Minutes of the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency Committee (CBEC)

7th June 2022 at 7pm, Council Chamber, High St, Haslemere, Gu27 2HG

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| **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. Dr Philippa Guest from Haslemere Vision was also in attendance.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All Members present.

1. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Cllr Matthes declared an interest in item 9 as her husband may be doing some work on the HV biodiversity project.

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Matthes proposed Cllr Lloyd. Cllr Ellis seconded the proposal. There were no other nominations.

**RESOLVED**: That Cllr Lloyd is elected as Chairman of the Climate and Biodiversity Committee for 2022-23.

Cllr Lloyd proposed Cllr Matthes. Cllr Whitby seconded the proposal. There were no other nominations.

**RESOLVED**: That Cllr Matthes is elected as Vice Chairman of the Climate and Biodiversity Committee for 2022-23.

1. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**RECOMMENDED**: That the minutes of the meeting held 1st February 2022 are approved by the committee and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

1. **CARBON NEUTRAL ROADMAP**

Cllr Lloyd updated the committee on the CNR, which he had circulated earlier in the day. points to note:

* Overall it’s good news, progress is being made.
* The Clerk reported that the loft insulation at the Town Hall had been completed.
* The Clerk reported that the solar panels at the public toilets appeared to be working as the energy bills at the property had dropped. There will be a report to the next committee.
* More work is required to look at Scope 3 emissions in how they relate to transport.
* The committee needs to think about how it can further reduce emissions before 2030.

**RECOMMENDED**: That the Mayor and Town Councillors are invited to participate in voluntary reporting regarding how they travel to meetings and events when acting as councillors. The CBEC committee members will do this to be a role model for others.

* People should be signposted to the Better Points app.
* Town Hall energy management needs to be looked at, including timers on heating system. The Clerk reported that it is possible to put timers on the heating and that they had been used during the Winter to ensure that the heating was only on when the building is occupied. The Council Chamber is not heated unless there is a meeting.
* The Town Hall photocopier lease is up for renewal soon, town hall officers to ensure that sustainability is taken into account.
* Sustainability of all Council contractors needs to be investigated.
* Other Council’s websites could be looked at to see what they use as criteria.
* Cllr Matthes will provide a credible estimate of the amount of Co2 sequestered by planting trees.

**RECOMMENDED**: That the committee will liaise with Amenities committee to ensure that the right questions are being asked regarding sustainability when the external groundscare contract comes up for renewal. Town Clerk to facilitate.

1. **HTC ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS**

Cllr Matthes reported that the last Grants meeting was cancelled due to lack of applications. There was a general discussion about the reasons why people are not applying for the grants and ways to make the application process easier. It was agreed that Cllrs Barton, Ellis, Lloyd, Matthes and Whitby would be advertised as being the friendly face of the green grants process, Town Clerk to update the website and post on social media offering their services to assist people with information / completing the application.

1. **MOWING OF PUBLIC SPACE**

Town Clerk reported that SCC has given permission for no mowing of a strip of the Golden Valley, despite the fact that it is owned by NT and maintained by HTC. Our contractor is concerned about the amount of work it will take to get it back down in September. The pathway has been maintained for dog walkers etc.

1. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – BRIEF UPDATES**
* LHHW Cllr Lloyd reported that the repair café has been a great success and their new website is also working well. They had a stall at the Charter Fair and will also be at the Fringe Festival. They are looking for storage for a ‘library of things’ they have planned.
* Transition Haslemere Cllr Matthes reported that Petersfield PeCAN have an initiative to assist homeonwers to reduce their carbon emissions and are linked with a company who will do energy surveys of people’s homes at a reduced rate. These surveys help by showing where heat is escaping through windows / lack of insulation etc.
1. **COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON HV BIODIVERSITY PROJECT**

Dr Philippa Guest gave a update to the committee. HV feel that they and the Council have shared aims and would like a councillor to act as a link and have input into their Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan.

**RECOMMENDED**: That Cllr Barton is nominated by Council as its link representative on the Haslemere Vision Biodiversity Project.

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Meeting ended 8.10pm

Signed……………………………………..

Chairman of Meeting

Date………………………………………..