

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP MINUTES

Wednesday 11th May 2022, 10:00 - 12:00

Zoom Meeting

Welcome/apologies

Attendees: Chris Jones, Jennifer Dickinson, Cllr Derek Brook, Cllr Therese Assouad, Graham Harcourt, Beverley Coverdale, Peter Buckley, Cllr Lee Roberts, Alison Coward, Geoff Dowker, Steven Kendall, Alec Proffitt.

Also attended from 11:00: Hannah Girven, Neville Elstone, Angela Wakefield.

Apologies from: Cllr Ann Thomson, Sam Plum, Graham Barker, Maureen Smith, Janice Sharp.

Actions from previous meeting:

- 1) Send out invite for launch event and consider ways to continue citizens jury / oversight panel once process is complete. (COMPLETE - launch events took place on 21st and 29th March, citizens jury update on agenda)
- 2) Alison to create mid level action plan document that would be appropriate for website (PARTIALLY COMPLETE – draft document to be shared with minutes)

10:10 - Citizens Jury Recommendations Response

Alison Coward, Senior Environmental Protection Officer showed draft response to jury and asked for comments before report is taken to exec. Alec volunteered to help with comms going forward. Suggestion that jury is opened up to wider public following first meeting in Sep. First meeting important to ensure jury is embedded into LGR, following meeting should consider whole council approach for Westmorland and Furness. Suggestion that jury could be climate ambassadors and present to other community groups, with possibly wider events to follow. Consider offering vouchers to jury to attend, as a thank you for continuing to volunteer.

10:30 - Low Carbon Barrow

Beverley Coverdale, Low Carbon Barrow Project Manager updated on progress.

EV Chargepoints - Dock Museum and crematorium both have already been used, the rest are waiting on meters to be turned on.

Fleet EVs – 3 are arriving in June and van in Oct.

LED replacements almost complete in Forum, Market Hall now covered by Levelling Up Fund. Solar panels now going in Ship Inn courtyard instead of roof. Panels on Yew Tree estate expected to complete mid-end May, Dock Museum about to start. Facilities block on Piel Island being reviewed this week.

22 grant applications in progress but none completed.

Bug Out Procurement unsuccessful for the second time so money to be spent on public engagement officer based at Art Gene. Funding also available for second part time officer.

ACTION – invite Rachel to next meeting to talk through engagement plan.

10:40 – Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund

Chris Jones, Head of Programme Management and Climate Change gave update on funding that will be available in Autumn. Currently considering using a consultant to help put the bid together, considering cost-benefit. Working with SLDC and Eden to try and align plans for next year.

10:50 – Tree Planting Update

Peter Buckley, Commissioning and Contracts Officer gave update on recent tree planting across Barrow area with Paul Littlewood from Woodland Trust, plans to invite school / community groups to apply.

Devonshire Road	Trees- Oak,Cherry, Alder, Silver Birch,Rowan	100	Pockets of 8/9
St.Pauls Palying Field Clovelly Terrace	Mixed Hedgerow trees	200	
George Romney School Dalton	Hedging & Tree copse	130	100 Hedgerow + 30 Silver Birch
Lesh Lane/Bridgegate	Trees- Cherry, Oak,Alder, Dogwood,Silver Birch	200	
Hawcoat Comm	Trees	45	4 x Pockets of 5 wildflower/grass not cut on outer (1 cut)

ACTION – Procedure for community / schools tree planting needs to be clear.

11:00 – Cumbria Coastal Community Forest

Hannah Girven and Angela Wakefield, CCC and Neville Elstone, Cumbria Woodlands provided update. CCC are accountable body Cumbria Woodlands are technical partner. Currently setting up a steering group for project. Planting has started (500 trees) aim of 200,000 trees over 3 years and 5000 hectares over 25 years. £2.6m available for trees and extras such as learning resources, forest classroom, etc. Any suggestions for available land to be sent to Neville and Hannah for now – process to be streamlined in future. Query about replanting storm damaged trees, advised that Treescapes funding covers that and that Cumbria Woodlands has an advice line for woodlands over 1 hectare.

ACTION – Meeting with Alec, Neville and Hannah to consider engagement strategy. Any woodland site ideas to be sent on to Alison so they can be forwarded to Hannah and Neville.

11:20 – Cumbria Local Nature Partnership

Paul Evans, Cumbria Wildlife Trust explained that chair is Colin Cox, Cllr Helen Wall represents Barrow. Ongoing projects include Get Cumbria Buzzing, Planting for Pollinators, Cumbria Peat Partnership. Queried about seagrass projects as specifically mentioned in citizens jury reccs.

ACTION – contact for seagrass to be forwarded to Alison.

11:30 - Any Other Business

Discussed whether minutes from this meeting could be online, agreed that they should be.

ACTION – add meeting minutes to climate change page of website.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

End of June? Proposed and agreed shorter meeting every 6 weeks.