

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP
HELD ON 10th FEBRUARY, 2020
AT NELSON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT –

Councillor A. R. Greaves (Chairman – in the chair)

Councillors

*Jonathan Nixon
Yvonne Tennant
Shelia Wicks*

Also in attendance:

Councillor Tom Whipp

Officers in attendance:

<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 K. Hartley).



16. MINUTES

AGREED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Climate Emergency Working Group held on 9th December, 2019 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

17. EMERGING ACTION PLAN

The draft Climate Emergency Action Plan was submitted for consideration. This plan was based on feedback from interested parties, young people and Council staff and seven themes had been identified:

- Support and enable sustainable travel
- Reduce carbon emissions and energy demand from the built environment
- Reduce the harmful impacts of waste and water consumption
- Supporting our communities to take action
- Supporting our future generations to find solutions
- Mainstreaming climate change
- Support biodiversity and the natural environment to help local carbon off setting opportunities

The plan identified the Council's actions and partnership working. Strategic objectives had been identified and it gave a picture of ideas that were emerging from the Council and initiatives it was looking at.

Climate Emergency Working Group (10.02.2020)

The Group discussed a number of issues including electric charging points, renewable sources of energy, large scale insulation schemes (particularly for terraced properties) and waste and landfill issues.

The main focus of the Plan was to concentrate on what the Council could do whilst identifying partnership working. It was acknowledged that there were lots of things the Council had no control over but the Group felt it was important to encourage lobbying to support those initiatives.

It was also noted that the Plan was an evolving document. The Chairman circulated a list of items he had compiled and it was suggested that any additional actions be added to the Plan.

AGREED

That Policy and Resources Committee be recommended to agree the Action Plan subject to the inclusion of any additional items from the list circulated at the meeting and it be acknowledged that the Plan would continue to evolve (attached as Appendix A to these minutes).

18. PENDLE SCHOOL CLIMATE SUMMIT

The Chief Executive submitted a report which provided an update following the Pendle Schools' Climate Summit which was held on 11th December, 2019. The Summit targeted years 5 and 6 at primary school and year 7 at secondary school. The event was delivered by Sponge Tree, an environmental arts organisation who specialised in environmental education.

The event attracted 125 attendees (students and teachers) from 20 schools. The session focused on biodiversity and the impact climate change was having on the environment and food chain.

It was reported that the event had been very successful and there was lots of enthusiasm with a number of actions identified which were detailed in the report. A draft Pendle Schools Climate Action Plan had been produced following the Summit. The Plan identified key local and national campaigns which were happening throughout the year which the schools could participate in.

The students were also asked to make climate change pledges and the schools were offered a range of follow up activities from Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership. They offered individual schools outdoor education sessions linked to the themes of the Summit. Four schools had already taken up this offer.

The Summit instigated the Pendle Schools Climate Movement and it was felt it was important to harness this momentum and support inter-school participation. Nelson and Colne College had been contacted to explore how their students could be involved and drive future initiatives. Links had also been made with Pendle Pupil Parliament with a view to looking at plastic free schools and potentially engaging them in planning future climate change events.

The Group also discussed a number of issues which included trees, the Ribble River Trust and Northern Forest as well as emissions and raising awareness of the issues around the climate emergency with parents as well as children.

The Group felt the action plan was very positive. Another summit was planned for December, 2020 where progress would be looked at and plans made for the following year.

AGREED

That the Pendle Schools Climate Movement Action Plan be noted and the actions identified in the Plan to help drive it be agreed.

19. ONE CARBON WORLD

A report from One Carbon World was submitted which detailed the Council's carbon footprint and provided recommendations to reduce and off-set this footprint. It was reported that this was not the final report and queries had been made regarding some of the data.

The report would form a baseline which the Council could use going forward to help reduce its carbon footprint and help determine the extent of carbon off-setting required to become carbon neutral.

AGREED

- (1) That Policy and Resources Committee be recommended to agree that local carbon off-setting opportunities be explored rather than the additional off-setting options offered by One Carbon World and that they be informed of the Council's position.
- (2) That Policy and Resources Committee be recommended to review the Council's current carbon reduction targets in light of the Climate Emergency Declaration.

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

AGREED

That the next meeting be held at 6.00 p.m. on 16th March, 2020 at Nelson Town Hall.

Chairman _____