LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORING PARTY MEETING HELD ON 12 OCTOBER 2022

PRESENT: Councillors Shields (Chair), Whattler and Morris
Non-Councillors – Al Braithwaite

ALSO PRESENT: Julia Lawrence – Deputy Clerk

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Howells and Chowns and Amanda Lambourne.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received.

3. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

It was noted that the Terms of Reference had been agreed by the Environment and Leisure Committee at the meeting on 26 September 2022.

4. **TO ELECT NON-COUNCIL MEMBERS**

None.

5. **TO APPROVE AND SIGN, AS A CORRECT RECORD, THE MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD ON 10 AUGUST 2022**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Climate Change Working Party meeting held on 10 August 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record, with no amendments.

6. PLAN OF ACTION – DEVELOP PROGRAMME OF WORKS

The Chairman advised the Working Group that the Environment and Leisure Committee had approved the Plan of Action setting out 6 areas of activity.

The Working Party acknowledged that it would be unrealistic to focus on all 6 action areas and would initially focus on:
Area 1 - Developing Resilience for extreme weather conditions; and
Area 2 - Raise public awareness and building public engagement.

These were selected as areas where a real impact could start to be made.

Action: Area 1

The Working Party received an update on actions taking place within the town in relation to Action Area 1 – Developing resilience for extreme weather conditions.

i. Warm rooms are being created across at least 5 sites in the town. These are: The Burgage Hall, the Library, Methodist Church, Rugby Club and Food Bank. It was anticipated that these premises would be open 6 out of 7 days per week. The warm rooms would last through until March 2023.

ii. Acknowledging that these rooms would be vital for the winter period, the Working Party agreed that details of opening days and times, capacity at each location, facilities that would be available, whether there was a time limit on staying and whether there was a contact point for people, was required.

iii. The Chairman also identified an opportunity for "Keep Herefordshire Warm" to hold an event in the town, providing advice and support to residents. Potentially this could be run under the Market House.

iv. It was noted that Pot & Page is also running a "Homemade Soup and Warm space" events throughout the winter.

RESOLVED:

1. **That Councillor Morris agreed to create an A4 information sheet to provide details to the issues raised in 6a (ii) by 19th October 2022.**

2. **That the Council would get the information sheet out around the town including 2 laminated versions for external posting. Details would also be posted on Facebook.**

3. **That Councillor Shields would contact "Keep Herefordshire Warm" to see if an event was possible (6a (iii).**

4. **That Councillor Shields agreed to talk to the Clerk about the use of the Council website and a Blog for information distribution, in addition to Facebook.**

5. **That it was noted that resolved actions 1 - 4 could be undertaken by the Working Party without reference back to the Environment and Leisure Committee as this was in line with the Terms of Reference.**

Action: Area 2

Under Action Area 2 - Raise Public Awareness and Build Public Engagement, an opportunity for raising awareness of climate change would be put to the

Events Working Party to promote Great Big Green Week which will be held between 10 – 18 June 2023. To undertake such an event would need early planning to ensure success for the town. Discussion took place as to whether the CDO would be able to contact those organisations involved in the COP 26 event or if this would be too much of a work load, for the CDO to provide the Climate Change Working Party with contact details.

Discussions included what the focus would be, who would benefit and how it would help the town. The event could be held under the Market House for the week.

Ideas for the week could include:

- ✓ Working with schools;
- ✓ Talks & Presentations – real actions for residents, led by a number of the towns' voluntary organisations, such as Herefordshire Wildlife Trust, Ledbury In Bloom, Sustainable Ledbury and Allotment Society;
- ✓ Working with traders as to how they are meeting the sustainability challenge;
- ✓ Involvement of NMITE as the local university.

Councillor Morris expressed his concern at the pollution levels during the Funfair from the diesel generators. His concerns were noted.

RESOLVED:

1 That under Action: Area 2, a project proposal is to be written to present to the Environment and Leisure Committee with a view to securing funding in next year's budget for the Great Big Green Week event in June 2023. Al Braithwaite to draft a proposal.

2 That the Council request that Community Development Officer to contact organisations across the Town to see if/how they would wish to be involved in the Great Big Green Week 2023.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the date of the next meeting of the Climate Change Working Party will be held on Wednesday, 7 December 2022, in the Council offices starting at 6.00pm.

The meeting closed at 7.10pm

Signed ……. Date ……..
(Chair)