

**STRATFORD- UPON- AVON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY REMOTE MEETING**

**17 March 2021**

**Notes pages 1 – 3.**

**Present:**

**Councillors:**

Cllr Curtis	Cllr J Fradgley
Cllr Coles	Cllr Lee
Cllr Cleeve	Cllr Warren Howles
Cllr Dyer	Cllr Jackson

Clerks: J Mayes, L Cowley.

T Holt, Outdoor Spaces Team.

1. Apologies

Apologies received from the Town Clerk.

2. Approval of Notes from Meeting held on 25 February 2021.

Noted.

The Chair reviewed the action list from the last meeting. She noted that Cllr I Fradgley had informed her that SDC were going to implement a more permanent solution to the issue of the ramp in the paddling pool on the recreation ground for hedgehogs.

3. Wildflower Planting underutilised space.

**3.1** Update on future sites identified by residents.

The Mayor asked if the land between the footbridge and the bottom of New Street had been considered as a possible re wilding site. The Chair suggested that the group collate information on areas of land that residents have indicated they would like to rewild, compare these with the list that has already been produced and identify the land ownership. It could then concentrate on two to three areas as future projects for re wilding. There was a brief discussion on how to respond to residents who want to be involved in re wilding. Cllr Dyer confirmed he would send a list of sites, with photos to the Chair. Cllr Coles suggested that the areas could be put on the website so residents could see which areas have been nominated, with a possible planting event in the autumn.

### 3.2 Update on Arden Quarter and biodiversity report.

Cllr Warren Howles confirmed that she has spoken to the Town Clerk, who will formally approach Catherine Coton regarding work on biodiversity audits.

### 3.3 Update on entrance troughs and ideas for planting.

The Chair agreed to send information on the entrance troughs around the town to the group. Tony Holt confirmed he had visited locations where they are positioned. There was a discussion on what type of plants should be planted in the containers and costs. Tony Holt will look at cost of planting one trough with plants and then a decision can be made on how many troughs to replant. He will also discuss with the Town Clerk the cost implications for the Outdoor Spaces team to do the work. It was agreed that the planters should not be painted. The Chair noted that she would discuss planting a cherry tree by the troughs with David Elliston at WCC.

There was a discussion on what to tell residents who want to plant trees. The Chair advised that there are ongoing discussions taking place with WCC on how to plant trees in the urban area. Cllr Warren Howles will draft a document outlining advice for residents who wish to plant trees and send to the Chair for comment.

*16.50 Cllr Cleeve joined the meeting.*

#### 4. Trees in Planters Project- Cornmarket tree.

Tony Holt confirmed that the planter is being built. He confirmed that any tree planted would not reach full potential height because of the constraints of the container. A magnolia had been suggested at the last meeting, but it was felt that a cherry tree would be more appropriate. Cllrs **agreed** to plant a cherry tree in the planter. The Chair requested that Tony Holt agree with his tree supplier what the best cherry tree would be and order it.

#### 5. Green shoots fund – progress with application for funding.

Cllr Lee reported that he had reviewed the process for applying to WCC green shoots fund and suggested that the group should submit a bid for the rewilding project. Bids for funds up to £25,000 can be submitted. The deadline for projects is 17 May. Cllr Lee agreed to draft an application for funding, seeking input from Tony Holt on the likely costs of seeding areas. The project could start in the autumn when yellow rattle seed can be planted. The main issue to being able to proceed with the project is being able to have a form of agreement that allows planting on land to take place. The Chair confirmed that WCC should have this protocol available by mid-summer. Cllr Lee noted that the group should consider whether it needs to do anything formal to demonstrate that it has community support to do the project. He

also suggested that time lapsed photographs of the pilot project would be useful to include with the application.

6. Communication.

6.1 Update on development of website page on climate change.

Cllr Warren Howles gave an update on progress with installing a green button on the webpage with information on climate change. She reported that she will be taking a request for funding to host the green button on the website to the Community Services committee. Lisa Cowley showed councillors an example of a climate change website hosted by Exmouth Council which provides residents with information on the climate emergency and how to tackle it. Cllrs noted that the website would be effective at engaging and a lot of information could be included on it. The Chair noted that care should be taken not to set a webpage that required lots of information that may require updating as this could be detrimental if not maintained and suggested a gradual approach adding information on projects that are being undertaken. Lisa Cowley confirmed that she would be able to add information to the website if needed.

7. Any Other Business.

7.1 Stratford in Bloom – update on grant for Sheep Street.

The Chair noted that there is no firm decision on what the grant for Sheep Street is being used for and she would keep the group updated on this when SIB meets.

7.2 Climate Change Private Members Bill – Appendix 1

Cllr Coles noted that part of the strategy of addressing climate change is to act as a lobby to support initiatives aimed at addressing climate change on a wider national level. She gave an overview of the Climate Change private members bill which has cross political support and is outlined in Appendix One, circulated with the papers for the meeting. Cllrs **agreed unanimously** that a recommendation to support the private members bill should be submitted to full council for support. The Chair requested that Cllr Coles inform the Town Clerk and Mayor for the next Town Council meeting.

Cllr Curtis confirmed that the Felix Dennis trust are no longer giving out grants.

The Chair noted that Mrs Mayes will be leaving the Town Council and thanked her on behalf of the group for her work. Lisa Cowley will be joining the group as committee clerk.

8. Dates for future meetings.

Wednesday 5 May at 4.30pm