

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP – 21 July 2022 at 3.00pm

PRESENT:

Cllr D Berryman (Chair)	Marshal Scott – Chief Executive
Cllr S Atkinson	John Heap – Director of Community Services
Cllr S Bibby	Colin Hirst – Head of Regeneration and Housing
Cllr J Clark	Mair Hill – Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Cllr S Fletcher	
Cllr J Hill	
Cllr R Thompson	

APOLOGIES

None received.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 April 2022 were approved as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None.

PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

- EV charging points – currently 24/26 in Clitheroe, none in Longridge. Demand is growing steadily. DCS outlined some of the issues of installing with varying costs, packages and providers. The aim is to provide them on council owned car parks and buildings. They are a big capital spend – currently a scheme in the ‘suspended’ capital programme. Wherever possible planning powers should be used to have charging points installed on new developments and encourage businesses to provide them on their car parks. Developers see them as beneficial in increasing saleability and removing sustainability issues in some settlements. HRH will look at areas in the review of the Core Strategy to incorporate policies where possible.
- Solar panels on council buildings – need to understand where these would be best placed. As part of the UKSPF business advice would be provided. Consideration would be given to the roof of the Council Offices and the garage at the Depot when it is re-roofed.
- Electrifying the council vehicle fleet – there is a capital bid pending for an electric light weight van at the Depot but the power supply will need to be improved and EV points installed. Marshal informed the group that 12 out of 13 fleet lease cars were electric/hybrid.
- Tree planting – Cllr Clark reminded members that Hanson Cement had offered land for tree planting. Marshal also reminded members that the Council had given £15,000 to Ribble Rivers Trust for tree planting. This would

also be followed up. He informed the group that trees had been planted for the Platinum Jubilee.

ONE CARBON WORLD

The Chief Executive had recently supplied more information to One Carbon World to enable them to update the Carbon Footprint report for RVBC. He would circulate the report once received.

HUG SCHEME

Colin Hirst had not submitted a bid, however there had been a successful pan-Lancashire bid that we would have access to. A briefing note would be circulated.

FIRST TIME BUYER GRANTS

Colin Hirst reported that this scheme had been launched in April 2022 with some success. 8 applications had been received, 1 scheme was completed (boiler/front door), 2 had not qualified and 5 were in progress. It was a 12 month project using Landlord/Tenant grant pot and was being promoted through the website.

LOCAL ENERGY NW HUB

Michelle Haworth had reported at the previous meeting upon the offer made by this regional programme to promote investment in energy projects. She had been in the process of completing the survey and had asked members for priority ideas.

The following had been suggested by the working group

- strategic goals for low carbon energy solutions in the revised Core Strategy
- reducing carbon emissions
- alternative domestic energy (oil unavailable)

As Michelle had now left the authority there was no update on this issue.

BATHING WATER AT EDISFORD

John Heap reported that Ribble Rivers Trust were on with an application which the Council was supporting. They were reasonably confident that the outcome would be positive. Although formal consideration was not required from committee, it was felt endorsement would be good.

CLIMATE CHANGE IN CORE STRATEGY

Colin Hirst reported that this was being addressed as part of the review. An exercise was needed to look at how best to highlight in the Plan. It may be through the use of supplementary planning documents.

AOB

Olwen Heap reported that letters had been received from the school children at St James' Primary school in Clitheroe regarding their studies into the effects of

producing Palm Oil on the environment. Cllr Fletcher offered to follow this interest up with the school.

ACTION:

1. Colin Hirst would put an item on the agenda for the next Economic Development Partnership meeting regarding charging points at their premises.
2. John Heap to explore the installation of 2 EV points on the car park at Barclay Road, Longridge.
3. John Heap to seek expert advice on where best to install solar panels.
4. John Heap would invite the Regional Development Officer from Cadent to give a presentation to the working group on plans for hydrogen blending for domestic/industrial use.
5. Olwen Heap would follow up tree planting opportunities with Hanson Cement.
6. Marshal Scott to ask RRT where the trees had been planted with the £15k given to them.
7. Nicola Hopkins would ask the 'tree officers' to look out for areas of land appropriate for tree planting.
8. Marshal Scott to circulate One Carbon World report once received.
9. The note from Colin Hirst on HUG would be circulated.
10. John Heap would report the application for bathing water status to Community Services committee for their endorsement.
11. Cllr Fletcher to contact with St James' school regarding climate change issues.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 29 September 2022 at 3pm on ZOOM

The meeting closed at 4.20pm.