



LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

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17 April 2024

To: All Councillors, Nina Shields (Chair)
Non-Councillors: Al Braithwaite, Beverly and Paul Kinnaird

Dear Member

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **Climate Change Working Party on Tuesday, 23 April 2024 at 6.00pm at Ledbury Town Council Offices, Church Lane, Ledbury**, for the purpose of transacting the business below.

Yours faithfully

Angela Price
Town Clerk

FILMING AND RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Members of the public are permitted to film or record meetings to which they are permitted access, in a non-disruptive manner. Whilst those attending meetings are deemed to have consented to the filming, recording or broadcasting of meetings, those exercising the rights to film, record and broadcast must respect the rights of other people attending under the Data Protection Act (GDPR) 2018.

A G E N D A

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Declarations of Interests**

To receive any declarations of interest and written requests for dispensations.
(Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Ledbury Town Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011)

(Note: Members seeking advice on this item are asked to contact the Monitoring officer at least 72 hours prior to the meeting)

3. **To elect non-council members to the Climate Change Working Party**
4. **To approve and sign the minutes of a meeting of the Climate Change Working Party held on Wednesday, 7 February 2024 incorporating Action Sheet** (Pages 125 – 129)
5. **Feedback from Environment & Leisure Committee** (Pages 130 - 131)
6. **Feedback from Events Working Party on the Great Big Green Week** (Pages 132 - 136)
7. **Feedback from Traffic Management Working Party in respect of report presented by Professor John Whitelegg** (Pages 137 - 138)
8. **Warm Spaces for Winter 2023/24 - Update** (Verbal)
9. **Working with Ledbury Health Partnership** (Verbal)
10. **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting of the Climate Change Working Party is to be confirmed at the first Environment & Leisure Committee meeting to be held in the municipal year 2024/25.

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY HELD ON 7 FEBRUARY 2024

PRESENT: Councillors: Chowns and Sinclair
Non-Councillors – Nina Shields (Chair), Al Braithwaite, Beverley Kinnaird, Paul Kinnaird, County Councillor Justine Peberdy and Catherine Simonini (Ledbury Health Partnership)

ALSO PRESENT: Julia Lawrence, Deputy Clerk

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor McAll and Professor John Whitelegg.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

3. TO ELECT NON-COUNCIL MEMBERS

None.

4. TO APPROVE AND SIGN, AS A CORRECT RECORD, THE MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD ON 6 DECEMBER 2023

Since the issuing of the draft minutes of 6 December 2023, Councillor Sinclair had raised a concern that the data contained in Item 7 (Transport) presented by Professional Whitelegg was inaccurate in terms of journeys by car.

This meeting noted that there had been confusion about the definition of “trips”. Professor Whitelegg, since that meeting, had advised the Council and its Members that “trips” related to all forms of movement to and from the School, not just cars. It was also noted that the words “great exaggeration” was not used in the meeting by Councillor Chowns.

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Climate Change Working Party (“CCWP”) meeting held on 6 December 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record subject to the amendment that the word “trips” (Item 7) recognises different types of movement to and from the School, not solely cars.

The minutes were proposed by Councillor Chowns and seconded by Nina Shields, then signed as a correct record.

5. LEDBURY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

The Practice Manager, Catherine Simonini, advised the Working Party that there is no current requirement to track trends or record the impacts of Climate Change on health by the Department of Health or other health bodies.

It could be possible to provide data to support or provide a base line of different health conditions that relate to climate change if there was a project requiring the ability to monitor changes over a period of time.

It was noted that unlike the Council, the Practice does not have a Climate Change Emergency Policy and that it was a challenge to reach Net Zero as some buildings were not within the ownership of the Practice. Where control and influence was possible (St Katherine's), it is well run and is trying to address the challenges. At other locations, there are less obligations on commercial landlords to address the climate change problems.

The Practice Manager was thanked for her insight of the challenges facing the Health Practice.

RESOLVED:

It was proposed that at the next CCWP Meeting consideration should be given as to how the Council could work with the Health Practice in the future.

6. FEEDBACK FROM ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE ("E&L")

The report was noted.

A discussion took place about developing a potential relationship to work together with NMiTE. Al Braithwaite advised that NMiTE were working with Ledbury Places on a few projects (via an MOU) to better understand what could be done with its historic buildings to improve thermal capacity and overall structure. Councillor Chowns would welcome an opportunity to have a discussion to understand how a relationship could potentially develop.

RESOLVED:

It was agreed that Al Braithwaite would contact NMiTE to start the discussion with NMiTE about their involvement with the Council. Councillor Chowns confirmed that he would also be pleased to join the meeting.

