

**Ledbury Town Council
Minutes of a meeting of the
Climate Change Working Party
held on 23 November 2020 via Zoom**

PRESENT: Councillors Howells and Chowns, Nina Shields (Chairman), Al Braithwaite, Alan Pike, Paul Kinnaird, Dilys Merry,

ALSO PRESENT: Rob Whitehouse, Garden Organic
Nicola Young, Deputy Town Clerk

CC.28 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillor Dee Knight
Michael Sessarego
Amanda Lambourne
Ann Crane

CC.29 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Councillors Only)

None received.

CC.30 MEETING NOTES FROM THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY

RECOMMEND that the meeting notes from the Climate Change working party held on 26 October 2020 are correct and be received and noted.

CC.31 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Climate Change Terms of Reference to be updated to include a new paragraph 3:

“3. Quorum

To enable the Working Party to meet its quorate requirements there **MUST** be three members of the Working Party present, regardless of whether they are councillors or non-councillor members of the Working Party. However, there **MUST** be at least one Councillor present for the meeting to proceed.”

RECOMMEND that the working party amend the Terms of Reference with the additional paragraph as advised by Environment & Leisure Committee and circulate the updated Terms of Reference with the meeting notes.

CC.32 GARDEN ORGANIC

Rob Whitehouse, Garden Organic, talked about what Garden Organic do, how they work with Unitary/County Council's to deliver county-wide Let's Waste Less campaigns. They are currently working with Worcestershire and Staffordshire. Their work includes

- Volunteer recruitment – to deliver knowledgeable advice to communities on:
 - Composting and Master Composter Programme
 - Food Waste – Love Food Hate Waste campaign
 - Recycling information
- Currently the total focus is online with community groups and Garden Organic have also developed a school pack

Rob acknowledged that there is already a lot happening in Ledbury, even though Herefordshire Council no longer buy in the services of Garden Organic. WP members then discussed the possibility of buying in the services of Garden Organic for the smaller location of Ledbury, rather than county-wide and to develop a small localised waste reduction programme.

Current costs for Garden Organic to undertake the county-wide work are:

- County campaign = 2 days support from paid member of staff/week £25,000pa
- Localised campaign = 1 day support and possible delivery from paid member of staff/week = £12,500pa

Suggested prices for more local work and more affordable work:

- Light-touch approach, to include training volunteers, Zoom presentations and Garden Organic to be an on-hand resource = £2-3,000pa
- Potential to buy in hourly support via Zoom workshops:
 - 1 hour = £150
 - 2 hours = £250
 - 3 hours plus – whole day workshops – negotiable

Options on working with Garden Organic put forward were:

- Link with the Sustainable Ledbury Single Use Plastics Group
- Have a stall at markets and supermarkets with clear basic information on what can be recycled – currently there is short video content on Garden Organic's website or further information can be viewed on the Recycle Now website: <https://www.recyclenow.com/>

All work must be in coordination with Herefordshire Council waste strategy and the message about local recycling must be clear

RECOMMENDATION to Environment & Leisure Committee – that the Committee consider allocating £2,500 - £3,000 in the Council budget 2021-2022, specifically to work with Garden Organic to provide a sustained approach to campaigning and raising awareness of recycling, composting and reducing food waste and assist with training local volunteers. If the Committee are unable to allocate the full amount, please can the Committee consider allocating a budget for this work which can be used as match-funding.

CC.33 CLIMATE CHANGE DECLARATION

The Environment & Leisure Committee had agreed the wording of the Climate Change Declaration, just changing one word. The fourth paragraph opening sentence read “Ledbury Town Council admits that global warming ...” and will now read “Ledbury Town Council **acknowledges** that global warming .”

RECOMMENDATION to Environment & Leisure Committee - that the amended Climate Change Declaration be put before full Council for agreement in November 2020.

CC.34 IMPLEMENTING THE DECLARATION

The following updates were made to the Action Plan at the meeting:

No:	Goals	Lead Org / Person	Projects to Achieve Goals	Completion
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Corporate Plan Objective 2: To undertake local procurement wherever possible, whilst achieving best value for money

CC3	LTC staff to consider supply chain when entering into the purchase of goods and services	LTC	LTC buy renewable electricity for all council buildings	
CC4	Reduce carbon footprint	LTC	Recommend LTC measure their own current carbon footprint	
CC7	Raise awareness of existing energy discount schemes and how energy efficiency of homes can be improved – facilitate an Eco Fair	CC WP & LTC	Keep Herefordshire Warm training webinars Paul Kinnaird speak to Climate Change meeting in January 2021	

Corporate Plan Objective 3: A Plastic-Free Ledbury

CC8	Develop a plastic free policy for Ledbury Town Council and pledge a commitment to working towards a plastic free town	WP & LTC	WP to draft a 'statement' and recommend to TC	
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CC9	Facilitate and develop regular litter pick events or work with organisations who already do this	Community & LTC	XR plan some litter picks for Spring 2021 (hopefully) Balfour Beatty provide litter picking kits for free hire – circulate information	
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Friends of the Earth – Town & Parish Council 20 Objectives

CC15	Develop and promote lift-sharing scheme:	LTC	Liaise with Malvern Hills Car Club and do some publicity – write an article for the Town Council Newsletter	
CC22	Buy green	LTC	Make a recommendation to E&L Committee for Council to consider amending financial regulations to make it clear that the sustainable contracts, renewable energy and eco/green suppliers will be sought in the first instance.	
CC36	Designate sites within the Neighbourhood Plan for trees, renewable energy and nature restoration	Cllr Howells Ledbury NDP Group	Passed to NDP WP as lead	
CC37	Use the Neighbourhood Plan to require new homes to be energy efficient, nature friendly, and located close to public transport and amenities.	Cllr Howells Ledbury NDP Group	Passed to NDP WP as lead	
CC38	Designate safe walking and cycle routes in the Neighbourhood Plan	Cllr Howells Ledbury NDP Group	Passed to NDP WP as lead	

Al Braithwaite left the meeting.

RECOMMEND TO Environment & Leisure Committee that:

CC3: LTC buy renewable electricity for all council buildings

CC4: Recommend LTC measure their own current carbon footprint as a baseline to measure progress.

CC8: WP to draft a Council plastic-free 'statement' and recommend to Committee that Council adopt the statement

CC9: XR Ledbury have volunteered to lead and coordinate community litter picks in conjunction with Balfour Beatty, where equipment can be hired free of charge and safety advice provided

CC15: to include an article in the Council newsletter on Malvern Hills Car Club to promote use

CC22: that Council consider amending financial regulations to make it clear that quotes for sustainable contracts, renewable energy and from eco/green suppliers will be sought in the first instance.

CC36-28: that Committee note these Climate Change goals have been passed to the Neighbourhood Development Plan working group for inclusion in the Plan.

Agreed that Members review the Action Plan following the meeting and consider what actions to prioritise and forward their comments to the Deputy Clerk at deputyclerk@ledburytowncouncil.gov.uk

CC.26 TOWN TRAIL

Working party members noted receipt of the notes from the meeting with Herefordshire Council and Balfour Beatty about Licenses to Cultivate. The Chairman stated that it had been agreed to arrange a walk of the Town Trail with Council colleagues and that this walk was open to anyone who wished to join.

CC.27 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Climate Change Working Party is scheduled for Monday, 11 January 2021 at 6.00pm via Zoom noting that the meeting details will be included on the agenda and in the email circulating the papers.

Signed: Date:
Chairman

The meeting ended at 7.45 pm