

Lowestoft Town Council
Meeting of the Climate Emergency and Ecological Committee
Whitton Residents' Hall, Hawthorn Avenue, Lowestoft NR33 9BB
15:30 on 7 June 2022

Minutes

Present: Cllrs Wendy Brooks, Sonia Barker, Paul Page (Chair), Graham Parker and Andy Pearce

In attendance: Sarah Foote (Deputy Town Clerk)

Public: There was one member of the public in attendance (in person)

1. Welcome

The fire evacuation procedure and public right to report were explained and the meeting was welcomed. Cllr Page welcome Cllr Parker as a new member of the committee.

2. To receive and consider approval of apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Lang, who had also provided a reason. Cllr Pearce proposed acceptance of the apologies received; seconded by Cllr Brooks; all in favour.

3. Declarations of Interests and dispensations

- 3.1. Cllr Barker declared a local non-pecuniary interest in items 7 and 13. Cllr Brooks and Cllr Parker declared they were members of the Environment and Waste Working Group.

4. To consider the draft minutes of the meeting on 3 May 2022

Cllr Pearce proposed approval of the minutes; seconded by Cllr Brooks; all in favour.

5. Public forum

Cllr Page confirmed to the member of the public that the Green Skills Centre would be invited to the Big Green Weekend event or to present at a future meeting of this committee. Cllr Barker provided a SWT newsletter which acknowledged the Town Council's funding contribution to the Kittiwake Officer.

6. To monitor expenditure by this Committee from the climate emergency budget, under delegated authority

The budget position was noted. Cllr Pearce asked if the £10k of funding for the Kittiwake Officer had been taken from the 2021/22 budget or was coming from 2022/23. It was confirmed the funding had been taken from 21/22 reserves.

7. To consider any matters to raise with Cllr James Mallinder (East Suffolk Council's Cabinet Member for the Environment) and/or the Environment and Waste Working Group, and to receive feedback on any matters previously raised

Cllr Parker reported on the progress of the work of the EWWG on bulky waste collection and how a presentation would be made to the Finance and Governance Committee and then Full Council. Cllr Parker asked for Cllr Mallinder to be contacted to provide a list of where all 'no fly tipping' signs were within the Harbour and Kirkley wards (Town Council wards).

8. Committee arrangements

- 8.1. The Committee membership was confirmed at Cllrs Barker, Brooks, Lang, Page, Parker and Pearce.
- 8.2. It was agreed that Cllr Brooks be appointed Deputy Chair of the committee. Cllr Pearce proposed; Cllr Page seconded; all in favour.

9. To give early consideration to priorities for 2023 – 2024, to inform recommendations to the Budget and Loan Sub-Committee in preparation of budget considerations later in the year

Cllr Pearce suggested consideration should be given to the following items; explicit budget for Marina Theatre cleaning, additional street cleans, extended funding for the Kittiwake Officer. Cllr Brooks asked following consultation with staff for the consideration of purchase or hire of electric vehicles. Cllr Parker recommended hybrid but Cllr Page did not concur as he felt they

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had a greater negative effect on the environment. Cllr Brooks also suggested bottle banks should be provided in all LTC parks along with other recycling facilities. Cllr Brooks also asked for bottle banks to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

10. Great Big Green week events

The Deputy Clerk provided an update of the planning for the event which would happen in Sparrows Nest on Saturday 24 September followed by a mass litter pick on Sunday 25 September. It was confirmed that the food offering should be sustainable but not exclusively vegan. Suggestions for stalls on 24th were made as follows; electric vehicles, personal finance (green and ethical), green energy, fair trade, local retailers who offer minimal packaging options, YMCA Shine project and the allotments association. Cllr Page asked for approval to secure a guest speaker and it was agreed that costs should be ascertained. A delegation to officers to continue to progress the event with members of the Events and Communications Committee was also agreed. Proposed by Cllr Pearce, seconded by Cllr Page; all in favour.

11. To consider progressing planned projects at Clarkes Lane

Cllr Barker summarised that the recent survey had confirmed interest in the site but little offers of volunteering. It was noted that the Town Council had undertaken some tree planting on the land and school children had been involved. It was agreed at the next meeting detailed consideration would be given to the following items in respect of future management of the land; Orchard. Allotments. Rewilding. Wildflower Meadow. Play. Sport. Cllr Brooks commented that post covid, people should be encouraged to get back outdoors and this should be included in the considerations.

12. Greenprint Forum's 'Nature First' grant scheme

It was proposed by Cllr Page, seconded by Cllr Pearce; all in favour that an application should be made which had also been supported by the AID Committee.

13. To consider an approach to Peter Aldous MP to discuss the Environment Agency's response and feasibility of measures to improve water quality to standards required to secure Blue Flag status

It was agreed to start a dialogue with the MP on the above issue. Cllr Brooks commented that the Town Council should consider applying for the status and explore what was involved.

14. Date of the next meeting

5 July 2022 15:30

15. Items for the next agenda and close

Future development/use of Clarkes Lane (to be early on agenda)

Review of the Terms of Reference

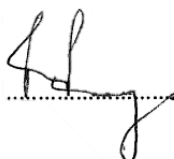
Appointment of members of the public to the committee

An update on the Kittiwake Partnership as the work programme would be half way through
Bottle banks in parks.

16. Resolution to close the meeting to the public - there were no items.

The chair closed the meeting at 17:00

Signed:



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5 July 2022