

STRATFORD- UPON- AVON TOWN COUNCIL
CLIMATE CHANGE TASK & FINISH GROUP MEETING

18 September, 2019

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Present:

Councillors:

Coles	J Fradgley
Curtis	Warren-Howles
Dyer	

Clerk: J Mayes

Apologies: Councillor Cleeve

1. Election of Chairman and Deputy-Chairman

Councillor J Fradgley, as senior Councillor, took the Chair for the election of the Chairman. It was Proposed, Seconded and unanimously

AGREED: To appoint Councillor Warren Howles as Chairman.

The Chairman called for nominations for Deputy Chairman. It was Proposed, Seconded and unanimously

AGREED: To appoint Councillor J Fradgley as Deputy Chairman.

2. Notice of Motion - Terms of Reference

Councillors discussed the Terms of Reference document. It was agreed that it should be an item on the next agenda.

3. Identification of Partners; Bring and Share Ideas; First stage in the development of the Town Council's strategy to combat global warming

The remaining items on the agenda were considered together as part of a wide ranging discussion on the role of the committee. Councillor Fradgley reported on the work undertaken at a climate adaptation meeting that she had attended. She suggested that the committee should produce a similar document detailing how and what its proposals for dealing with the climate change emergency are. Councillors agreed that to begin with they need to understand what their powers are. The green policies in the Neighbourhood Plan should be reference point when considering ideas. The committee could break down ideas into clear prescribed initiatives that they can do in partnership with other organisations.

It was suggested that following organisations could be approached for advice; Act on Energy, Wharton Natural Infrastructure Consultants and Warwickshire County Council Tree Maintenance Department. Councillors agreed that the Chairman and Deputy Chairman should meet with the Town Clerk to discuss what the powers of the committee are and who should be invited to a future meeting to discuss action.

Councillors began to produce a plan of work on a flip chart, focusing on three areas of work.

1. WHAT CAN STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL DO ABOUT STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL To DEAL WITH CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY?

This would involve looking at ways to improve the carbon footprint of the Town Council building and a review of street furniture, cemetery, closed churchyard, Mayor's car, electricity, gas, insulation, lighting and mooring. It was noted that any internal audit undertaken would have to be costed.

2. WHAT CAN STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL DO AS A PARTNER AND COMMUNITY LEADER TO DEAL WITH CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY?

Partners could include SDC, WCC, Schools, Rubbish Friends, Town Trust, Climate change organisations, Stratford Business Forum, other parish councils, Orbit. It was noted that should be careful not to place too much work on Schools but recognise the awareness and views of the younger generation in dealing with crisis. Other organisations to approach would be the local PV farm, Scout Leaders, Warwickshire Wildlife, Hedgehog Friendly Town and the Methodist Church. Cllr Dyer indicated that he would be willing to approach the Methodist Church for information on action they have taken to reduce their carbon footprint. Councillors agreed that they need to decide who to meet who can advise them on what to do about reducing carbon footprint.

It was suggested that information could be circulated to local residents in the Bridging the Gap circular to inform and advise them of action to take to reduce carbon footprint.

3. WHAT CAN STRATFORD TOWN COUNCIL SAY TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY?

There was a discussion about different initiatives to tackle climate change that could be explored. It was felt that it is important to recognise small ideas alongside larger initiatives to address the problem. Smaller initiatives would help build momentum to address the issue. It was felt that Stratford has a global presence and this should be taken advantage of when lobbying to make changes.

Councillors agreed that a meeting with the Town Clerk on the powers of the committee should take place, followed by invitations to organisations with the specific aim of informing the council about what it needs to do.

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman will meet to discuss ideas raised during the meeting and will produce a summary document. External organisations will be invited to a meeting in October.

It was agreed that the Committee should be careful of duplication and work on practical solutions with visible results. Part of the job of the Town Council is to inform and coordinate action so it should

also act as a hub for what everyone does to deal with the climate change emergency.

4. Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting.

A meeting will be planned for October and a date will be arranged after the Chairman and Deputy Chairman have had discussions with the Town Clerk on the remit and powers of the committee.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.40pm.