Chair), Boggis, Butterick, Howes, Morse.

Also: Neil Diment

Officer: R Lightbird

HRTC Deputy Clerk: E Green

306. **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANY SUBSTITUTIONS.**

Cllrs Bampton Smith & Needham

307. **TO RECEIVE MEMBERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO AGENDA ITEMS FOR THIS MEETING.**

No Interests were declared at this time.

308. **MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 25TH OCTOBER NOT ITEMISED ON THIS AGENDA.**

There were no matters arising.

309. **CLIMATE ACTION PLAN**

The first draft of the climate action plan was considered. The various sections were highlighted, and it was suggested that councillors may wish to take ownership of particular sessions and/or join a Calderdale Council Climate Action Partnership group, if they had necessary time, interest and expertise.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: That councillors should consider the report and feed any comments back to Rachel by 9th January, these can then be incorporated in to a revised and final version to be presented at the meeting on 21st February.

310. **EVENT FEEDBACK & UPDATE**

Feedback, updates and associated budget request regarding the following events was considered.

a. Retrofit Event & Future Retrofit Training Events

Three events have been held to date and the feedback has been very positive.

In 2024 HRTC is looking to expand the programme, to include workshops on Solar and Heatpumps.

b. Climate Café Update

The second HRTC school climate café has been held which was very successful. Four HRTC schools attended, including Hebden Royd Primary school. This means all but one of HRTC primary schools in the local area are now part of the project. Calder Primary (the missing primary) has expressed hope they will be able to join next time. The children were enthused and inspired. An Eco Council has now been set up at Burnley Road School. Each attending school has been donated a worm farm, and hi viz caps/vests by HRTC, so children can learn about composting, food cycles, waste reduction and worms. It was noted that the format of the climate café initiative, particularly the regularity of the climate cafes, and the interschool involvement over the year, is innovative, and likely inspirational for other Councils.

311.

PROJECT UPDATE

An update was received on following,

a. High Hirst Wood Meadow – Working group feedback and recommendations requiring approval.

Work is underway to consider the Heads of Terms in relation to the lease on Law Field (High Hirst extension) the Town Clerk has a meeting with CMBC representatives on 19.12.23.

The proposal regarding fencing was considered.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: to approve the recommendations within the report allocating £2500 for fencing to Law Field, with works to be completed once the lease has been agreed and signed by both parties.

Consideration was given to the access to the site for livestock including cows and ponies. The Deputy Clerk highlighted a route of access agreed by CMBC Planning on the agreement of the lease, and also stipulation regarding the location/height/visibility of the container within the same planning permission.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: to allocate £2000 toward the provision of access once a suitable arrangement has been agreed by the High Hirst Working Group.

b. Environmental enhancement – ideas, discussion, and recommendations

The committee considered a number of sites of potential environmental improvements including the Marina, Old Gate and Holme Street.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Boggis and

RESOLVED: That the officer for this committee should meet with Calderdale Council to discuss these areas, works that may already be identified and how Hebden Royd Town Council can both support these works and make further enhancements to support biodiversity in these areas.

c. Community Groups – engagement regarding provision on biodiversity assets.

This action is carried over from the last meeting.

312. **ALLOTMENTS UPDATE**

The committee was updated on the current activities of the allotments.

- a. Banksfield Allotments – No Update
- b. High Hirst Allotments – Works agreed at the last meeting of this committee are ongoing. Further consultation has taken place with the allotment holders who have produced a wish list for equipment they would like to see on the allotment for children. The container work and the children's play area/sensory garden will hopefully be completed by end of March 2024.

313. **BUDGET UPDATE & REQUEST 2024/25**

The priorities of the committee for the council year 2024/25 were considered.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: to approve the budget as presented with the addition of the following.

An additional £5000 – Environmental improvements

An additional £1500 to support the newly established Friends of High Hirst Group.

An additional £2500 to a youth climate engagement project, other than the school climate café.