

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE Held WEDNESDAY 28TH JUNE 2023

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Fenton, Harvey, Hayes, Howes, Morse & Needham

Co-opted Members: N Diment,

Officers: R Lightbird

HRTC Deputy Clerk: E Green

70. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE 2023/24

It was Moved by Cllr Needham

Seconded by Cllr Howes

RESOLVED: That Cllr Harvey be Chair of the Climate Emergency & Environment Committee for 2023/24.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Needham and

RESOLVED: That Cllr Morse be Deputy Chair of the Climate Emergency & Environment Committee 2023/24.

Cllr Fenton Abstained from the vote. The reason for the abstention was that she disapproved of the method of nomination of the Deputy Chair

71. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANY SUBSTITUTIONS.

Apologies were received from Cllr Bampton Smith.

72. TO RECEIVE MEMBERS` INTERESTS RELATING TO AGENDA ITEMS FOR THIS MEETING.

No interests were declared.

73. CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Membership of non-councillors was considered.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Fenton

RESOLVED: that Neil Diment be co-opted to the committee and that Anthony Rae should also be invited.

- 74. FORMATION OF THE NEW CLIMATE EMERGENCY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.**
A brief overview of the reasons for the joining of the two committees was given and discussion had about the allocation of projects.
It was Moved by Cllr Harvey
Seconded by Cllr Needham
RESOLVED: That the clerk should divide the tasks of the Environment & Allotments budget based on the basis of the natural environment and short-term public realm projects. This should be presented for approval at the next meeting of this committee.
- 75. MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 3RD APRIL 2023 and ENVIRONMENT & ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE HELD 12TH APRIL 2023 NOT ITEMISED ON THIS AGENDA.**
There were no matters arising from either set of minutes.
- 76. BUDGET UPDATE**
The budget available for the work of this committee was outlined.
- a. Climate Emergency Budget
An overview of the budget was given with just over £20k left in the budget.
It was Moved by Cllr Harvey
Seconded by Cllr Howes
RESOLVED: to note the information.
 - b. Environment & Allotments Budget
It was Moved by Cllr Needham
Seconded by Cllr Harvey
RESOLVED: That the budget should be split in accordance with the appropriate project outlined above and brought to the next meeting of this committee for approval.
- 77. EVENT FEEDBACK & UPDATE**
Feedback, updates and any associated budget requests were discussed for the following events.
- a. High Hirst Celebration and the opening of the access path. There was a focus on the new interpretation boards and signage. Children from Riverside Junior School also attended following the inclusion of their artwork on the panels.
It was Moved by Harvey
Seconded by Fenton
RESOLVED: To thank N Diment for the hard work on the interpretation boards and signage.
 - b. Climate Café & including a proposal from Cllr Howes
Seven schools attended with 75 Children. All schools gave presentations excellent opportunity to share information and inspire each other. Five

workshops linked to the Climate Action Plan. Northern Rail provided free rail travel for the schools in Mytholmroyd.

Cllr Howes presented an idea of a school's action group for Hebden Royd where schools are invited termly or half termly to share ideas.

It was Moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Fenton

RESOLVED: That the Climate Emergency Officer shall work up a proposal based on a once termly meeting, with a budget of up to £500 for initial meeting. This will be approved by the chair to enable progress on this project to be made before the next meeting.

c. Green New Deal Stall

Brought retrofitted dolls house to the climate café. Generated lots of interest in energy efficiency event

d. Meadows Day

Will run on Saturday 1st July, with eight different events and workshops with a range of activities and people being involved. Partnership with Dodnaze Community Centre, who are providing a workshop and refreshments.

e. Haymaking Event – Budget Request

A quote was brought forward for N Diment to provide a 'Haymaking Event Week'. N Diment is a local professional who has been extremely helpful and given lots of support to the project.

It was Moved by Harvey

Seconded by Howes

RESOLVED: to approve the quotation of £500.00.

f. Scything Event

Eight places have been booked already with a £15 contribution per person.

It was Moved by Harvey

Seconded by Needham

RESOLVED: to approve up to £600 for a Scything event

g. Energy Efficiency Event (enc)

Event to be held on 16th September at Hebden Bridge Town Hall. 10 people signed up already. If this is successful, then maybe run more specific workshops in the future.

78.

PROJECT UPDATE

Updates were received on the following projects.

a. A Boards

The idea of including Fair Share and reduction of food waste was suggested.

Further Comments to be sent to R Lightbird by Wednesday 5th July.

b. NALC

Press Release will be sent about the work of the Climate Emergency Committee once the new communications officer is in post.

