

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 8th JUNE 2020 via the Zoom Platform

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr P Davies

Councillors: Cllrs G Barker, J Brook, D Carré, J Sweeney,

Co-opted Members: Caroline Anstey, Steve Barker, Andrew Colwill, Alison Morgan, John Queening, Laura Tarlo-Ross, Matthew Tulley

Officers: R McGill, Deputy Clerk, Liz Bennett Clerk

Welcome

Public Question Time

Cllr T Bellamy, Chairman of the Council, was present as a member of the public. He chose not to speak during Public Question Time.

2021 01 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 amended by the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 on 6 August 2014

Local (Parish and Town) Council meetings can now be recorded. The Parish Council was recording the meeting in video and audio formats through Zoom.

2021 02 To accept apologies for absence

RESOLVED: Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr S Sheard.

No apology for absence was received from Cllr D Gould.

1910hrs Cllr Carré joined the meeting.

2021 03 To receive Members' personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda

None were received.

2021 04 To consider written requests for new DPI dispensations

None were received.

2021 05 To consider whether items on the agenda should be discussed in private session

RESOLVED: No items to be heard in private session.

2021 06 To confirm the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: The Minutes of the Climate Emergency Standing Committee meeting held on 4 February 2020, numbered 1920 17 – 1920 29 inclusive were confirmed.

2021 07 To elect a Vice Chairman for the Standing Committee

1912hrs Mmbr John Queening joined the meeting.

RESOLVED: Cllr Barker was elected Vice Chairman of the Climate Emergency Standing Committee.

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The Committee resolved to change the Agenda order at this point.

2021 09 Update on Lottery Application

Member John Queening updated the Committee on the HoTT bid for Lottery funding from the Climate Action Fund which had been supported by the Parish Council. HoTT were advised to apply first for a development grant of £200,000 and, in this application process, were down to the final 25 applicants from an initial 630. There would be 15 grants winners notified at the end of June. As part of the ongoing discussion regarding the application, HoTT and the Parish Council were working with 30+ local organisations (community groups, schools, businesses and so on) with a view to establishing a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) to be called the Holme Valley Climate Action Partnership which would help coordinate work on the climate emergency in the Holme Valley.

2021 10 Climate Emergency Mobilisation

- Cllr Davies was keen to iterate that it was important that the Committee continued to push forward and deliver on the actions from the Community Emergency Action Plan despite current restrictions. He asked the Committee and subgroups to review the breakdown of the Climate Emergency budget for 2020-21 and to begin a process of prioritising achievable actions under the different budget headings. Cllr Davies ventured that many Climate Emergency Action Plan goals were still achievable even remotely, and that Subgroups should try to focus on completing at least one action.

1932hrs Mmbr Andrew Colwill joined the meeting.

- Members agreed to work with a view to a proposed, face-to-face, large-scale community engagement event in the autumn. The progress of this arrangement depends, inevitably, on subsequent advice on Coronavirus public safety.
- **RESOLVED:** In the meantime, Members resolved for Subgroups to work on developing -public engagement through small (max 8/12), focused Zoom meetings. Subgroup organisers should contact the Deputy Clerk should they wish to publicise events on the Council website or Facebook pages.
- Members agreed that using the Zoom facility of “breakout rooms” so that larger groups could break away into smaller 4-5 person groups for set periods was a useful feature for having topic-based conversation with the public.
RESOLVED: The Clerk, Deputy Clerk and other Zoom hosts to familiarise themselves with utilising breakout rooms to facilitate future public Zoom engagements.
- **RESOLVED:** Councillor Davies to organise a zoom call for the Mobilisation Sub Group to discuss and agree actions to continue with engaging our partners and residents in implementing our Climate Emergency Action Plan. This to include moving forward with the recruitment of the Coordinator role, developing a communications strategy and planning public engagements.

1945hrs Mmbr Caroline Anstey joined the meeting.

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2021 8 Climate Emergency Subgroups - feedback

Energy, Housing, Buildings (home energy efficiency measures, renewables)

- The Energy Efficiency Audit on Parish Council owned properties has had to be deferred due to the closure of buildings.
- Mmbr Frances Bennett was drafting the Home Energy Savings booklet.
RESOLVED: The Home Energy Savings booklet would be a targeted priority of the Subgroup.
- **RESOLVED:** Mmbr Matthew Tulley said he had significant experience of managing energy efficient buildings and would join Mmbr S Barker with the energy review of the public toilets and other Parish Council properties.

Transport/Travel (public transport promotion, electric vehicles, walking, biking)

- The Chairman and Subgroup members focused on the most achievable outcomes pertinent to the Subgroup.
RESOLVED: The members of the Subgroup would make contact with one another and would focus on achievable actions like the Walk-to-School Initiative and the Car-free Days.

Waste/Consumption (minimising waste as well as recycling)

- Cllr Barker expressed a need more recycling banks across the Valley.
- There was a discussion of the possibility of the Parish Council sponsoring, branding, and supplying reusable plastic glasses at local festivals
- **RESOLVED:** The Subgroup to investigate these possibilities.
- Mmbr Caroline Anstey talked about the success of fundraising for the Repair Café.

Agriculture, Food, Environment, Land Use (engaging farmers and landowners; local focus)

- **RESOLVED:** To look into the possibility of using Zoom to set up small-scale virtual meetings with local farmers and the National Farmers Union.
- **RESOLVED:** The Subgroup to discuss how to use their budget, perhaps for a tree audit.

2021 11 Local Planning

There was a discussion of local, planning developments, promoting greener housing and the Holme Valley Parish Council Neighbourhood Development Plan, and of the longer term action to engage with property developers.

2021 10 Addition to Further community engagement regarding the Climate Emergency Action Plan

There was discussion of the situation with the Climate Emergency Coordinator recruitment. Cllr Davies shared that four excellent candidates had applied for the role but that progress had been stalled by the pandemic. He hoped that interviews would go ahead in or before August so that the Coordinator could be in post before the planned autumn public engagement event. Mmbr Matthew Tulley and Cllr G Barker shared experiences of using Zoom to undertake virtual job interviews.

There was discussion on supporting the Deputy Clerk with regard to developing the Climate Emergency sections of the Parish Council website.

RESOLVED: Members John Queening and Laura Tarlo-Ross agreed to support the Deputy Clerk with web content and design.

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2021 12 Local Electricity Bill

The Committee considered the petition to support the Local Electricity Bill.

RESOLVED: The Committee resolved to commend to the Parish Council that it supports the Local Electricity Bill.

2021 13 Review of Committee Budget and for 2020/21

The Committee considered a request to use funds from the Climate Emergency Standing Committee budget to fund a water dispenser outside Holmfirth toilets

RESOLVED: That the purchase of the water dispenser from the Climate Emergency budget be approved.

RESOLVED: That the Deputy Clerk arranges for the purchase of the water dispenser.

The Committee had been forwarded a Grant application from Hepworth School for a composter. However, this application has been abandoned or deferred because HoTT is supporting the school to apply for a grant for the composter from the Green Energy Trust.

2021 14 News

The Committee noted the NALC Chief Executive's Report regarding Climate Emergency webinars and Frome Council's work on climate change.

The Committee noted news regarding the NALC Tree Charter and the free trees giveaway.

The Committee noted news that The Great British Spring Clean has been postponed until 11th-27th September 2020

Close

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Chairman