



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2HG
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Minutes of the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency Committee (CBEC)
6th June 2023 at 7pm, Council Chamber, High St, Haslemere, GU27 2HG

Chairman	*Cllr C Matthes
Vice-Chairman	*Cllr A. Bayliss
Councillors	*Banfield, *Bridge, *Miller, *Waters, Weatherburn, *Weldon

* present

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

9/23 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Bayliss nominated Cllr Matthes. The nomination was seconded by Cllr Banfield. There were no further nominations.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Matthes is elected as Chair of the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency committee for 2023-24.

10/23 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr Bridge nominated Cllr Bayliss. The nomination was seconded by Cllr Waters. There were no further nominations.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Bayliss is elected as Vice Chair of the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency committee for 2023-24.

11/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Weatherburn is on holiday.

12/23 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No councillor had an interest to declare in any business being transacted however it was noted that Cllr Matthes' husband does paid work for the Haslemere Vision Biodiversity Group, Cllr Banfield is Chair of Haslemere Vision, and that Cllr Bayliss chairs Haslemere's Active Travel group.

13/23 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held 7th March 2023 were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

14/23 INTRODUCTIONS

The committee members gave an overview of their previous experience, qualifications and areas of interest. They also detailed the local environmental organisations of which they are members.

The Chairman noted that, regardless of previous experience, all were welcome and she looked forward to working with them.

15/23 CARBON NEUTRAL ROADMAP

There was a general discussion over the suitability of the CNR in its current form. It was felt that Gary Lloyd had done a fabulous job of putting it together and that the data required was probably there, but it needed to be presented in a more accessible format which is easier to interpret.

Scope 1 appears to be completed.

ACTION: The Town Clerk will circulate an overview of work completed in the last Council term.

Scope 2 and 3 more outside the remit of the Town Council but certainly working with and signposting local organisations may be part of the committee's role. We can also encourage

organisations to make better use of our Green Grants and facilitate schemes such as PECAN runs in Petersfield.

The Chairman noted that NALC is developing a template for checking the environmental credential of suppliers. This is a good piece of work to follow up on.

16/23 HTC STRATEGY

There was some discussion over what the committee should feed into the Strategy working party. It was noted that a number of the CBEC committee will sit on that working party. There will clearly be a tie in between CBEC's objectives and overall Council strategy, on that basis the committee should make recommendations that benefit the town over 4yr period.

It was suggested that a brainstorm session could be organised to drive detailed objectives, once the high level strategy has been agreed.

It was agreed that the committee should review Waverley Borough Council's strategy – a significant amount of information can be found here:

<https://www.waverley.gov.uk/Services/Environmental-concerns/Sustainability-and-conservation/Climate-change-strategy-and-action-plan>

The Clerk drew the committee's attention to the current Terms of Reference and reminded the committee that any objectives must be within the Council's remit.

ACTION:

The CBEC terms of reference need to be revisited. Town Clerk to circulate to the committee and any changes can be agreed via email before going to July Council for approval.

Committee also to discuss via email their high level view for the next four years. This can be fed into the Strategy WP and a subsequent brainstorming session will be held.

17/23 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – BRIEF UPDATES **LHHW –**

Cllr Matthes will ask Cllr Leach for an update before future meetings.

Transition Haslemere –

Cllr Matthes encouraged everyone to get onto the Transition Haslemere mailing list, she will check that Cllr Weldon is on the list.

There is some free carbon literacy training available online. <https://em3.isvc.co.uk/> There was a good talk from Dave Elliot from the National Trust about reintroducing water voles to the local area.

In December we had River Wey Trust water rangers presented to Transition Haslemere and Cllr Matthes encouraged them to apply for a green grant from the council, they were awarded £2000 to set up the Haslemere area hub. This is a great example of working with local organisations to help the environment. Monthly testing will now take place in Haslemere.

Active travel –

The organisation is working with schools to promote an initiative encouraging children to walk to school once a week. This has started at St Barts where 62 % of children are driven to school. AT is now talking to Shottermill junior and Grayswood schools.

AT also fed into the LCWIP some time ago and summary report can be found here <https://www.waverley.gov.uk/Services/Environmental-concerns/Sustainability-and-conservation/Active-travel-could-you-walk-or-cycle> If adopted it will be a material planning consideration.

Surrey B-line –

A presentation from Buglife was quite frightening about the decline of insects but they do have a number of positive suggestions. They are looking to identify sites 2 hectares or larger and they have some money to award. It was suggested that there could be a project at the new SANG or Woolmer Hill school.

There has been a map produced of bee routes and Haslemere is on a significant junction.

Haslemere biodiversity group –

This group has also had the Buglife presentation.

A grant has been received from Town Council and the project is underway. They have commissioned a consultant to compile a nature recovery strategy, which will identify work that can be done locally. The group should come and give a presentation to Council at some stage.

Meeting ended 8.25pm

Signed.....
Chairman of Meeting

Date.....