- c. Hanging Baskets
Baskets are blooming nicely in peat free compost. A total of 148 retailer baskets plus 100 additional on Bridge Gate and New Road/Market Street/Burnley Road.
- d. Spring Clean
Over 100 participants were involved from school children to the WI.
- e. Calder Holmes Park
Walk around scheduled with senior CMBC officers and councillors to consider the issues and look at opportunities to enhance the park.
- f. High Hirst Woodmeadow
The Statement of Use was considered. This will outline what potential groups may be able to do on site. Slight amendment to be made to include - grazing with sheep and/cattle and introducing additional mowing using scythes and haymaking.
It was Moved by Cllr Needham
Seconded by Cllr Howes
RESOLVED: To approve the Statement of Use with the above amendments

The idea of a working group was tabled to support with the High Hirst Woodmeadow during busy periods and with the acquisition of the extension to the site.

Cllr Needham suggested a Heads of Terms be produced to allow management of the site to take place without the lease being in place.

Cllr Fenton reminded the committee that it must be cautious with regard to resources expended on the extension, when the climate emergency is about reducing carbon.

It was discussed that the Working Group is just to formalise the process and that all recommendations will come to committee for approval.

It was Moved by Cllr Needham
Seconded by Cllr Harvey
RESOLVED: To approve the working groups as outlined in the report. All decisions and expenditure must be tabled at the committee for approval.

- g. New Environmental Projects – ideas invited.
Cllr Hayes raised the Brearley Fields Project and if there was scope for HRTC to be involved.
It was Moved by Cllr Needham

Seconded by Cllr Harvey and

RESOLVED: Cllr Hayes to follow this up with the appropriate Calderdale Councillor

The Climate Emergency Officer suggested the idea of an Eco Fair. And will bring a proposal to the next meeting.

The Deputy Clerk shared that the Pumpkin Trail to be held on 14th & 15th October would have a climate and habitat theme and that at this stage ideas for climate projects that tie in with this are welcomed.

79.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

The action plan was considered.

There needs to be further discussion and work done on the protection and restoration of peat following on from the work already undertaken. This will be considered at the next meeting.

A letter was tabled from a member of the community which outlined concerns about stationary traffic, traffic at schools and safe routes to schools.

It was Moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Needham

RESOLVED: The Climate Emergency Officer will consider how these concerns fit with the Climate Action Plan and what HRTC may be able to do to address these where appropriate and will present the ideas at the next meeting of this committee. The clerk will write to thank them for raising the issue and that it will be considered at the next meeting. Councillors are also invited to input.

80.

ALLOTMENTS UPDATE

An update was given on the current activities of the allotments.

a. Banksfield Allotments - to include the water butt's initiative.

b. High Hirst Allotments - to include a request for facilities for children.

It was Moved by Cllr Needham

Seconded by Cllr Harvey

RESOLVED: That the Climate Emergency and Biodiversity Coordinator create a project outline including estimated costs, for the inclusion of children

facilities at High Hirst be brought to the next meeting of this committee for consideration.

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE Held WEDNESDAY 9TH AUGUST 2023

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Morse (Chair), Boden, Hayes, Howes, Guilfoyle.

Co-opted Members: N Diment,

Officers: R Lightbird

HRTC Deputy Clerk: E Green

143. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANY SUBSTITUTIONS.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bampton Smith, Harvey. Fenton & Needham with Cllrs Boden and Guilfoyle acting as substitutes.

144. TO RECEIVE MEMBERS` INTERESTS RELATING TO AGENDA ITEMS FOR THIS MEETING.

None were declared.

145. MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 28TH JUNE 2023 NOT ITEMISED ON THIS AGENDA.

There were no matters arising.

146. BUDGET UPDATE

To receive an update on the budget available for the work of this committee.

a. Climate Emergency Budget – the committee were advised that there was almost £20k available in this budget

b. Environment & Allotments Budget the committee were advised that there£12,459 in the budget for environment & biodiversity projects.

147. EVENT FEEDBACK & UPDATE

To receive feedback, updates and any associated budget request regarding the following events and to decide on actions as appropriate.

a. Meadows Day

An update was given regarding Meadows Day and the unfortunate inclement weather. Visitors enjoyed the Moth Breakfast and Bug Hunts along with biodiversity walks. The dry-stone walling event had to be cancelled due to the weather. Joint working with Dodnaze community Centre and CMBC. Feedback excellent.

It was moved by Cllr Morse

Seconded by Cllr Matthias and

RESOLVED to thank Rachel an all those involved in delivering the event.

b. Scything Refresher and Haymaking Week

An overview of the event was given. Mowing with scythe in the traditional way is essential to recreating the meadow and restoring it to the way that it would have been. It reduces the nutrient level which encourages the less vigorous plants a chance to grow the following year. This is the second year, and despite the weather the event was a success.

About half of the meadow has been mown including the top section as the techniques have improved. The event covered nine days including two weekends with more scythes out each day. The groups learnt how to sharpen the scythes and also attended a peening day earlier in the year.

