

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP – 2 March 2020

PRESENT:

Cllr J Clark	Marshal Scott
Cllr A Knox	Michelle Haworth
Cllr S Bibby	Olwen Heap
Cllr R Thompson	Colin Hirst

APOLOGIES: received from Cllrs D Berryman and S Fletcher

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2020 were approved as a correct record.

ACTIONS FROM MINUTES

The actions from the first meeting were considered.

Members gave general feedback from their wards which included issues surrounding on street charging points on terraced streets; electric taxis and mayoral car; litter picks and recycling; wildflower and tree planting; and an environment group.

A discussion took place around the Council's recycling operation.

It was felt that the Friends of the Earth Action Plan was not necessarily the right thing for us. Climate change is not just about reducing carbon but building resilience. The Council needs to consider its own competing priorities.

The Chair gave feedback on the conference she had attended on 30 January 2020 which was well attended and interesting with lots of knowledgeable speakers.

ACTION: Michelle would look at how electric charging points in terraced streets were being provided in other areas as well as finding out from LCC their plans.

ACTION: Michelle would find the report that went to Community Services committee on our recycling operation and what the changes are to collectable items outlined in the Government White Paper

ACTION: Michelle would continue to look at what actions other councils are taking on climate change

ACTION: Michelle (with help from Heads of Service) would capture what the Council already does on climate change that is not necessarily labelled as such and include it on the webpage.

ACTION: It was confirmed that P & F should be asked to support the grant application to One Carbon World on order for our carbon footprint to be calculated.

ACTION: Feedback on the climate change questions added to the biennial perception survey was requested (circulated)

LANCASHIRE WOODLAND CONNECT PROJECT

A letter from the Ribble Rivers Trust was circulated asking the Council for a contribution of £15,000 towards their tree planting campaign that would enable them give leverage for additional match funding.

There was general support for this, although it was also felt that the Council should make contact with the major landowners in Ribble Valley to ascertain their plans for planting schemes eg United Utilities, Duchy of Lancaster.

We should also be looking at the Government's policy on tree planting as well as a position statement from the Council's point of view.

ACTION: Report to P & F asking for £15,000 contribution to Ribble Rivers Trust project

ACTION: Contact to be made with major landowners

ACTION: Colin to find out Governments view on tree planting and do a position statement

LOCAL PLAN – CLIMATE CHANGE

Colin explained the various plans that make up the Local Plan which is a statutory document that reflects National policy based on the NPPF and aims to achieve sustainable development.

He reminded members that the Plan was currently undergoing a review which would give the opportunity to strengthen it and add other points into it around climate change issues.

He informed the group that an objective included in policy was 'addressing and mitigating against climate change' but that the presumption was always in favour of 'sustainable' development. The Plan currently contains a large section of key sustainability policies including construction methods and reference to renewable energy. The Plan had been tested through examination to be sound.

Ideally it would be the Government who changed building regulations to ensure that development was built to a high sustainable standard eg no gas boilers; grey water recovery, electric charging points etc

The chair thanked Colin for attending the meeting.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the meetings would be monthly. The next one was scheduled for **10am on Monday 20 April 2020.**

The meeting closed at 11.55am,