

STRATFORD- UPON- AVON TOWN COUNCIL
CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY PANEL MEETING

20 JANUARY 2020

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Present:

Councillors:

Coles	J Fradgley
Curtis	Lee
Dyer	C Warren Howles

Clerk: J Mayes

Apologies: Councillor Cleeve

1 Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

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

AGREED: To appoint Cllr J Fradgley as Chairman.

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

AGREED: To appoint Cllr Warren Howles as Deputy Chairman.

2 Approval of Notes from Meeting held on 11 November 2019;

Noted.

3 Review of Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the Climate Change Emergency Panel Group had been reviewed at the Governance and Policies Panel meeting held on 20 January at 4pm and recommended for approval.

4 Discussion and approval of Co-opted Members if necessary

The appointment of Co-opted Members may be necessary at a later stage, when the work of the panel has been agreed and if there is a need for expertise on certain areas relating to this work.

5 Prioritising the Delivery of Recommendations and what work needs to be done

The Chairman noted that there are two elements to the work of the Panel; what work can be undertaken to reduce the carbon footprint of the Town Council and what work can be undertaken in relation to the planting of urban trees. The Panel should look at a broader strategy in relation to tree planting and verge planting. It was noted that the Mayor has given primary schools in Stratford upon Avon a tree to plant. It was suggested that should consider ways to introduce pollinators, working with Stratford in Bloom. Cllr Coles agreed to send some information to the Chair on verges.

The Chairman referred to an area in the Bishopton housing development that it has been suggested could be used as a community orchard. The Developer would provide the funding for planting of trees but the ongoing maintenance would become the Council's responsibility. It was reported that the offer has been accepted in principle but negotiations on rates and transfer details still need to take place. Councillors agreed that they need to resolve what is happening and make recommendations for the management of the orchard. There was further discussion on who owns the community orchards in Stratford upon Avon and whether the Council has a map illustrating where they are located. Cllr Lee informed the group that he is working on a mapping project for the asset register and this work could link with that. In response to a question on copyright he confirmed that the Town Council has a licence to use ordinance survey maps. It was noted that it would be also useful to know where there are wild fruit trees in the town.

The Chairman referred to College Street, which used to have trees growing on it. A group of local residents wish to replant some trees in the street and a plan is needed to do this. There was a discussion about how the plan might work, including whether to ask residents to make a contribution towards the cost of the tree. The Chairman explained how a project undertaken on Evesham Road had worked. She suggested circulating leaflets to local residents in College Street to hold a community meeting about the project to see if there is a willingness from local residents to lead on the project. A Councillor noted that the County Council own the pavement so any project plan should check that the trees would be protected once planted. Another area of the town to consider is the top of Maidenhead Road. It was suggested that it would be useful to have discussion with the Friends of Rowley Fields about tree planting in this location.

The Chairman noted that £10,000 has been allocated in the budget, which could start some tree planting projects and there is also the option of

crowdfunding or grants that could be explored. It was noted that the Council should take into account the maintenance of any tree planting and consider whether in the long term they need to employ an individual with tree expertise. This would require a projection of costing.

The Chairman suggested that another area of the town as a possible project is the embankment on the Alcester road by the Arden Development at the train station. The ownership of the land has now passed to the County and is a gateway to the town.

Councillors agreed that they should assign themselves to the different projects that had been discussed, find out more information about them and report back to the next meeting.

There was a discussion about seeking a co-opted member who could advise the panel on trees and seeking advice from the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust.

Councillors agreed that they should undertake further research on the availability of grants, which could be used to fund initiatives.

Cllr Dyer offered to liaise with the Methodist Church to arrange a visit to look at the work they have done to reduce their carbon footprint. It was agreed that this would be useful when considering how to reduce the carbon footprint of the town council estate, in particular the Town Hall. The panel should investigate whether there is information available on the energy rating of the building. Following this there may be a further procurement project to look at what the Town Council is spending money on and what the carbon impact of this is.

The projects identified should have realistic and ambitious timescales.

The list of work to be done with actions assigned to Councillors is attached as Appendix one.

Cllr Warren Howles reported that she had undertaken some research into artificial trees, known as CityTree and would circulate to Councillors.

6 Development Requirements Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Part V: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Consultation Document

Councillors noted that in making comments they should consider whether the consultation document goes far enough. Councillors agreed to circulate their responses to the document to Cllr Coles by 31 January 2020. Cllr Coles will collate a response from the group, which will then be sent to the planning committee for their consideration at the planning meeting on 11 February.

7 Review of Schedule of Works to Town Hall referred to in Finance and Scrutiny committee meeting minutes 19 November 2019

It was noted that there will be a meeting with the architect to discuss the schedule of works to the Town Hall and that discussions should include consideration of projects to reduce the carbon footprint of the building and whether any of these projects should be undertaken at the same time.

8 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 26 February at 6.30pm in the Town Council.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.00pm.

APPENDIX ONE

CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY PANEL MEETING ACTION LIST

Detail of action	Assigned to Councillor	Due date
Agenda item 4		
Contact Peter Wharton for recommendation of someone willing to be co-opted onto panel to provide advice on what sort of trees to plant, cost of tree maintenance etc.	Cllr Curtis	Update at next meeting on 26 February 2020
Contact Warwickshire Wildlife Trust regarding possible input on projects.	Cllr Lee	Update at next meeting on 26 February 2020
Agenda Item 5		
Send information on grass verges to Chairman	Cllr Coles	Before next meeting
Begin Mapping project to identify location of community orchards/ownership of land/wild fruit trees	Cllr Lee	Update at next meeting on 26 February 2020
Investigate status of the community orchard at Bishopton. What is happening with negotiations? Has land been transferred? What is long term management plan for orchard?	Cllr Warren Howles	Update at next meeting on 26 February 2020
Investigate option of undertaking project to plant trees on the slope of land by train station/Arden quarter	Cllr Curtis	Update at next meeting on 26 February 2020
Investigate option of undertaking a project at the top of Maidenhead Road to plant trees. Consult with Friends of Rowley Fields	Cllr Coles	Update at next meeting on 26 February 2020
Investigate option of undertaking a project to plant trees on College street. Circulate leaflets to local residents to attend community meeting to discuss project and gain support.	Cllr J Fradgley	Update at next meeting on 26 February 2020

Investigate what grants are available nationally to fund carbon footprint reduction/tree planting	Cllr Coles	Update at next meeting on 26 February 2020
Arrange date for panel group to visit the Methodist Church to look at work they have undertaken to reduce carbon footprint	Cllr Dyer	Email to be circulated with possible dates for a visit
Investigate energy rating of the Town Hall	Cllr Lee	Update at next meeting on 26 February 2020
Investigate information on modern gardening and whether applicable to allotments	Cllr J Fradgley	Update at next meeting on 26 February 2020
Circulate information on CityTree (artificial trees)	Cllr Warren Howles	By next meeting
Agenda Item 6		
Email comments on Climate change mitigation planning consultation to Cllr Coles who will coordinate responses for inclusion on Planning Meeting agenda on 11 February	All Cllrs to respond with comments Cllr Cole to collate response. J Mayes to inform Lisa Cowley re Planning Meeting agenda.	31 January deadline for comments. Planning Meeting is on 11 February.