



Minutes of Crediton Town Council's Climate Change and Sustainability Sub-Committee held on Tuesday, 12th November 2019, at 7.00 pm, at The Old Lansdown School, Greenway, Crediton.

Present: Cllr Mrs E Brookes-Hocking, Cllr John Downes, Cllr John Ross,
Cllr Mrs Louise Martin, Cllr Paul Vincent

In Attendance: Cllr A Wyer – Committee Clerk
Paul Smart, Bruce Evans, Wesley Mitchell, Matt Hulland, Laura Conyngham, Nick Hasted, Esther Mann, Eve Malster, Charles Mossman, Giles Fawcett, Dave Harris, Gerald Conyngham and Dee Ross.

13. To receive and accept apologies

Catherine from Significant Seams, Dominic from Turning Tides, Laura from the Green House, Methodist Church and Tiffany Gaston.

14. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Downes and Wyer declared that as members of more than one authority, that any views or opinions expressed at this meeting would be provisional and would not prejudice any views expressed at a meeting of another authority.

15. Order of Business

There were no changes required.

16. Chairman's and Clerk's Announcements

The Chairman explained the process for getting items onto the agenda and explained why some items might not be included. She asked for potential agenda items to be submitted to her and the Committee Clerk, ideally 9+ days ahead of the meeting.

DALC are after sustainability ideas related to "Buildings" any ideas/suggestions please pass on to Liz.

17. Committee Meeting Minutes

The minutes were agreed as being accurate. (Proposed by Cllr Martin)

The Chairman then signed the minutes.

18. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

19. To complete the membership of the Climate Change and Sustainability Sub-Committee by filling the remaining vacant seats.

It was agreed that, alongside XR and Sustainable Crediton, the Chamber of Commerce should have a seat.

Dominic (Turning Tides), Catherine (Significant Seams), local Church representative, local Schools representative and Matt (various Recycling roles) were all suggested.

It was agreed to postpone adding anyone else at this meeting to further advertise and to liaise with the Schools and Churches.

20. To consider/amend the proposed Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy

The draft Strategy was put together by Paul Vincent, Catherine West and Charles Mossman. Cllr Ross questioned the achievability given the Town Council doesn't have the power (or capacity) to make the town carbon neutral. It can make the Town Council carbon neutral and can encourage the town to become carbon neutral.

It was stated that this committee is all about facilitating initiatives from within the town and that this is how the Town Council can take a lead in achieving carbon neutrality.

Westward Housing welcome feedback/new ideas and as owner of numerous local properties getting them "on board" would have a significant affect.

Page 1 of the strategy is OK but Page 2 still needs further work (too wordy/issue with finance paragraph)

21. To review the contacts list and agree the strategy for making contact with different organisations, groups, individuals and businesses in the town.

Put together by Louise Martin and Imogen May. Some on the list were very keen to be involved and had been spoken to individually. Others were definitely interested in being kept informed. Some others were those the sub-committee might want to involve in its work going forwards but weren't necessarily interested at the moment.

The Chamber of Commerce/Totally Locally were asked to try to add High Street businesses to the list of people wanting to be kept informed.

If anyone can identify/contact potentially interested groups/organisations that would be ideal.

22. To consider what steps could be taken to make Christmas in Crediton more sustainable.

Matt Hulland agreed to look into how we can recycle "end of life" Christmas trees from the High Street display. Prizes for the competition are now sustainable. Fireworks (and Land Train) are not environmentally friendly. Sustainability as a theme for next year?

The Christmas in Crediton committee is always looking for volunteers. There is value in the event as a Community Event bringing the residents together and celebrating the town together. It also encourages residents to stay in Crediton rather than drive to Exeter to go shopping/see the lights. Dave Harris volunteered to look at sustainability around next years event.

23. To discuss the format for the next open meeting in January, agree the date and time and agree who is going to do the preparation and set up for the meeting and what is required in order to achieve it.

The January meeting would be a meeting where the public could come along and discover what we are up to and to interact. With displays/presentations and the intention of doubling the number of people involved with the sub-committee. We will also have to finish deciding the final members of the sub-committee and agree a schedule of meetings for the rest of the year.

Monday 13th January 7pm, "Bring a friend!" (Giles Fawsssett, Louise Martin and Liz Brookes-Hocking (leading) to co-ordinate the January meeting). Tuesday 14th January preferable if OLS available.

24. To discuss the format for the meeting in February, to agree the date and any steps that need to be taken or preparation that needs to be started, such as contacting other groups, etc. now or in the New Year.

Saturday 15th February 2020, 10.00 am – 6.00 pm (at Old Landscore School (OLS) or Crediton

Library depending on size of event, requirements, costs, etc). The local school reps for the Eco-schools project may be interested in being at the event. Should include workshops and projects already happening in the Town.

Giles Fawssett, Dave Harris, Louise Martin (leading), Eve Malster all volunteered to co-ordinate and organise. Catherine, Imogen and Dominic all likely to want to be involved. Matt may be able to do something related to recycling? Depending on size of group Liz Brookes-Hocking and Paul Vincent were also prepared to assist.

25. To discuss any further ideas or proposals for the coming months.

Paul Vincent had submitted a selection of ideas:

- a) Closing the A377 for a community event linking to St Boniface Day in June. The Committee Clerk had researched around the idea and reported that the last time we closed the A377 for an event (several years ago) the diversion signage alone had cost £1800. There would also be a requirement for at least 20 people to marshal the various road closures and side road junctions, each marshal having a radio. In addition, permission to close the road is becoming harder to get given it is a strategic road. Closing the roads around the Town Square is significantly more achievable. It was agreed that there were issues with the A377 closure and that St. Boniface is not connected to climate change/sustainability but that a car free area was good and relevant. Depending if the Food Festival went ahead, there may be a good space in the calendar. Attending any "Picnic in the Park" event could also meet some of the aims of this idea. Decision deferred to January meeting.
- b) That the sub-committee should establish a monthly Community Forum event at Crediton Library. After discussion it was agreed that, if the Friends of Crediton Library wanted to hold their own monthly climate change event, then the sub-committee was happy to endorse/support the group in doing so. The sub-committee will encourage groups and individuals to set up their own initiatives and activities and simply asks them to keep the sub-committee informed for coordination purposes, and to make the most of everyone's efforts.
- c) To rename the Town Council's "Environment Committee". It was pointed out that this was not the business of this sub-committee. However, Paul Vincent could submit that as an agenda item for the next full Town Council meeting if he wished. John Ross believed it is already being proposed through the Town Strategy Committee.

26. Close

The meeting closed at 8:50 pm.

Signed...
(Chairman)

Date:.....

15/01/2020