



Minutes of the Climate Change Working Group

Held on 20th April 2022 at 6.30pm via Zoom

Present: Samantha Roberts, Sheryl Birtles, Councillor Stuart Bostock, Councillor Stephanie Wedgewood, Jeremy Herbert (Vice Chair), Andy Challinor, Mark Betteley, Sarah Standley-Johansen and Amy Thorpe

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies from Samantha Taylor, Madeleine Abbey, Iain Clarke & John Garrett

2. MINUTES

Resolved: That the minutes of the Climate Working Group on 23rd March be a correct record of the meeting.

3. NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION

Jeremy welcomed Amy Thorpe to the working group. Amy commented that she is currently a second-year student at Keele University studying a degree in Environment and Sustainability and whilst she has plenty of theoretical experience, she is keen to gain some practical experience. Amy is looking forward to making a contribution to the town.

4. NANTWICH CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Samantha introduced the previously circulated working document that Sarah had kindly prepared. She suggested that this draft could be the template for forming the Town's Climate Change Action Plan.

Sarah explained the document in detail highlighting that she envisaged it a process to go through, with key steps and a work plan to reach the working group's end goal.

The group discussed researching current activities and including these within the plan and identified that the group needed to establish initially where we are and where we hope to be.

Samantha advised that she hoped that the plan would be published towards the end of the year and the group commented that it would tie in well launching it with COP in November.

Resolved:

- a) The group agreed that Sarah had produced a great template and that the group would proceed and being work on this.
- b) That Amy would begin to work on developing the introduction
- c) Sarah to review the likely impact of Climate Change of the town.

5. KEY THEMES

Samantha ran through the key themes contained within the draft action plan. The group discussed the headings, commenting that each could be broken down further. They also felt that each heading would need to be looked at individually identifying where we are at and where we should focus on in the future. It was also suggested that individuals take the lead on a specific areas.

Resolved:

The Working Group agreed that the key themes contained within the Action Plan would include:

1. Empower and engage community
2. Grow natural environment
3. Local Food Culture
4. Transform consumption and waste
5. Reduce energy demand and produce own clean energy
6. Change how we move around
7. Engaging with local sustainable business
8. Stronger, healthier, more resilient communities

6. BASELINE FIGURES

Samantha commented that she had used Cheshire East tools to obtain a very basic Carbon Footprint for the Town Council, but asked members for support on how to move forward with a more detailed version. It was discussed that obtaining a carbon footprint may have to be outsourced and that grants may be available. Sarah offered to speak to associates to advise on how the group should progress with obtaining a Carbon Footprint.

Resolved: Samantha to investigate Nantwich Town Council's Carbon Footprint

7. CONSULTATION

Samantha asked for the groups thoughts on consulting with residents commenting that the group could have a stall at market with questionnaires, literature, etc. Jeremy agreed with this idea suggesting it could be complimented by social media campaign. Sheryl suggested having stall as part of Societies Spectacular, an event on the Square at the beginning of July and is already promoted by the Town Council.

The group discussed organising a citizens panel and promoting this through the stall. Sarah highlighted that other panels had used town high street vouchers as incentives to attract residents to join the panel. Andy commented that he could request the attendance of an associate from a conservation farm to give a talk and Jeremy suggested someone may be able to offer domestic energy reviews.

Resolved:

- a) Samantha agreed to take the idea of town vouchers incentive to Council for approval for a budget.
- b) Samantha to research other citizens panels for ideas

8. **OTHER LOCAL PROJECTS**

Jeremy reported that on other local projects being carried out including; progression with Reaseheath and Sustainable Nantwich hydro projects which have funding to take their ideas to the planning stage, The Zero Carbon Club still needs setting up but when done so it will have a board and be inviting local businesses to join. Samantha Taylor is driving forward the Great Plastic Count and Nantwich Mug Projects trying to achieve a plastic free Nantwich and Jeremy is working on a voluntary domestic energy advisory service.

6. **NEXT MEETING**

Resolved: The next meeting of the Climate Change working group will take place at 6.30pm on 19th May.
