



Minutes of the Climate Change Working Group

Held on 18th May 2022 at 6.30pm via Zoom

Present: Samantha Roberts, Sheryl Birtles, John Garrett (Chair), Councillor Stephanie Wedgewood, Andy Challinor, Sarah Standley-Johansen and Amy Thorpe

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies from Samantha Taylor, Madeleine Abbey, Iain Clarke, Mark Betteley & Jeremy Herbert

2. MINUTES

Resolved: That the minutes of the Climate Working Group on 20th April be a correct record of the meeting.

3. NANTWICH CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Samantha commented that she had started on the action plan by adding the Mayor's comment. Amy added that she had started work on collating a list of all the groups in Nantwich along with their aims and objectives.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Andrew commented that it is important for the public to understand the Environmental impacts of climate change, showing an example of a flow chart, something visual that would make it simpler and more appealing for people to engage in. Amy commented that the flow chart visual could be supported with case studies or narratives providing more information.

The group discussed weather impact with concerns being raised by Sarah in relation to healthcare access in extreme weather conditions. John commented that CE has been monitoring pollution around Hospital Street.

It was suggested that the group should liaise with others to understand the impacts and effects of extreme weather conditions in Nantwich.

Resolved:

- a) Samantha agreed to speak to Cheshire East to see if results of the pollution monitoring could be shared with the group.
- b) It was agreed that Steph would liaise with the NHS, Andrew with the Agricultural Industry, Mark use his links with Transport for Wales, and Samantha to speak to the Chamber of Commerce to establish the impacts of extreme weather on Nantwich.

5. BASELINE FIGURES

Samantha reported that she had shared the baseline figures for Nantwich Town and Nantwich Town Council and that Sarah had spoken to a consultant for advice about getting more detailed figures. Sarah reported that the consultant advised that the group should acknowledge the carbon footprint, but that we should focus more on the actions. She suggested that there is enough evidence to show that climate change is happening so we need to focus on what we can do to make a difference.

Resolved: The group agreed that no further action was required in relation researching Nantwich's carbon footprint.

6. CONSULTATION

Samantha discussed that she had been researching citizens juries and had approached a professional company about delivering one for Nantwich. She highlighted that the cost would be in the region of £40,000 and that she had approached Cheshire East Council for support and using Nantwich as an example. Samantha advised that she was still waiting for a response.

John agreed that we should seek support of professionals but that the fee was too expensive and that the group should consider a presentation at a lower cost with professional speakers. Samantha asked the group to consider if they had any contacts or ideas for speakers for the presentation.

Sarah commented that once the representatives for each of the group's themes had been established, they could also communicate with a small handful of people each and collectively that would accumulate to a large number targeted. Sam agreed to share the themes by email and for members to come back to her with their areas of interest.

Samantha discussed the idea of having a stall at Societies Spectacular in the Town Square on Saturday 2nd July where the group could engage with local residents and use the opportunity to promote the presentation.

Amy commented that the group could use cards with connections to everyday life to identify what residents could be doing to make a difference.

Andrew commented that pictures are very impactful, and John suggested having the top ten wins to reduce carbon footprint.

Samantha asked for the groups opinion about giving away useful freebies such as LED lightbulb to draw people to the stand. Sarah suggested that the Climate Group should focus on how people can get involved and the objectives of the group and suggested that Sustainable Nantwich could be present to give practical advise and hand out freebies.

Resolved:

- a) To have a climate change stall at Societies Spectacular
- b) Amy and Steph to assist with manning the stand
- c) John and Sarah to liaise with Sustainable Nantwich about working on the Societies Spectacular stand in partnership with the Climate Group

- d) NTC with support from Amy and Sarah produce some literature visuals for the stand
- e) Samantha to circulate the groups themes to all members to establish interests for smaller focused groups.

7. ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

Sarah discussed the need for the group to have an engagement strategy and that there would be some overlap with a social media strategy. She commented that someone from the group should focus on social media, and use the Nantwich Community which has a large number of followers and can influence perceptions.

Samantha responded to say that a page had already been set up on the Town Councils website, but agreed that we need to communicate that this page was there.

The idea of producing a video for group and explaining their objectives was discussed

Resolved: It was resolved that Sarah speak to a contact who is a Climate and Communication officer for some guidance on engagement/social media strategies.

8. SUSTAINABILITY AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Sarah discussed an idea to promote and foster climate change amongst the young. She hopes to launch a virtual event to tie in with COP in November, where young Nantwich residents can interact with Dzierżoniów in Poland, with whom Nantwich have a friendship agreement. She hopes that an event like this will spark excitement and enthusiasm. Samantha informed the group that two of Nantwich's Councillors are visiting the town in the next week and would include the idea within a speech to plant the seed.

Resolved: Sarah to forward Samantha some information to include in the Councillors speech in Dzierżoniów.

9. NEXT MEETING

Samantha highlighted that due to holidays the dates of the meetings may need to be adjusted over July and August.

Resolved: It was agreed that the next Climate Change Working Group meeting would be on Tuesday 12th July at 6.30pm
