

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP
HELD ON 1st OCTOBER, 2019
AT NELSON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT –

Councillors

*Zafar Ali
Colin Carter
Tony Greaves
Ken Hartley
Mohammed Iqbal (Substitute)
Dorothy Lord
Jonathan Nixon
Yvonne Tennant*

Officers in attendane:

<i>Dean Langton</i>	<i>Chief Executive</i>
<i>Gill Dickson</i>	<i>Principal Policy Officer</i>
<i>Jane Watson</i>	<i>Head of Democratic Services</i>

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S. Wicks).



1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

AGREED

That Councillor T. Greaves be appointed Chairman of the Working Group for the Municipal Year 2019/20.

Councillor T. Greaves (Chairman – in the chair)

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

AGREED

That Councillor Y. Tennant be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Working Group for the Municipal Year 2019/20.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Members considered the proposed terms of reference for the Group and made some slight changes.

AGREED

That the revised terms of reference be circulated to the Group.

4. POSITION STATEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The Chief Executive submitted a report which set out the Council's position on addressing climate change. It also suggested potential future themes and actions for inclusion in the Council's Climate Emergency Declaration plan:

Theme	Possible Actions
Supporting a low carbon infrastructure	Local development plan review Influence Nelson Masterplan to include low carbon measures
Leading by example	Fleet Improvements Mayoral Challenges Single use plastic free organisation
Facilitating change in communities	Single use plastics campaign Community tree planting and woodland management on council owned land School media campaign

It was felt that the suggestions above were a good starting point which would help to raise awareness of climate change and the challenges ahead. Examples of good practice were also attached to the report.

The Group discussed the need to include schools and local organisations interested in climate change issues in future discussions. Reference was made the Climate Emergency Network which was to be set up in Lancashire and the need to feed into this network as well as other networks e.g., LGA.

The Council's current position regarding carbon emissions generated from its building stock and transport fleet was also noted.

Members were invited to attend a free event hosted by Lancaster City Council "Cutting Carbon While Improving Lives" at Lancaster Town Hall on 8th October, 2019 between 2.15 p.m. and 6.30 p.m.

AGREED

- (1) That the suggested themes and possible actions listed above be agreed for inclusion in the Council's Climate Emergency Action Plan.
- (2) That the Council's carbon reduction targets be reviewed.
- (3) That the link to the event in Lancaster "Cutting Carbon While Improving Lives" be sent to Members of the Group.

5. CLIMATE CHANGE AND PLANNING

A briefing note on Climate Change and Planning was submitted for information.

6. NEXT STEPS

The Group discussed various ways they could progress with identifying changes to the climate emergency. They accepted that discussions should be inclusive and that they couldn't solve any of these issues on their own. This was an opportunity to demonstrate what was possible and encourage others along the way.

It was suggested that representatives from the local primary schools be invited to attend a meeting to discuss the climate emergency. The Group were interested in knowing what they were currently doing in their school to address climate change and what their thoughts were about the issue. It was also suggested that a climate logo competition for the Councils refuse livery be launched at this event.

Councillor Ali as Member Champion for Young People said he would help promote this event via the Pendle Pupil Parliament. The Mayor also said he would promote this event at any school visits he had planned over the next few weeks but also raise awareness of the climate emergency.

A further suggestion was to hold a meeting with representatives from environmental and community groups along with representatives from Town and Parish Councils and the local Friends Groups to discuss their thoughts and ideas around climate change, to put forward suggestions for the Council and to discuss ways of working together. Members were asked to forward contact details for this meeting to the Head of Democratic Services no later than 4th October. Invites would then be sent out the following week inviting representatives from these groups to book a place prior to the deadline of 31st October, 2019. A press release would also be issued along with posts via social media.

AGREED

- (1) That a meeting with representatives from local primary schools be held before Christmas with a date to be agreed.
- (2) That a meeting with representatives from environmental and community groups, Town and Parish Councils and local Friends Groups be held at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday 14th November, 2019 at Nelson Town Hall.
- (3) That all service areas be invited to put forward suggestions for the Group to consider to help address the climate emergency within the Council.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

AGREED

That the next meeting of the Climate Emergency Working Group be held at 6.00 p.m. on Monday 9th December, 2019 at Nelson Town Hall.

Chairman _____