

HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE

HELD ON MONDAY 18 OCTOBER 2021 at 7.00 PM in THE EXHIBITION ROOM, HOLMFIRTH CIVIC HALL

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr Hogley

Councillors: Cllr Blacka, Cllr Gould, Cllr Sheard, Cllr Wilson

Co-opted Members: S Barker, G Bradley, A Colwill, C O'Halloran

Climate Emergency Co-ordinator: M Brown

Clerk: J McIntosh

Welcome

Public Question Time

Cllr Hogley welcomed committee members.

There were no members of the public present.

2122 26 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 amended by the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 on 6 August 2014

Local (Parish and Town) **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** meetings can now be recorded. This meeting was recorded by the Clerk in video format for the [HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL YouTube Channel](#). No other requests to record the meeting were received.

2122 27 To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence

Apologies and reasons had been circulated by email prior to the meeting from C Anstey, A Morgan and J Queening.

RESOLVED: to approve all apologies and reasons.

NB: in terms of resolutions councillors votes alone determine the outcome.

2122 28 To receive Members' and Officers' personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda

Cllr Sheard disclosed an interest in **item 2122 38** which would be considered when that item was discussed.

No other interests were disclosed.

2122 29 To consider written requests for new DPI dispensations

None to receive. Cllr Hogley's new DPI had been noted at **FULL COUNCIL** on **11-10-21**.

2122 30 To consider whether items on the agenda should be discussed in private session

RESOLVED: no items to be heard in private session.

2122 31 To note the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

NOTED: the minutes of the **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE** meeting held on **19th JULY 2021 2122 12 TO 2122 25** inclusive; approved by full **HOLME VALLEY PARISH**

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COUNCIL 11-10-21 were duly **NOTED**.

2122 32 To consider any applications from the public to be members of the Committee

In line with the **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE's Terms of Reference** there remains one final place as a Committee Member available for a member of the public.

No member of the public attended or was put forward for Committee membership.

CORRESPONDENCE

2122 33 To consider supporting a Tree Policy put forward by KIRKBURTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman of **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** requested that the **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE** considered the Tree Policy commended by **KIRKBURTON PARISH COUNCIL** and set out below with a view to advising **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** as to any further steps needed.

The policy regards making the following requests of **KIRKLEES COUNCIL**:

1. That they consider best use in terms of biodiversity and carbon sequestration of all land that they identify as areas for mitigating the climate and ecological crisis.
2. That Kirklees wholeheartedly adopts this policy and uses it to guide all decisions, particularly when considering planning applications.
3. Sets targets to increase the stock of both native and climate resilient trees, hedgerows and woodland on Council land, and work with partners to set and achieve similar targets across the Kirklees district.
4. Keeps account of tree felling the Council sanctions and ensures that it is more offset in terms of carbon and biodiversity.
5. Deters individuals and developers from harming trees with TPOs or any other environmental or historic designation by acting promptly to reports of imminent felling, taking immediate enforcement action and putting pressure on others, such as the Forestry Commission and central Government to do the same.
6. Values and strives to protect all existing trees in Kirklees, bearing in mind that a ten-year-old tree captures about 4 times more carbon than a sapling; older trees are in general better at sequestering carbon than younger ones and one veteran oak has more biodiversity than a thousand 100-year-old oaks.
7. Works with partners to manage all existing woodlands and hedgerows to encourage natural regeneration and understorey development and ensure their long-term survival.
8. Creates and conserves areas of unimproved, semi natural or priority habitats; retains and protect areas of naturally regenerating trees and shrubs and avoids planting trees on these areas, unless it enhances their value in terms of biodiversity and carbon sequestration.
9. Takes positive steps to protect threatened species of wildlife within Kirklees.
10. Stipulates that a minimum stand-off distance for all new development in the vicinity of

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existing woodland is created - 20 m or more from the end of the gardens, and does more to prevent tipping of garden waste and encroachment by householders.

