



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2HG
01428 654305 / town.clerk@haslemeretc.org

Minutes of the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency Committee (CBEC)
1st February 2022 at 7pm, Council Chamber, High St, Haslemere, Gu27 2HG

Chairman	*Cllr G Lloyd
Vice-Chairman	*Cllr C Matthes
Councillors	*Barton, *Ellis, *Weldon, *Whitby

* present

The meeting was clerked by the Town Clerk, Lisa O'Sullivan

1/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

2/22 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

None.

3/22 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held 2nd November 2021 were approved by the committee and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4/22 CARBON NEUTRAL ROADMAP

The Clerk was asked to make sure that the CNR is on the Town Council's website.

Cllr Lloyd has an outstanding action to speak with Cllr Dullaway about energy usage of Christmas lights.

EPC of the Town Hall is complete. It was noted that the majority of the work had already been done by changing the heating system. Recommendations were to change light bulbs in the Council chamber to LEDs (completed) and get additional insulation in the loft (in process of getting quotes).

Cllr Lloyd has been approached by a resident asking if we can have a permanent power supply on Lion Green to prevent the need for polluting generators during events. The Clerk explained that this had been looked at in the past, and was possible, however it would need to be planned so that large events had enough electricity points. Further investigation is required.

Cllr Barton joined the meeting.

Cllr Lloyd questioned whether it would be possible to somehow show the carbon offset by the planting of trees which the Council was doing. There was some discussion around how the Council's website can better show what we're doing. It also needs to link into other local initiatives such as LHHW.

5/22 2. HTC ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS

The Clerk clarified that any underspend from 2021-22 financial year had been earmarked to go towards the new toilets on Lion Green, however there was another £10k allocated for 2022-23. The committee agreed that local organisations such as the Active Travel Group and Haslemere Vision should be encouraged to apply for grants. Cllr Matthes also questioned whether the process could be made easier.

It was suggested that the Town Council's logo could be amended to have Green Grants and Small grants version that organisations who were awarded grants could use on their promotional material. The Clerk said she would see how much was left in the advertising budget for this year.

6/22 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM HTC STRATEGY 2019-202

i. Provide sustainability implications/guidance for the Planning Committee.

The Clerk reported that the Deputy Clerk had produced a checklist distilled from the NP which would be presented to the next Planning committee.

ii. Provide input to the Clerk regarding "sustainable suppliers". How do we want to take this forward?

It was agreed that this wasn't necessarily relevant to all small purchases but that Council projects certainly required input from the committee regarding their sustainability. The Committee to produce some documentation for officers.

iii. Set up a communications/nudge approach for environment, including supporting a "plastic free community". How do we want to take this forward?

Communication and publicity are key, see below regarding plastic free communities.

7/22 PLASTIC FREE COMMUNITIES

RECOMMENDED: That the following motion is taken to the next Full Council meeting:

"HTC will lead by example to remove single-use plastics from our premises, encourage plastic-free initiatives and promote Haslemere's "Plastic Free Community" campaign and supporting events wherever possible."

The Clerk reported that the only single use plastic she could think of at the Town hall is laminating pouches, which the officers have moved to using as little as possible.

Cllr Barton suggested that the work that the Town Council had done would really make little impact and was in fact 'green-washing'. Cllr Lloyd noted that the Council and individuals could do nothing or do something, however small.

8/22 MOWING OF PUBLIC SPACE

Cllr Whitby reported a lack of appetite in Hindhead for mowing the Golden Valley less. Residents like a tidy view, and SCC Highways were also not happy with it being left. It was however noted that Haslemere Blue Hearts are now on Facebook. Cllr Whitby is trying to find another, smaller, site.

Cllr Matthes suggested that Blue Hearts had found a place in Beacon Hill, she will let the committee know where.

Cllr Weldon noted that the communication needs to be properly managed, people might not want 'no mow' but might be okay with 'no mow May'. Cllr Barton suggested that workshops could be held with local residents.

Cllr Matthes noted that the current WBC greenspaces survey was likely to have sections on mowing and encouraged the committee to share with their networks.

9/22 TREE PLANTING

Cllr Weldon reported that there had apparently been some miscommunication between himself and the town hall office meaning that this had not been moved forward. It was agreed that it was not realistic for the planting to take place in this financial year. The Town Clerk agreed that it was more sensible to apply for Surrey CC to do the work via their existing process than for HTC to apply to them to do the work ourselves. Locations will need to be identified with a view to planting in the Autumn.

Cllr Lloyd left the meeting; Cllr Matthes took the chair.

10/22 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – BRIEF UPDATES

Transition Haslemere – there is a meeting at the Mill Tavern this Thursday, Cllr Matthes will report back after. Cllr Matthes is joining other volunteers in a skill sharing pruning day.

The community orchard will be planted on 18th February, residents are encouraged to attend. The Clerk will ensure that the flyer is circulated so that members can share on social media.

Meeting ended 7.55pm

Signed.....
Chairman of Meeting

Date.....