

## **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 than £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> November 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.

