

LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2023

PRESENT: Councillor Nina Shields (Chair)
Non-Councillors – Paul and Beverley Kinnaird

ALSO PRESENT: Julia Lawrence – Deputy Clerk

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Al Braithwaite, Councillors Chowns and Whattler.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

3. TO ELECT NON-COUNCIL MEMBERS

Paul and Beverley Kinnaird were elected as non-council members to the Climate Change Working Party.

4. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD ON 7 DECEMBER 2022

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Climate Change Working Party meeting held on 7 December 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record.

5. UPDATE ON ACTION POINTS

5.1 Feedback from the Environment and Leisure Committee

Councillor Shields gave an overview of the plan of action for the Working Party, noting that the Environment & Leisure Committee had approved for the Great Big Green Week event to proceed in June 2023, as well as highlighting the Council's Declaration in terms of sustainability.

Consideration was given as to whether Councillor Ellie Chowns could assist, but it was agreed that with the Pre-election period starting in March, it would be difficult. However, members felt that it would be useful if she could get involved with the Great Big Green Week event in June.

5.2 Update on Warm Spaces

It was noted that the take-up had not been huge. Whether this was due to people who were struggling not being able to find out about the Warm Spaces or perhaps the message not having reached people in need, coupled with times of opening and locations, not being suitable. It was agreed that Councillor Shields would seek feedback from Talk Community as the scheme is due to come to a close at the end of March 2023.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Nina Shields contact Talk Community to seek feedback on the Warm Spaces initiative.

6. GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK (“GBGW”)

A note of thanks was recorded for the work that Al Braithwaite had done to date on the Project Plan for the event.

- 6.1 Update on actions detailed in Minute 6.4 iii) of the Minutes of 7 December 2022:

Schools & Quiz ideas

Councillor Shields reported that she has a meeting with the Cluster of School Head Teachers and Governors on 9 March 2023 at which time she will put forward the question for children to research: “How far does their food travel and how much water it uses”.

It was proposed that school children should be encouraged to create a poster, A4 size, as part of a competition to promote climate change. Children would be asked to include their Christian name and school year so that GDPR is not breached. The posters would then be displayed in the Town Council windows and subsequently be on display during the GBGW event.

Supermarkets – packaging/local vs distance travel for goods

Al Braithwaite to update.

Surfers against Sewage

Al Braithwaite to update.

Review of Herefordshire Green Network

Julia Lawrence to contact Councillor Chowns for an update.

Garden Organic

Councillor Shields had contacted Garden Organic who do not do anything specific for the GBGW. She anticipated that we would be able to use some of their general publicity.

Virgin Atlantic – presentation/carbon offsetting

A paper had been attached to the agenda with useful website links. Whilst it was very interesting to note, Members were not sure how it could be used at the GBGW event and that it may be more beneficial to promote electric bicycles. A note of thanks was recorded for the Clerk in obtaining the information.

Traders Association

It was proposed that the shops be asked to reflect an environmental theme in their windows during the GBGW.

Herefordshire Council – electric charging points

Angie Price has received some information, but the Working Party wondered whether there were any further updates. Paul Kinnaird noted that Herefordshire Council had changed their main operator which was causing problems especially if members of the public had an existing membership with another operator. Julia Lawrence is to ask Angie Price if she is aware of any further information and if there are plans to make electric charging easier as opposed to subscribing.

Paul Kinnaird is to speak to Ben Boswell at Herefordshire Council concerning charging points in general as there are insufficient charging points and is not a system that everyone wants to use. It was considered that the charging points should be made available on a par to purchasing petrol.

Car Club

Julia Lawrence to ask Councillor Chowns for an update.

NMITE

Councillor Shields confirmed that she had made contact with a Marketing and Publicity Officer at NMITE.

Councillor Shields confirmed that she had made contact with the Chairman for the Community Day event who was happy to have a green theme at the event.

It was confirmed that nothing had been progressed just yet other than the Town Council would be focussing on this event once the World Book

Day event (4 March 2023) had been completed. Paul Kinnaird was asked to find out, via Herefordshire Green Network, whether Ledbury is the only Town in Herefordshire participating in the GBGW event and report back. However, it is hoped that the Town Council will be able to build and improve upon this event over time.

RESOLVED:

- a) **That a record of thanks be noted for Al Braithwaite for her excellent work to date relating to the Project Plan.**
- b) **That members of the Working Party follow up on action points as noted above.**
- c) **That Paul Kinnaird contact Ben Boswell regarding the electric charging points in and around Ledbury town.**
- d) **That thanks be given to the Clerk for obtaining useful information relating to Virgin Atlantic.**
- e) **That the GBGW event be progressed in more detail by the Community Development Officer once the World Book Day event had taken place on 4 March 2023.**

7. Measuring Ledbury's Carbon Footprint

Paul Kinnaird gave an overview of the process and explained that it would be very easy to start with measuring LTC's carbon footprint. There are four categories to consider, namely: primary energy, transport, food and lifestyle. He explained that primary energy and transport were the easiest to measure and pointed out that lifestyle is the hardest. He gave clothing as an example of the difficulties.

Discussion took place as to how information could be shared with residents. Paul Kinnaird suggested that one of the easiest ways would be to illustrate two houses/households: House A before any improvements and House B after improvements.

The meeting felt that the starting point should be for LTC to measure its carbon footprint. Thereafter consideration should be given to advising residents about measuring the carbon footprint of their households. This could take the form of an information pack and/or building up an email register of interested residents with whom LTC could share information (subject to GDPR regulations).

It was agreed that this project should be separate from the GBGW.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environment and Leisure Committee ask the Clerk to arrange to measure LTC's carbon footprint, taking advice from Paul Kinnaird as appropriate.

8. Litter Picking

A poster had gone out on Facebook inviting groups who litter pick to contact LTC with a view to LTC drawing up a schedule. Hopefully this would provide litter picks each week. The Working Party noted the list of groups and individuals who had already expressed an interest. It was proposed that this approach could be launched during the GBGW.

RESOLVED:

That the schedule of litter picking groups be launched during the GBGW.

9. Date of Next Meeting

RESOLVED:

That the date of the next meeting of the Climate Change Working Party is scheduled for Wednesday, 5 April 2023, in the Council offices starting at 6.00pm.

The meeting closed at 7.07pm

Signed
(Chair)

Date