The haymaking itself was excellent with 18 people in total attending, very much a family event and 28 bales of Hay were made.

Traditional Haytime Tea was held on the last Sunday. Reviving the cultural and traditional events.

Sheep were brought in on the Monday, following the mowing and sheep watch is now operational. 14 volunteers are engaged in this.

Next year the weather should be considered, and alternative dates announced in case of inclement weather. Use of Allotment Container for activities.

Need to give more thought as to where the hay bales will be distributed.

It was moved by Cllr Morse

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: Thanks for all the work that has gone into the events including the volunteers.

148. PROJECT UPDATE

An update on the following project was received.

a. Retrofit Community Champions Project (enc)

A proposal for a Retrofit Community Champions project was tabled. Members were informed that 68 tickets have been booked for the September 16th.

Introduction to Retrofit event. Part of the purpose of this is to gauge interest in further events, this new project includes four free workshops and purchase of a thermal imaging camera. To be delivered in the New Year there is an opportunity to engage with community about what individuals are already doing, such sharing retrofit projects on social media. To be delivered by Carbon Coop, need to consider what might be possible in terms of making the workshops even more accessible?

It was moved by Cllr Morse

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: approve the proposal with a budget of up to £4000.00, bring revised budget to the next meeting.

b. High Hirst Wood Meadow – Working group feedback

The first meeting of the working group met on 21st July, and the minutes were.

highlighted. A management strategy for the wood meadow was discussed. The tree guards that a need to be removed will be, and the trees will also be coppiced.

A lease is being considered with CMBC to graze the field next door but the fencing need to be improved, and hedges planted in order to ensure that the area is stockproof. There is also the opportunity to graze some National Trust Ponies. Bid has been submitted to National Flood Management, to include the development of attenuation ponds.

The path has been closed temporarily to ensure safety of the sheep whilst they are being grazed. The sheep are unfortunately eating the apple trees, however. this has been addressed and additional protection is being put in place.

Attention was given to an article regarding the issues regarding pet dogs and conservation. This is something to be considered.

Neil will draw up a plan of the items discussed.

It was moved by Cllr Morse

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: To allocate up to £500 for the further protection of the apple

c. Schools Climate Group

This is an ongoing project, aiming for the first group to be held at the end of the first half term. Cllr Howes will contact schools directly and encourage them to form their own eco-group. Could potentially link with Cop 28 end of November. Further details to be presented at the next meeting.

d. A-Boards

The finished designs were circulated for information. These will be available to be taken to community groups as discussion points. They could be used to facilitate an informal discussion about the council's action plan.

e. Meeting with CMBC Biodiversity Officer

Cllr Harvey and R Lightbird met with the CMBC Biodiversity Officer, new in post at High Hirst. They explained the history and hopes for the future. The CMBC Officer is looking at land-based solutions, and may be able to help with

fencing. They are working with multiple landowners, and this was a good general introduction.

f. Wildflowers in Hebden Royd

The committee is open to suggestions for sites and spaces to increase in which.

to increase wildflower planting. Space at the end of Old Gate, pockets around Fairfield (although mostly owned by Together Housing) were suggested. There are concerns about invasive species and what can be done to support this.

It was moved by Cllr Morse

Seconded by Cllr Guilfoyle and

RESOLVED: To circulate maps of the areas highlighting land owned by CMBC which councillors can use to help identify suitable sites and also mark areas where there is concern about invasive species.

g. Brearley Fields

Success story! This has been development for the past four years and is expected to be complete for spring 2024. The wetland is working and doing exactly what it should do, with flows from the canal and from the hillside in high rain. Planting was undertaken on Saturday the 5th of August with volunteers.

working to do the planting. Three benches are due to be installed and there are seven more days of activities planned.

It was moved by Cllr Hayes

Seconded by Cllr and

RESOLVED: to thank CMBC for their work on this project. Councillors were advised of the Friends of Brearley Fields group should they wish to be more involved.

h. Suggestions for biodiversity projects in Hebden Royd
Councillors were invited to contact the Climate emergency Officer with any ideas for new biodiversity projects.

i. Pumpkin Trail – Eco Fair
Members were advised that an Eco Fair will be delivered at the Pumpkin Trail and that suggestions are welcome.

149. SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

The letter was considered and following discussion regarding the CMBC. Active Travel Officer, various initiatives and schools individual travel plans. It was moved by Cllr Howes
Seconded by Cllr Hayes and
RESOLVED: That the town council is unlikely to have the power or resources to significantly contribute further to what is already done, however. this could be a topic at school council with a poster competition around the subject as a means of further engaging children.

150. CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

The Climate Emergency Officer will review the action plan and update it to reflect actions achieved and will also consider of process of community engagement to enable suitable additions to the action plan. ND suggested that Food Waste should be included.

