

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CLIMATE STRATEGY WORKING GROUP
Held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices on Thursday 16th January 2020, 6.30pm

PRESENT: Nikki Ind, Stephen Hirst, Sue Brown, Rosemary Bailey, John Andrews, John Turton, Ben Jackson, Tara Niblett

Apologies:

None received

Presentation from Rosemary Bailey and John Andrews:

Rosemary Bailey and John Andrews who are part of the Energy Group for the Greening Tetbury spoke to the Working Group about how individuals can make a difference with small changes to their daily lives.

The Town Council are now producing a full page report each month in the Tetbury Advertiser, it was agreed that we will include a small green box which will provide a Tip of the Month to assist with 'save your pennies, save your planet'. These top tips and any other energy saving advice will also be placed on the Town Council website.

The Energy Group would like to be involved with any events that are taking place in Tetbury to provide residents with advice on energy saving and ways to save the planet. TTC will be hosting an Expo event later this year and a table has been reserved for the Energy Group.

Rosemary explained the group are trying to find funding streams to assist with buying expertise who identify projects that the community would like to be involved with. Although there is a company called Centre for Sustainable Energy, Tetbury does not fall into their catchment area. Nikki Ind advised she will contact Rachel Coxcoon at Cotswold District Council to obtain advice on any other companies who cover the Tetbury area. The Greening Tetbury Energy Group have a strategy for development with the overarching aim to collaboratively reduce the energy carbon footprint of Tetbury in response to the Climate Change Emergency declared by Cotswold District Council and Tetbury Town Council.

Action 1 to develop expertise on their own – gathering information by reading, attending talks
Action 2 Communicate with the community of Tetbury to share the information via website, slogans, events
Action 3 Become an official organization – Legitimise and project integrity
Action 4 Consult widely – to purchase expertise to do the consultation in correct way

The group were advised that there are currently 5 parts to the Greening Tetbury – Energy, Food, Waste, Plastic and Transport.

Nikki Ind to obtain contact details of the new Climate Strategy Manager at Cotswold District Council along with the Rural Services Funding pages.

Motion request from Greening Tetbury regarding becoming a Plastic Free Town:

That Tetbury Town Council will consider and commit to improve the following, with Green credentials at its heart:

- The inputs to Council buildings – parts, ingredients, tools and equipment, office supplies
- Kitchen and Catering of events - any catering facilities made available to staff/customers/other parties - kitchens, food storage areas, vending machines, canteens, water bottles/glasses
- Bathroom/Cleaning - any washroom facilities made available to staff/customers/other parties and any cleaning arrangements for the workplace/other sites

The group was advised that the above motion will be forwarded to the Full Council on Monday 27th January for approval.

Regarding free refills for water bottles, the Working Group were advised that Tetbury Town Council and the Visitor Information Centre is a fill free vicinity, Tara Niblett to find out how the Town Council signed up to this initiative and confirm whether there is any signage in the building. Need to check with a local plumbing company whether the water in St Saviours is safe to drink. Tara Niblett to find out from Bristol Water whether they provide community water fountains.

Electric Car Charging Points:

John Turton advised the group that since his meeting with Claire Locke at Cotswold District Council no further correspondence has been received on this project despite chasing many times. It was advised that we need to be involved with the positioning of the charging points around the town. Although the Close Hotel has a charging point this is only available to residents of the hotel. John also advised that there are lamp-post charges that could be sited down at the Long Stay Car Park, Nikki Ind to chase and copy in Rachel Coxcoo.

It was advised that Tesla have superfast charges and on the Sat Nav it provides all car users with charging points to get them to their destination, it would be very useful for Tetbury to become part of this once the charging points are installed as this will bring tourism to the town.

Wildflower Verges:

Nikki Ind advised the group that Long Newnton are going to begin a wildflower verges project and they have received assistance in this project from Richard Gray (Gloucestershire Highways) who has provided them information regarding visibility splays. The seeds are gathered in the summer and used for the next season which assists with the bumble bee corridors.

Ben Jackson had provided the group with information from the Glorious Cotswold Wildlands which is part of the Cotswold Conservation Board. Ben to contact the Board to obtain further information.

Tetbury Town Council are looking at wildflower verges to bring more nature into our town, Nikki Ind to meet with the Grounds Foreman – Colin Woodward, to look at possible sites.

Nikki Ind advised that there is also a Cotswold Tree Warden living in Tetbury who has assisted Long Newnton with species of trees to plant and the locations where these trees will flourish. If Tetbury requires any more trees we could contact the Woodland Trust and idigtrees, although maintenance of trees is currently an issue for the Town Council.

Waste – Cost of recycling, where it goes and CDC red bags:

Nikki Ind raised concerns regarding the CDC red bags which are used in all public bins, need to obtain whether these are bio-degradable.

Tetbury Town Council is in the process of receiving approximately £1700 from CDC to be used as a Pride in Your Town initiative, look at cleaning the bus shelters as these have vegetation growing out of them. With further funding from S106 of £3,000 for the next few years this will assist with purchasing new public bins which has a separate bin for recyclable waste. Need to make sure how much it would cost to purchase these bins, whether CDC would allow them to be used in Tetbury and whether the recyclable waste is indeed recycled.

Tetbury Tankard:

At major events, rugby games etc you can purchase for an extra £1 a recyclable cup which you can either return and have your £1 back or take home at the end of the night. As Tetbury is trying to go plastic free it would be a good idea if we had all pubs, clubs and possibly hotels to provide a recyclable cup that can be

used in each establishment, or at events held in the town have a Tetbury Tankard which can be kept as a memento. John Turton and Ben Jackson to raise this at the next Green in Tetbury meeting to discuss further.

Date and Time of Next meeting: Thursday 13th February 2020, 6.30pm in the Council Chamber

Chair Dated