7. FEEDBACK FROM TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT WORKING PARTY IN RESPECT OF THE REPORT PRESENTED BY PROFESSOR WHITELEGG

This item was deferred until the next CCWP as the meeting had only been held earlier on 7 February 2024.

RESOLVED:

To be an item on the agenda for the next meeting on 3 April 2024.

8. MALVERN HILLS NATIONAL LANDSCAPE CONSULTATION

The consultation document presented to Ledbury Town Council was provided by E&L to CCWP for their response with a view to submitting that response to Malvern Hills National Landscape. The consultation document relates to renewable energy in the Malvern Hills and its setting.

In summary the CCWP noted:-

- It was a thorough report.
- That the report took a positive approach to renewable energy but would not want to deploy anything that would have a major impact on the setting.
- It did not wish to do anything on a large scale or that might cause disruption to the land and buildings.

RESOLVED:

That the CCWP agreed that the following statement should be the recommended response to be sent to Malvern Hills National Landscape by the deadline of 28 February 2024 from the Council and E&L.

“Thank you for the detailed and thorough report and the opportunity to comment. Ledbury Town Council is supportive of the aims to provide renewable opportunities whilst safeguarding the landscape”.

9. ABSOLUTE NET ZERO REPORT

Councillor Sinclair lead a discussion for the Working Party on the Absolute Net Zero report, making members of the Group aware that the creation of the academic report, 4 years ago, is understood to be backed by the Chinese Government.

Councillor Sinclair wanted to make people aware of some of the points set out in the diagram 2020-2050 (page 6 of the actual report) and the impact that they would have on everyday life.

It was noted that many of the insights across a range of headings, were not unexpected in the longer term – to 2050, but it was good to raise awareness. It was acknowledged that CO2 to zero had moved on in the recent past, even given the recent concerns about the location of COP28.

A further report was referred to by the Chairman, having received information from Professor Whitelegg about the same and set out below.

“The Wuppertal Institute also uses its long-standing expertise in performing meta-analyses of energy system scenarios in various projects. In one of these meta-analyses on behalf of Fridays for Future Germany, it investigated the accelerated changes that would be realised in the energy industry and in the buildings, industry and transport sectors to achieve a [climate-neutral German energy system already by 2035](#). In a study on behalf of the nature conservation organisation NABU, the Wuppertal Institute used a scenario meta-analysis to derive various strategies for how the energy transition can be implemented in a way that minimises negative impacts on nature.

[CO2-Neutral by 2035: Key Points of a German Contribution to Maintain the 1.5°C Limit - Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy \(wupperinst.org\)](#)”

It was noted that much of the report was outside the remit of the Working Party, which had been set up to make recommendations to E&L to build resilience and address opportunities to improve the sustainability of Ledbury.

The Chair thanked Councillor Sinclair for bringing the report to the Working Party’s attention.

RESOLVED:

That the Working Party reflect on the reports for future consideration.

10. COUNCIL CARBON FOOTPRINT

Awaiting feedback from the Finance Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the CCWP is awaiting feedback from the Finance Committee.

11. WARM SPACES FOR WINTER 2023/24

It was noted that the Rugby Club did apply for grant funding for warm spaces this year, but the application had been rejected on the grounds that they could not offer time slots outside of regular working hours.

12. COMMITTEE STRUCTURE/CORPORATE PLAN 2020

To be carried forward to the next meeting.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of the CCWP will be held on Wednesday, 3 April 2024 at 6.00pm, in the Council Offices.

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY – ACTION SHEET

No:	Item (Action Required)	Responsibility	To be actioned by (date)
6	Al Braithwaite agreed to contact NMiTE to start the discussion with NMiTE. Councillor Chowns to join the meeting.	Al Braithwaite	April 24
5	CCWP Meeting give consideration as to how the Council could work with the Health Practice in the future.	CCWP	April 24
8	This Working Party agreed that the following statement should be the recommended response to be sent to Malvern Hills National Landscape by the deadline of 28 February 2024 from the Council and E&L.	E&L and Clerk	28 February 24

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY	23 APRIL 2024	AGENDA ITEM: 5
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Report by Al Braithwaite & Councillor Chowns

FEEDBACK FROM ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE – MEETING WITH NMiTE

Purpose of Report

To provide the Working Party with feedback following a meeting between NMiTE, Al Braithwaite and Councillor Chowns to consider the possibility of developing a relationship with NMiTE, including a recommendation to the Environment & Leisure Committee.

Detailed Information

The Climate Change Working Party (CCWP) agreed to a meeting between NMiTE, Al Braithwaite and Councillor Chowns to explore whether working together could lead to a potential improvement in the carbon footprint of the Council's assets.