151. CARBON LITERACY TRAINING FOR ALL COUNCILLORS

Day of carbon literacy training to be delivered, Rachel will suggest a date and it was noted that Friday is the most suitable for a majority members.

152. ALLOTMENTS UPDATE

To receive an update on the current activities of the allotments and any proposals for new ideas, and to decide on actions.

a. Banksfield Allotments

Councillors were updated that water butts had now been ordered for plot holders.

b. High Hirst Allotments

Inspections will take place on Friday, there is currently no waiting list and consideration will be given as to how to promote the site and suitable projects to be undertaken.

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE
Held WEDNESDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2023

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Harvey (Chair), Bampton-Smith, Howes.

Officer: R Lightbird

HRTC Deputy Clerk: E Green

241 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANY SUBSTITUTIONS.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Morse and Needham.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

RESOLVED: That the vacancy on the committee should be addressed at Full Council.

242. TO RECEIVE MEMBERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO AGENDA ITEMS FOR THIS MEETING.

No interests were declared.

243 MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 9TH AUGUST NOT ITEMISED ON THIS AGENDA.

Minute 150 – The review of the Action Plan is ongoing and will be tabled at the next meeting, Input from members of the committee is welcomed.

Minute 151 – Dates for Carbon Literacy Training will be agreed for the new year and circulated in due course.

245 BUDGET UPDATE

An update on the budget available for the work of this committee was presented.

a) The Climate Emergency Budget has £13,108 available to spend.

Following discussion,

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

RESOLVED: That a proposal for fencing at the extended High Hirst Woodmeadow site be presented and considered at the meeting on 13th. December.

b) The Environment & Allotments Budget has £12,134 available to spend.

Discussion took place regarding various opportunities including development of green spaces and provision of equipment.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

RESOLVED: That members of the committee are invited to consider them wards and to bring suggestions for environmental improvements to the next meeting.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey
Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

RESOLVED: to contact existing community groups that we work with to ask if they would be interested in receiving such as bird/bat boxes and bug hotels for their community project, if the Town Council were so minded to provide them.

246

BUDGET REQUEST 2024/25

The committee were advised that the priorities of the committee for the council year 2024/25 should be considered to allow a proposal for the budget request to be considered at the next meeting. These will likely align with the Action Plan to be presented on 13th December.

247

COMMUNICATIONS

To receive communications and to decide on actions as appropriate.

- a. Zero Hour Support for Climate & Ecology Bill
- b. Wilder Calderdale Invitation

In respect of a)

It was moved by Cllr Bampton Smith
Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: that the committee supported the motion below and that this should be presented for consideration for adoption by Full Council.

Hebden Royd Town Council resolves to:

1. Support the Climate and Ecology Bill.
2. Inform local residents and inform local press/media of this decision.
3. Write to local MPs' names to inform them that this motion has been passed and urge them to sign up to support the CE Bill—or thank them for already doing so.
4. Write to Zero Hour, the organisers of the cross-party campaign for the CE Bill, expressing Hebden Royd Town Councils support (councils@zerohour.uk).

In respect of b)

It was moved by Cllr Harvey
Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: To endorse the joining Wilder Calderdale Councils new partnership to restore nature throughout the district.

248

EVENT FEEDBACK & UPDATE

Feedback, updates and any associated budget request regarding the following events were considered.

- a. Retrofit Event & Future Retrofit Training Events

The event was a success with 76 people in attendance and good, constructive feedback received, A series of 3 smaller workshops are planned to take place over the coming months. These will accommodate approximately 30 people in each and bookings are going.

well.

b. Climate Café Update

The first climate café will take place on 10th November with four schools already signed up. An overview of the activities was presented.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

RESOLVED: To agree a budget of up to £1000 for branded Hi-Vis Caps for the children.

c. Pumpkin Trail – Eco Fair

An overview of the Pumpkin Trail was given which again was a success, as was Hebden Royds first Eco Fair which had been included as one of the supplementary activities. There is the opportunity that the Eco Fair could be further developed into its own standalone event in 2024.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

RESOLVED: To note thanks to staff members involved in the event.

249

PROJECT UPDATE

To receive an update on the following projects and decide on actions as appropriate.

a. Picture House Meeting Feedback

Following the meeting it is apparent that there are a number of ways that the Picture House can reduce its energy usage and the Picture House manager is considering these. It was noted that it would be interesting to establish how much Carbon the building is emitting.

b. High Hirst Wood Meadow – Working group feedback.

A Fungi survey will take place on Saturday 4th November.

The tree guards have been removed.

c. Transport – E-Bike Loan

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: That proposals for an e-bike loan scheme be presented and considered at the meeting on 13th December.

250.

