

Notes from Climate Change Working Party Meeting held Thursday 3rd October at 15.00 in The Eckford Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem.

Present, Cllrs Nash, Soul, Drummond, Dee, Towers.

Apologies Cllr Mellings

1. To approve notes from meeting held 22.7.19.

RESOLVED:- to approve the notes from the meetings of 22.7.19.

2. To plan open meeting to be held 16th October 2019 and consider draft Climate Change Commitment.

A general discussion took place on the format of the meeting and it was suggested that the following organisations be contacted to see whether they would wish to see a representative along.

Radio Shropshire, St Peters School, Thomas Adams School, Wem Young Farmers

A timetable for the evening was agreed as follows

19.00 Opening remarks - Wem Town Mayor

19.05 Introduction - meeting chairman Cllr George Nash

19.15 How much carbon does the Town Council currently use? – Marches Energy Agency presentation

19.25 How are the Town Council going to reduce its carbon use by 2030? what have we done already and what are we going to do – Penny O'Hagan Town Clerk

19.35 Examples of what Thomas Adams Students are doing to address the Climate Emergency – Representatives from Adams Action Group

19.50 What can you do? Individual actions that can make a real difference – Kris Welch Extinction Rebellion Shrewsbury

20.10 Questions and suggestions for action

20.30 Climate Emergency Commitment – Request for individuals to sign up and volunteer to create a forum to work together as a community to tackle this emergency

3. RCEF Grant Application – for update.

The Clerk reported that a meeting had been held with representatives from the Community Energy Hub and that an application would be submitted by December to fund a feasibility study into the following

Identification of the most suitable type of renewable energy that could be installed to reduce the reliance on fossil fuels to run The Butler Sports Centre, Wem Swimming and Lifestyle Centre, Wem Scout and Guide Hut and The Groundsman's Shed.

RESOLVED:- to note the report

4. Carbon Audit – for update.

The Clerk presented the first draft of the Carbon Audit. As it was presented at the meeting Councilors agreed to consider the details at the next meeting and to create a reduction plan.

5. To Review and update Action Plan.

The Clerk presented the Action Plan and reported on action to date.

It was also reported that a grant application could be submitted to fund the installation of 2 electric vehicle charging points on the Bowensfield Car Park.

A discussion took place on the need to commit to the action plan in relation to Town Council meetings and reducing paper at meetings. The Clerk explained that there was software that could be purchased to enable all meeting papers to be combined into one document with hyperlinks to appendices and that she would investigate the cost of this. The point was raised that not every councilor has access to a laptop or tablet and that the option of receiving a paper copy should still be made available to councilors.

RESOLVED:- to recommend that

- **Town Councillors be encouraged to commit to receive all meeting papers by email from 1.4.20.**
- **Provision is made in the 2020-21 budget to purchase software to enable meeting papers to be sent in an easy to access format.**
- **Town Council applies to OLEV for a grant to fund the installation of 2 electric vehicle charging points on Bowensfield Car Park and that the Town Council agrees in principal to fund the 25% match funding required up to a maximum of £1500.**

6. To note response from Owen Paterson and consider whether the Town Council should request that SALC raise the issue of Climate Change with NALC Policy Committee to lobby government to unlock resources to Town and Parish Councils to help them combat climate change.

RESOLVED:- to note that these items were considered by the Town Council on 26.9.19.

Meeting ended 16.30

Next meeting to be agreed after the 16.10.19 meeting has been held.