Tim Belden, Associate Professor from NMiTE provided background information on how students undertake Bachelor and/or Master Engineering degrees through a consolidated period (2/3 years) which provide integrated engineering and technical programmes. As well as academic learning, core to the courses, is the development of partnerships with businesses and communities to provide real-life projects that the students can apply their skills to and create solutions from considering materials and energy to functionality and impact and structure to aesthetics.

The link below shows details of some of their partners.

<https://nmite.ac.uk/nmite-partners>

Additionally, NMiTE also provide a Timber Technology, Engineering and Design short course, (endorsed by two Chartered Institutes), which may be of interest to the Council when considering the future of its assets.

Ledbury Places has three projects being progressed through NMiTE, where it is seeking to understand what can be achieved with the building, including in terms of improving thermal capacity, and the effect on the structure for a listed building. Their skills, knowledge and professionalism of the students have been exceptional as well as being empathetic to building.

The discussion focused on the challenges facing the Town Council and its asset base and how a range of projects could be identified to work with NMiTE students. A number of projects were suggested to Tim Belden, who confirmed they would meet their criteria.

The relationship would be developed through detailed definitions for each project, which would be underpinned by a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The relationship would be symbiotic and there would be no cost to the Council. Should implementation of building changes etc be recommended, this would be prepared jointly with the Council and no action would be taken until full approval from the Council to proceed.

Projects are being sought by NMiTE currently and there will be further opportunity to identify projects during the late summer.

Recommendation

That the opportunity to work with NMiTE be recommended to Environment & Leisure Committee, with a view to identifying a project(s) for discussion with NMiTE in summer 2024.

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY	23 APRIL 2024	AGENDA ITEM: 6
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Report prepared by Olivia Trueman, Community Development Officer (CDO)

GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update Members of the Climate Change Working Party on the progress of the Great Big Green Week.

Detailed Information

The attached document is a draft programme of events that the Community Development Officer has put together for the Great Big Green Week. Members of the committee are asked to make comments or suggestions and whether the CDO should progress with the proposed plan.

The Great Big Green Week will run from 8th - 16th June 2024.

The CDO met with Ledbury Poetry about a town window competition on the theme 'Rivers' for the Poetry Festival. They discussed getting Traders to decorate windows from Great Big Green Week until the end of the Poetry Festival (8th June – 7th July), involving Ledbury Traders, the Poetry Festival and the Town Council.

Recommendation

That Members of the Climate Change Working Party receive and note this report.

DRAFT plan for The Great Big Green Week

Date	Activity Name / purpose	Organiser	Possible Location and Times	Cost Implications	Who will be available on the day
Saturday 8th	<p>Ledbury Community Day 10:00am-2:00pm Celebrate all Community Groups in Ledbury, whilst sharing the message about sustainability</p> <p>Wildplay Session 10:30-12:30 Children and Nature- hands on nature based Crafts and wildlife exploration for children 2+ and their interested adults.</p> <p>Photography showcase in Ledbury 10:00 – 1:00pm Residents invited to enter a photography competition. 12 winners to be picked and showcased in the Methodist Church during Ledbury Community Day. Prints to be moved to empty shop windows during the Great Big Green Week. The winner will have a photography column in the Town Council Newsletter for 1 year and will feature as the</p>	<p>Ledbury Community Day</p> <p>LLDG</p> <p>Ledbury Town Council, The Methodist Church and Sustainable Ledbury</p>	<p>In and around the town between 10:00am-2:00pm</p> <p>Ledbury Library 10:30-12:30</p> <p>Methodist Church 10:00 – 1:00pm</p>	<p></p> <p>Prizes, printing photographs £500-£600</p>	<p>CEO, DC,TC</p> <p>GILLIAN CHOWNS AND MC</p>

DRAFT plan for The Great Big Green Week

	<p>front cover of the daffodil line brochure.</p> <p>Sustainable Ledbury has provided the below categories:</p> <p>Trees Agriculture Litter Land Ornithology (Birds) Waste</p> <p>Winners to be announced on 16th or 17th June. Residents can vote by qr code or town council office.</p>				
Sunday 9 th	<p>Ledbury Litter Roundup</p> <p>Residents and businesses encouraged to clean up Ledbury. Picnic under the Market House afterwards as a reward</p>	<p>Ledbury Town Council and possible partnerships with Helping Hands and The Market House Café.</p>	<p>Meet under the Market House at 10:30am and litter pick until 1:00pm.</p> <p>Teas and coffees under the market house at 1:30pm</p>	<p>Town Council to pay for light refreshments</p> <p>£40</p>	DC
Monday 10 th	<p>The National Food Conversation</p> <p>Talk and discussion of food hosted by Ledbury Food Group. More information to follow.</p>	<p>Ledbury Food Group</p>	<p>The Burgage Hall</p>		