ALLOTMENTS UPDATE

To receive an update on the current activities of the allotments and any proposals for new ideas, and to decide on actions.

a. Banksfield Allotments

The water butts have been distributed and are being used.

b. High Hirst Allotments

A proposal was tabled outlining a number of improvements that could be made at High Hirst including improvements to storage container, maintenance, facilities for children and pond improvements.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Bampton Smith and

RESOLVED: to approve expenditure as outlined in the report to the value of £5150. On the condition that a proper ongoing maintenance plan is in place and approved by Committee for the play equipment, and that the play equipment is appropriate on grounds of health and safety and not subject to a post installation inspection. An appropriate risk assessment will also need to be in place for this new facility.

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE
Held WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2023

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Harvey (Chair), Boggis, Butterick, Howes, Morse.

Also: Neil Diment

Officer: R Lightbird

HRTC Deputy Clerk: E Green

306. **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANY SUBSTITUTIONS.**
Cllrs Bampton Smith & Needham
307. **TO RECEIVE MEMBERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO AGENDA ITEMS FOR THIS MEETING.**
No Interests were declared at this time.
308. **MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 25TH OCTOBER NOT ITEMISED ON THIS AGENDA.**
There were no matters arising.
309. **CLIMATE ACTION PLAN**
The first draft of the climate action plan was considered. The various sections were highlighted, and it was suggested that councillors may wish to take ownership of particular sessions and/or join a Calderdale Council Climate Action Partnership group, if they had necessary time, interest and expertise.
- It was moved by Cllr Harvey
Seconded by Cllr Howes and
RESOLVED: That councillors should consider the report and feed any comments back to Rachel by 9th January, these can then be incorporated in to a revised and final version to be presented at the meeting on 21st February.
310. **EVENT FEEDBACK & UPDATE**
Feedback, updates and associated budget request regarding the following events was considered.
- a. Retrofit Event & Future Retrofit Training Events
Three events have been held to date and the feedback has been very positive. In 2024 HRTC is looking to expand the programme, to include workshops on Solar and Heatpumps.
 - b. Climate Café Update

The second HRTC school climate café has been held which was very successful. Four HRTC schools attended, including Hebden Royd Primary school. This means all but one of HRTC primary schools in the local area are now part of the project. Calder Primary (the missing primary) has expressed hope they will be able to join next time. The children were enthused and inspired. An Eco Council has now been set up at Burnley Road School. Each attending school has been donated a worm farm, and hi viz caps/vests by HRTC, so children can learn about composting, food cycles, waste reduction and worms. It was noted that the format of the climate café initiative, particularly the regularity of the climate cafes, and the interschool involvement over the year, is innovative, and likely inspirational for other Councils.

311.

PROJECT UPDATE

An update was received on following,

a. High Hirst Wood Meadow – Working group feedback and recommendations requiring approval.

Work is underway to consider the Heads of Terms in relation to the lease on Law Field (High Hirst extension) the Town Clerk has a meeting with CMBC representatives on 19.12.23.

The proposal regarding fencing was considered.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: to approve the recommendations within the report allocating £2500 for fencing to Law Field, with works to be completed once the lease has been agreed and signed by both parties.

Consideration was given to the access to the site for livestock including cows and ponies. The Deputy Clerk highlighted a route of access agreed by CMBC Planning on the agreement of the lease, and also stipulation regarding the location/height/visibility of the container within the same planning permission.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: to allocate £2000 toward the provision of access once a suitable arrangement has been agreed by the High Hirst Working Group.

b. Environmental enhancement – ideas, discussion, and recommendations

The committee considered a number of sites of potential environmental improvements including the Marina, Old Gate and Holme Street.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Boggis and

RESOLVED: That the officer for this committee should meet with Calderdale Council to discuss these areas, works that may already be identified and how Hebden Royd Town Council can both support these works and make further enhancements to support biodiversity in these areas.

c. Community Groups – engagement regarding provision on biodiversity assets.

This action is carried over from the last meeting.

312. **ALLOTMENTS UPDATE**

The committee was updated on the current activities of the allotments.

a. Banksfield Allotments – No Update

b. High Hirst Allotments – Works agreed at the last meeting of this committee are ongoing. Further consultation has taken place with the allotment holders who have produced a wish list for equipment they would like to see on the allotment for children. The container work and the children's play area/sensory garden will hopefully be completed by end of March 2024.

313. **BUDGET UPDATE & REQUEST 2024/25**

The priorities of the committee for the council year 2024/25 were considered.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: to approve the budget as presented with the addition of the following.

An additional £5000 – Environmental improvements

An additional £1500 to support the newly established Friends of High Hirst Group.

An additional £2500 to a youth climate engagement project, other than the school climate café.

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE
Held WEDNESDAY 21ST February 2024

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Harvey (Chair), Howes, Needham.

Also: Neil Diment, Cllr Patient (CMBC), Jamie Furrow (Cargodale & Research Fellow at Westminster University) & Antony de Heveningham (Cargodale).

