

## LEDBURY TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD ON 3 MAY 2023

---

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Shields, Chowns and Morris  
Non-Councillors – Al Braithwaite, Paul Kinnaird

**ALSO PRESENT:** Julia Lawrence, Deputy Clerk

#### 1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Beverley Kinnaird.

#### 2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of Interest were declared by Councillor Shields: Chairman of Sustainable Ledbury, and Councillor Chowns: Member of Methodist Litter Pick

#### 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 22 FEBRUARY 2023.**

##### **RESOLVED:**

**That the minutes of the Climate Change Working Party meeting held on 22 February 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record, with the amendment to 5.1, deleting the second paragraph:**

***“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. **UPDATE ON ACTION POINTS**

**5.1. Feedback from E & L Committee.** Members of the Working Party noted that the second paragraph of 5.1 should be deleted from the minutes dated 22 February 2023.

**5.2 Measuring the Town Council's Carbon Footprint.** Due to the Pre-election changes to the Town Council and PURDAH, it was noted that the Clerk will be progressing this as soon as possible.

Members asked if there was a Council strategy in place to include this and perhaps this could be raised at the Environment & Leisure Committee.

- 5.3 Feedback on Warm Spaces.** A response was still awaited from Herefordshire Council.

**Additional Updates:**

- 5.4 Litter Picks.** Members asked if the “Lengthsman” could identify bad areas for litter (blackspots) around the Town.

- 5.5 The Great Big Green Week** is now overseen by the Events Working Party. To note that the Community Development Officer from Herefordshire Council is working with the Town Council’s Community Development Officer on putting together a programme for the week.

It was noted that there will be a “Cost of Living” event at the Rugby Club and also a clothes swap shop at a forthcoming Mayor’s coffee morning.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1 That the minutes of 22 February 2023 be agreed as amended under 5.1 above.**
- 2 That the Working Group seeks clarity from the Council (following the new administration) as to what Climate Change actions are included in the overall Council Strategy.**
- 3 That the Deputy Clerk meets with the Lengthman to discuss “black spots” around Town for litter picking purposes.**
- 4 To note the transfer of the Great Big Green Week to the Events Working Party.**

**6. CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES**

Items 6.1 to 6.3 are all Apps supporting a more sustainable way for people to make better use of food. It could be possible that links could be attached to the Council’s website.

**6.1 “Too Good to Go” App**

Traders could potentially use this App to alert members of the local public who had registered/signed up that they were selling off food at the end of the day at a reduced cost. This would need the support of the Traders across the Town and surrounding area.

**6.2 “Olio” App**

This App would work across local residents who want to share any surplus food that they had. For example, they had bought too much or were planning on going away and no longer needed the same amount of food.

### **6.3 “Link Tree” App**

This App provides a platform to link to a variety of other user-friendly social media platforms, that have the potential to support a greener way of living for people. This App may need more Council intervention to ensure that it is operating in a helpful manner for the public.

### **6.4 QR Codes**

QR Codes (are like bar codes) provide easy access to a variety of things where there is information available to read. Clicking on a QR code could mean that it would give access to papers for the Council, and it would be readable on a person’s mobile device thus reducing the amount of paper used. It is understood that Ledbury Foodbank are already using some Apps – Cllr Morris to check if this is the case.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- 1 To recommend to the Environment and Leisure Committee to consider the use of more social media (items 6.1, 6.2 and 6.4 above) to support the residents and stay present with the wider community.**
- 2 Cllr Morris to contact Ledbury Food Bank and check on their usage of Apps.**

## **7. OTHER POSSIBLE PROJECTS FOR THE FUTURE**

The following projects set out possible contributions by Ledbury to reduce the impact of Climate Change on the environment. Each project carries its own recommendation to Environment & Leisure Committee.

- 7.1 Transport.** Professor John Whitelegg recently joined a Sustainable Ledbury meeting, following moving into the area from Shropshire. Whilst there he produced the South Shropshire Climate Change Report and Action Plan.

John has highlighted 15 potential projects, such as ticket policies, design and funding Park & Ride services, best practice cycle paths, car share club scheme, electric bikes, some of which could be possible opportunities for Ledbury. Mr Whitelegg is already in touch with Herefordshire Council about potential projects for the whole county. Given his interest in Ledbury, it may place the Town in a strong position to influence priorities to address Climate Change by Herefordshire Council such as the introduction of electric bikes.

It was agreed that it may be beneficial for the Council to pause until more information on the county wide projects are known.

- 7.2 Fruit Gleaning.** This is a term used when fruit trees and orchards do not get harvested. Feedback from the Food Alliance Group is that they are seeking funding to cook/freeze or dry fruit that has been picked by

Volunteers. To initiate this project, volunteers are required to research where the trees are, the volumes of fruit and then get volunteers together to harvest the fruit and make available to the Food Bank.

- 7.3 Community Garden.** Talk Community Hub wants local towns to contribute to supporting mental health programmes. Creating a community garden is a strong way for a Town to help those dealing with mental health issues. Addressing mental health issues can include people being prescribed to work on a community garden, as well as people self-registering. A potential site in Ledbury could be the rectangular piece of land behind the skate park. Any identified land would require further research, a conversation with the occupiers of flats (adj. to the skate park) or any other neighbours of other potential locations. To note a community garden exists in both Bishop Frome and Ross.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1 That the Environment & Leisure Committee consider whether the Working Party should have an exploratory conversation with John Whitelegg on a way forward and how to identify a project(s) in conjunction with Herefordshire Council. There could also be an opportunity for joining with the Traffic Management Working Group for such a project.**
- 2 That the Environment & Leisure Committee consider whether fruit gleaning is a project they would wish the Working Party to support.**
- 3 To ask the Environment & Leisure Committee to consider the creation of a community garden in Ledbury to support those suffering mental health problems.**

**In order to assist the Environment & Leisure Committee prioritise the above mentioned opportunities, the Climate Change Working Party considered the order of priority to be as follows:**

- A)**
- B) Transport and changes to address climate change (7.1)**
- C) Community garden (7.3)**
- D) Fruit Gleaning (7.2)**

**8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To be agreed following the Annual Council Meeting on 11 May 2023.