

CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP MINUTES

Wednesday 9th June 2021, 15:00 - 16:30

Zoom Meeting

Welcome/apologies

Attendees: Cllr Helen Wall, Cllr Therese Assouad, Jennifer Dickinson, Graham Harcourt, Cllr Shaun Blezard, Mike Otto, Maureen Smith, Sarah Mortimer, Cllr Derek Gawne, Cllr Les Hall, Cllr Ann Thomson, Steven Kendall, Geoff Dowker, Sabine Skae, Sam Plum, Bev Coverdale, Peter Buckley (in part), Jamie Muir (in part), Cllr Alan Pemberton (in part), Graham Barker, Alison Coward

Attended for Citizens Jury discussion: Peter Bryant (Shared Future), Maddi Nicholson (Art Gene)

Apologies from: Chris Jones, Marie Richards, Cathy Hornby, Cllr Lee Roberts, Cllr Derek Brook, Jan Sharpe, Steph Cordon

Last meeting was 14th January 2021, minutes shared.

Citizens Jury

Pete Bryant, Director - Shared Future, gave presentation and answered questions on the process.

Offer from Maddi Nicholson, Art Gene to help with launch event, venue, comms, etc. Copeland are running their event from July-Sep but not an issue if we decided to do the same timeframe, Cllr Ann Thomson wanted to go ahead as soon as possible. Funding discussed, report to go to exec in July (double checked cost after meeting: £10,000 for 20 person face-to-face jury).

Low Carbon Barrow

Following introductions, update from Beverley Coverdale, Low Carbon Barrow Project Manager:

- EV chargepoints are at feasibility study stage, looking at 7+ sites. Planning are aware of locations and will advise if permissions are needed. Aiming to have completed procurement and be looking at starting work by October;
- EV fleet vehicles, meeting tomorrow to discuss options – Jamie to update.

- Issues with public housing retrofit, houses at Anson St already have cavity wall insulation so unsuitable, looking at other options.
- LED lighting being rolled out for the Forum stage lighting. Glazing for the Forum and the Dock Museum needs planning permission so aiming to submit by Q3.
- Procurement for Bug Out happening within next month
- Issue with grant scheme – unable to hire anyone so far.
- No progress with Low Carbon Piel Island, may need revising due to change in tenancy at the Ship Inn.

Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership

Graham Barker, Public Protection Manager will send the May newsletter from ZCCP following the meeting.

Climate Change Action Plan

Updates to action plan since January in red, waiting on further updates then will reshare.

Consultations

Pre-application advice for a proposed Waste To Energy Incineration Plant in Barrow – Geoff Dowker and Alison Coward brought to group for discussion, consider it incompatible with goal of net zero carbon by 2037. Maureen Smith explained as only at pre-app stage no place to object for now and as this is a CCC app Barrow will be consulted but not decision maker. Cllr Les Hall warned that the group can't pre-judge as the rest of the group hadn't seen the pre-application documents and Cllr Ann Thomson suggested that further planning issues that may impact on climate change be circulated by planning so the group can consider an objection if appropriate.

A Decarbonisation Strategy for the North of England – setting out the ambitious target of near-zero carbon emissions from surface transport by 2045 – is out to public consultation. www.transportforthenorth.com/decarbonisation/ - closes 31st August 2021

Funding streams

[Green Heat Network fund](#)

[UK Community Renewal Fund \(UK Government\)](#) – closes 18/06/21

[Rural Community Energy Fund](#)

Grant funding for tree planting:

- [England Woodland Creation Offer](#) – opens 9th June 2021
- [Urban Tree Challenge Fund](#) – closes 25th July 2021
- [Queen's Green Canopy](#) (provision of saplings to Community Groups, schools etc).

Information on tree planting to be shared with schools to encourage uptake.

Any Other Business

Clean Air Day coming up on 17th June, will be sharing information on social media this year. Sabine requested information, Alison Coward to send.

Cllr Ann Thomson informed us about a tree planting strategy that the Borough and CCC are working on.

Wipe Out Ocean Plastic scheme to provide plastic free or reusable period products to women through the homeless team, food banks, girl guides. Part of a project with Love My Beach (Alison Coward)

Green Homes Grant part 2 – Eden are leading on it for Cumbria and are in the process of appointing EON as lead contractor. (Steven Kendall)

Annual Status Report for Air Quality due end of June, any projects over next 12 months which may improve air quality such as increased walking / cycling, planting schemes, EV charging points, etc. should be included – please let Alison Coward know.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

Early Sep 2021 – possibly in person