Climate Emergency & Biodiversity Co-ordinator: R Lightbird

HRTC Deputy Clerk: E Green

- 390. To receive apologies for absence and any substitutions.**
Apologies were received from Cllrs Bampton Smith and Morse
- 391. To receive members` interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.**
In respect of Item 9 – Neil Diment.
- 392. To report on matters arising from the minutes of meeting held 13th December 2023 not itemised on this agenda.**
There were no matters arising.
- 393. ACTIVE TRAVEL**

A presentation was received outlining a proposal for a Bike Hanger from representatives from Cargodale and a Westminster University Research Fellow in Active Travel Interventions. The proposals considered the use of bikes by local residents and home cycle storage. There was consideration of the barriers to using bikes for commuting, one of the main barriers is the storage of bikes. Topography is another barrier and although e-bikes offer a solution to the topography they become even more difficult to store given the nature of housing in the area (i.e. few garages and a high proportion of terraced housing).

Bike hangers are common in London and larger cities, but there isn't one in Yorkshire. Cycle Hoop are one of the leading suppliers of the bike hangers which provide safe storage for up to six bikes usually located at the side of the road meaning a loss of one on road parking space. They are accessed via a key, and in London these are charged. The frames are securely bolted to the ground.

Could there be a pilot to put one hanger in the area? Residents on a street in Mytholmroyd have been surveyed, this area was selected as it is a small cluster of houses with a safe off-road route to travel to Hebden Bridge. It was assumed that people are more likely to live in Mytholmroyd and work in Hebden Bridge. Would residents use it, support it, pay for it? A survey of 5 different households was undertaken, there have been 4 responses from three

households, 2 strongly supported, 2 supported. 2 people raised concerns that they would prefer it not to be outside their own home. There is a need to fully consider the location prior to any installation. Could this be a potential solution across the wider area?

Councillors discussed the proposals. The potential usage was discussed, are there sufficient houses to utilise the scheme? The scheme could also be opened to other nearby houses. The brief is to reduce people commuting rather than recreational cycling. Are we providing the right storage and does this fit the brief to reduce the use of cars, the survey results do not evidence that impact will be made. Leisure use is a large driver of car usage. The pilot needs to provide a precise picture and it is not certain that this is the correct location.

The Climate Emergency officer outlined that the scheme could be monitored, and the bike hanger moved if needed. It was stated at the meeting that CMBC will give support with the permissions required for the installation of the hangers on the highway, however there is currently no legal agreement in place.

Proposals for a wider research project to examine how active travel can be supported were discussed. Has consideration been given to the opportunity to encourage young people to cycle to school?

Having a demonstrated pilot project with ongoing monitoring is a good way of unlocking further funding. Funding may also be available through Active Calderdale.

Is it possible to engage with a few more households over the next week or so to get more information and increase confidence in potential usage. This would guarantee an example of success and there could be enhanced publicity by using this pilot as a case study. There may also be local organisations willing to support the administration.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey
To fund the bike hanger proposal as presented

The motion fell.

It was moved by Cllr Howes
Seconded by Cllr Needham

RESOLVED: To survey further households including properties either side to ensure that good data is achieved once the hanger is installed and to determine if that is a receptive space. And in the meantime, to place the order for the bike hanger with the location for delivery to be confirmed. It must be ensured that it will be welcomed in front of the house of which it is located. It is essential the whole project to have a positive response.

It was moved by Cllr Needham
Seconded by Cllr Howes

RESOLVED: to approve the Hebden Royd research project on condition that the committee have sight of and approve the questions and methodology prior to the project being undertaken. £850 from 23/24 budget and £1500 from 24/25 budget.

394.

CALDERDALE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

A short presentation regarding the Calderdale Climate Action Plan was given. In 2019 CMBC declared a climate emergency and a cabinet working group was established which included membership from the Youth Council, voluntary sector and housing. Since then, it has evolved, and it is now a functioning body in its own right of which CMBC is a partner. It has commissioned an emission reduction pathway and has a target of 2038 to reach net zero, aligned with WYCA. This will mean a 2000% increase in cycling, walking, retrofit, new homes, this has been developed into a climate action plan, which went out to consultation, including schools and wider communities. The consultation gained 600 individual responses and 300 organisational responses. The plan was adopted in November 23 and runs to 2026. A four-year plan will then be published to 2030. Moving into the delivery phase, key to this is the themed groups which look at specific targets. These are Influencing, Active Tavel, and Behaviour Change, Community Climate Action, which includes one stop advice hubs, retrofit, and locality-based climate action plans. The plan looks at creating warm resilient buildings, there are 70,000 homes in the area that fall below EPC level C. It has held the UK first citizens assembly on retrofit. Another group looks at Green Economy – green jobs, colleges and schools, how do we think smarter about how people work and move around. And finally Transport and Getting Around, there has been an initial conversation with WYCA and CMBC officers. Are the schemes as intended with outcomes which are not just about land and nature. The plan considers peatland restoration, the great north bog. CMBC also declared an Ecological Emergency in 2021 and have introduced Biodiversity Net Gain. There is an open door on each of the theme groups which meet every three to six weeks.