DRAFT plan for The Great Big Green Week

<p>Tuesday 11th</p>	<p>All About Gardens <i>(Could be a ticketed event or donation)</i></p> <p>A talk for frustrated gardeners! Also, an opportunity to help match people who don't have a garden with those who do (Speed dating for gardens)</p> <p>A talk from local gardener and landscaper: tips and tricks?</p> <p>Haygrove to be approached and asked if they would like to provide a presentation.</p> <p>Sustainable Ledbury to provide short talk on composting</p>	<p>Ledbury Town Council, Sustainable Ledbury</p>	<p>Burgage Hall</p>	<p>Hire of hall and drinks, talks etc</p> <p>£120</p>	<p>CLERK, CEO</p>
<p>Wednesday 12th</p>	<p>Mayors Sustainability Coffee Morning</p> <p>Members of the public and dignitaries are encouraged to bring cakes along. Community Groups will be invited, including wildlife trust, sustainable Ledbury, Riverford Organics etc</p> <p>Invite the MP and an Officer from Hereford Council to do a presentation</p>	<p>Town Council</p>	<p>St Katherines Hall</p>	<p>Venue hire and refreshments (to come from Mayors funds)</p>	

DRAFT plan for The Great Big Green Week

Thursday 13 th	Showcase our local talent!	Scouts, beavers, cubs , girl guides and brownies	Schools or Ledbury Town Council Jacobean Room		
Friday 14 th					
Saturday 15 th	<p>Weave your own bird house Workshop <i>(Could be a ticketed event)</i></p> <p>Free workshop where residents can make their own bird houses from willow. Limited numbers</p> <p>Beeswax Wraps Workshop A free Workshop for residents to create beeswax wraps.</p> <p>Sustainable / Eco Charter Market</p>	<p>Ledbury Town Council</p> <p>Ledbury Town Council and Sustainable Ledbury</p> <p>Ledbury Town Council</p>	<p>Poetry House</p> <p>Town Council Office</p> <p>Market</p>	<p>TBC</p> <p></p> <p></p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p>NS, CEO, SJ</p>
Sunday 16 th June	<p>Movie Night</p> <p>Showcase a short film from Rural Media regarding sustainability OR River Action UK.</p>	Ledbury Town Council and Rural Media	Heritage Centre	TBC	

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY	23 APRIL 2024	AGENDA ITEM: 7
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Report by Julia Lawrence, Deputy Town Clerk

FEEDBACK FROM TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT WORKING PARTY IN RESPECT OF REPORT PRESENTED BY PROFESSOR JOHN WHITELEGG

Purpose of Report

To provide the Climate Change Working Party with feedback from the Traffic Management Working Party regarding the report that was presented by Professor John Whitelegg.

Detailed Information

Members of the Working Party will recall that Professor John Whitelegg presented a report, "A Ledbury proposal to reduce transport's climate damaging carbon emissions", at the Climate Change Working Party on 6 December 2024. Members agreed that this should be presented to the Traffic Management Working Party for their consideration and feedback.

The report was considered at the meeting on 27 March 2024 and an extract from the minutes of that meeting are shown below.

TMWP 29. IMPACT OF DEVELOPMENT AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

A Ledbury Proposal to Reduce Transport's Climate Damaging Carbon Emissions – Report by Prof John Whitelegg Report

The Clerk advised that the Climate Change Working Party had requested that the report provided to them by Prof. John Whitelegg be referred to the TMWP for comment.

The Clerk advised that since providing the report to the CCWP Prof. Whitelegg had been engaged by Herefordshire Council to work with them on a transport project, which would be Countywide rather than Ledbury specific.

Councillor Hughes stated that he felt that this was something that the schools should be asked to comment on, primary and secondary. He also suggested that the Community Speed Watch Group currently being created in Ledbury could have input into the report.

He also noted that the report does not mention 20 mph zones around schools, routes to schools from the new developers, and there appears to

be nothing about mapping safe routes for cyclists and pedestrians, including the provision of new crossings on Lower Road and New Street.

Councillor Hughes suggested that the Council could support actions, such as requesting TRO's

- 1. That the Climate Change Working Party suggest to Professor Whitelegg that this report should be shared with the governing body of both Ledbury Primary School and John Masefield High School, noting that the Chair of the CCWP is a Governor on John Masefield High School.*
- 2. That the above comments are fed back to the CCWP.*

Recommendation

That Members of the Climate Change Working Party note and receive this report noting the feedback received from the Traffic Management Working Party.