It was moved by Harvey.

Seconded by Needham and

RESOLVED: To note the information and for Councillors that are interested in participating in any of the themed groups to contact Cllr Patient (CMBC).

395.

BUDGET UPDATE

To receive feedback on the approved budget for 2024/25 (enc)

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Howes

RESOLVED: To note the information

396.

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

The revised climate action plan was considered.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: To adopt the revised Climate Action Plan and to note thanks to the Rachel Lightbird for their work on the plan.

397.

EVENT FEEDBACK & UPDATE

Feedback, updates and associated budget request were received for events related to this committee.

a. Retrofit Event & Future Retrofit Training Events

Four events have been completed; these have been very successful with two peers to peer groups working together. There was a suggestion tabled to provide a two-day course for construction professionals in Retrofit.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: That this proposal needed more information and clarity before a decision could be made Cllr Harvey to consider proposals further. Further information should be brought to the next meeting.

b. Coppicing Workshop

Lots of people turned up that hadn't booked, but it was an excellent event resulting in 1/3rd of the hazel being coppiced.

c. Scything refresher

The updated schedules and figures were presented,

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: Approve £1180 for all of the Hay Time events.

d. Bird Boxes

A Calderdale based bird expert has surveyed the field. It is not a good place for ground nesting birds, but there are barn owls, so it was suggested to consider an owl box and some other bird boxes near to the path and in orchard, mainly tits. It was suggested that there could be workshops where the boxes are made and there could also be a live camera in the barn owls' box. It was suggested that the maintenance of birdboxes which could be undertaken by the friends group.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Needham and

RESOLVED: Allocate up to £1000 for birdbox workshops, material and live camera feeds.

e. Climate Café

The third session will be held on Friday about biodiversity. The idea of schools hosting Climate Cafes within their own school was also discussed.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Needham

RESOLVED: up to £2400 to facilitate climate café to be taken from the 23/24 budget.

398. PROJECT UPDATE

An update was given on the following projects.

- a. **High Hirst Wood Meadow/Law Field**
The fence will be installed in March. There has been consideration of access, and it is suggested that there is a path alongside the container within allotment with a gate to open into the field.
It was moved by Cllr Harvey
Seconded by Cllr Howes
RESOLVED: to approve a budget of £2660 (23/24 budget)
- b. **Environmental Enhancement**
A meeting has been organised with CMBC and feedback will be available at the next meeting.
- c. **Community Groups**
Engagement regarding the provision of biodiversity assets is ongoing.
- d. **Spring Clean**
The Spring Clean will be held between the 15 – 31st March. Groups have been invited to participate.

399. ALLOTMENTS UPDATE

An update was given regarding the current activities of the allotments.

- a. **Banksfield Allotments**
No update
- b. **High Hirst Allotments**
A request was made for composting boxes and the delivery of a master composting course workshop.
It was moved by Cllr Harvey
Seconded by Cllr Howes
RESOLVED: To allocate £1560.00 (24/25 Budget)

400. ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING PROVISION

The provision of electric car charging in Hebden Royd was discussed.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Needham and

RESOLVED: that the Climate Emergency & Biodiversity Officer should write, on behalf of the Town Council to Calderdale MBC to request that the Taxi Only car charging point in Marketplace Car Park is made available to all users.

HEBDEN ROYD TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting of the CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE
Held WEDNESDAY 24 APRIL 2024

MINUTES

PRESENT: Councillors: Harvey (Chair), Howes, Morse, Woodhead.

Also: Neil Diment – Co-opted Member

Climate Emergency & Biodiversity Co-ordinator: R Lightbird

HRTC Deputy Clerk: E Green

465. To receive apologies for absence and any substitutions.

Apologies were received from Cllr Needham,

466. To receive members` interests relating to agenda items for this meeting.

None

467. To report on matters arising from the minutes of meeting held 21st February 2024 not itemised on this agenda.

No matters arising.

468. BUDGET UPDATE

The current budget for 2024-25 was presented. Despite a 40% reduction on the previous budget the committee is looking forward to delivering the projects for the year ahead. The merge of the Climate Emergency and Environment & Allotments Committee was explained.

It was move by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Woodhead and

RESOLVED: To note the information and budget of £33,275 for the year 2024-25

469. EVENTS UPDATE

Feedback, updates and any associated budget requests were presented on the following events.

a) Fencing Course

National Trust fencing expert delivered a four-day course training volunteers to build and repair fencing. Excellent day with new skills learnt. Still need to fence along the top, trees from woodland trust to create a hedgerow, White

Rose Forest may instal the fencing, then field can be grazed this year. If funding not obtained, a contractor or volunteers could undertake the work.

b) International Peening Day

Neil explained the purpose of peening and gave an overview event held at the Fox and Goose, which was a great success.

c) Todmorden Climate Assembly

Rachel attended and reported that it was a very good event and that it showed how a Climate Forum might work.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Woodhead and

RESOLVED: to establish links with Todmorden Town Council.

d) Moth Breakfast Series

Moth Breakfasts are being held in partnership with Halifax Scientific Society, next one is Sunday 28th May. This will build a baseline of the moths that live in the habitat. The event has a £5 suggested donation for adults and is free for children, there is a maximum of 25 people. One of the moth breakfasts could be targeted at schools.

Request of £450 for the three, moth breakfasts.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Morse and

RESOLVED: to approve the request of £450 for the Halifax Scientific Society.

e) Bird Box Location

Halifax Scientific Society are working in partnership to host a community event to find appropriate locations for bird and owl boxes.

f) School Climate Café

Rachel gave an overview of the Climate Cafés, which have been happening on a termly basis. Current café is based on activism. Also looking to provide workshops on Curlews and other ground nesting birds, to include habitats and food chains.

g) Schools Climate Café Finale

On 13th June, there will be a large-scale Climate Café as part of Big Green Week. Request of up to £2000 to deliver this event.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Howes and

RESOLVED: to approve the request

h) Meadows Day

Saturday 6th July, to include a variety of workshops building on previous years.

i) Eco Fair

First eco fair ran alongside the Pumpkin Festival, an excellent event which will stand alone this year. This will run independently on 17th August 2024.

470.

PROJECTS UPDATE

An update on the following projects was received.

a) Allotment Work

An update on works undertaken to create access to Law Field was presented.

This has improved access and looks better and includes a new stock gate.

There are issues with the pond, not sure that it is now deep enough, this will continue to be assessed over the coming months. Composting course to be run on installation of the new compost bays.

Request of £200 for a petrol strimmer/brush cutter. It must be stored in a separate locked cupboard, with a request of up to £400.

It was moved by Cllr Harvey

Seconded by Cllr Morse and

RESOLVED: to approve £600 for equipment.

b) Lease/Management Plan – Law Field (Enc)

The plan was presented. Rachel to chase CMBC legal regarding the lease.

Thanks to Rachel and Neil and Steve for their work in writing the plan.

c) Access Issues – Law Field

Covered under allotment works.

d) Biodiversity projects – Wildflowers and bulbs (enc)

Update was given on works undertaken at Mytholmroyd Community Centre with a very quick turnaround to create a wildflower area. There is an ongoing biodiversity project at High Hirst. Positive feedback from the Spring Bulbs project.

e) Big Spring Clean

Annual spring clean a huge success with 22 teams taking part.

f) Cycle Hoop

Updated on trial and commissioned survey. There have been 120 responses to date. Currently awaiting confirmation from CMBC for permission to install the storage on the highway.

471.

NEWS

Information was presented on current news stories.

a) Brand new Fanvault Fungi found at High Hirst – This qualifies the site as suitable to apply for SSI

Rachael has also approached Calendar News about this, although there are no fungi at the moment they may be interested in the Moth Breakfast. Ensure that

in press it is explicit that the site is owned and managed by Hebden Royd Town Council.

472.

PARTNERSHIP WORK

Information of work with partners was provided.

a) Wilder Calderdale

High Hirst Wood Meadow is now part of the Wilder Calderdale Partnership, they are likely getting funding to restore ancient grass lands and if successful there will be funding forthcoming, as well as providing grazing animals.

b) Mobility Hub

Rachel has met with a representative from WYCA to create the first mobility hub in the area. This will be in Hebden Bridge, potentially at the Marketplace Car Park site and include a rack of electric bikes, cargo bike, electric information screens for public transport updates, bench to rest, and hourly car rental and electric car charging. The Marina could provide an alternative location, Rachel to feed this back.

c) Green Community Hub

Meeting in Halifax on Friday – First meeting all welcome

d) Retrofit – WYCA have funded Green Doctor to engage with hard-to-reach demographics. Cllrs to recommend people, or organisations from within their wards who may benefit. Also, free retrofit surveys can also point people in the direction of funding streams and give practical advice. There will also be training in community retrofit.

ACTION – Rachel to provide upcoming dates of events which are appropriate for councillors to attend.

473.

PACING OF PROJECTS

A discussion was had about how the committee can work collaboratively with officers to consider the timescales for the delivery of projects over the council year 24/25. Consideration will be given to budget expenditure, scale of projects and officer capacity, ensuring that the projects are delivered in accordance with the key priorities of the council.