11. Takes positive steps to protect threatened species and raise awareness within our communities of the value of all our trees (even young ones) in terms of landscape, amenity, wildlife habitat and carbon capture

RESOLVED: the Chairman of the **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE** to write to **KIRKLEES COUNCIL**, copying in **KIRKBURTON PARISH COUNCIL** to endorse the above policy.

REVIEW OF PROGRESS

2122 34 To consider the impact of the Big Green Week Event on 25th September 2021

RECEIVED: verbal report from Climate Emergency Co-ordinator, the main points as follows.

Success indicators included:

- i. The event brought together a mixture of groups working to produce the event.
- ii. Estimates of about 100 people visiting the event.
- iii. Increased HVPC Climate Emergency Website traffic, interaction with Facebook page and sign up to the Newsletter all evident after the event.

Learning points included:

- iv. A need to bring together all the websites with a climate action focus was identified – HVCAP – Holme Valley Climate Action Partnership - is taking this forward.
- v. A need was identified to develop and maintain a database of all community groups and individuals to increase reach through improved coordination.
- vi. Scoping for opportunities to link **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE** representation/stall to other events and venues eg litter-picking, swap shop, Co-operative Café to tap into a more diverse audience.

CLlr Bustard will now head up the business strand. Some of the resources produced to support the event have been laminated and are reusable.

NOTED: The Climate Emergency Co-ordinator was thanked for her work in bringing together a successful first event, working to budget and deadlines.

2122 35 To receive reports from the 6 sub-groups focusing on key actions taken including progress towards targets

Each of the 6 sub-groups formed according to the main themes of the **Climate Emergency Action Plan** reported on key actions taken since 19th JULY. Main points as follows.

- Sub-group 1 – Agriculture, Food, Environment and Land Use: *land use mapping, engaging farmers and landowners*
A report from Alison Morgan had been emailed out in advance of the meeting and was shared.
Andrew Colwill of Cuddy's Farm shared the headlines from the Biodiversity Survey, pertaining to the relatively low starting point for diversity of the land surveyed. Although the survey report was received after the opportunity to tap into subsidies had passed the survey would have a continuing use as a baseline from which improvements to diversity could be measured. Another key headline for the Holme Valley was that diversity might be better served by creating more heathland rather than through tree-

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planting.

RESOLVED: Land use/biodiversity survey findings for Cuddy's Farm to be shared with Climate Emergency Co-Ordinator.

RESOLVED: to request that Alison Morgan produces a summary of the Land use/biodiversity survey findings for Cuddy's Farm, picking out key points of interest.

- Sub-group 2 – Energy and Buildings: *home energy efficiency measures, energy Savings Booklet, audit of Parish Council buildings, renewables*
Steve Barker and Andy Wilson gave a verbal report, main points as follows.
Energy Savings Booklet: one feedback comment received so far; further feedback would be welcomed. Information from the booklet could be disseminated through social media, at green events etc. The current concerns about energy prices means householders are interested in how to make energy efficiencies for financial reasons as well as raising awareness of the environmental benefits.
Audit of Parish Council Buildings: these have been circulated before and there have been recent meetings looking at how to take the audit forward. Matters specific to the Civic and Honley Library were covered by later agenda items. More generally it was debated if there were common elements (eg lighting, heating controls) that could be applied to other community buildings or if a simpler survey were possible moving forward, building on the comprehensive surveys already completed.
- Sub-group 3 – Economy and Business
Cllr Bustard is now heading up this strand and has met with Climate Emergency Co-Ordinator.
A key need is to have a database with contact details to ensure and increase reach.
- Sub-group 4 – Waste: *recycling; minimising waste*
The Co-Operative Supermarket now recycles soft plastics.
Black bin waste is burnt to produce energy by Kirklees. Nevertheless, the importance of recycling needs clear messaging.
- Sub-group 5 – Transport and Travel: (*public transport promotion, electric vehicles, walking, cycling*)
The following initiatives were relayed by Cath O'Halloran and members encouraged to view the links sent out for further information:
 - i. 'If it's not far, leave the car' campaign.
 - ii. 'Living Streets' – walking to school initiative
[Walk to School | Living Streets](#)
 - iii. 'Charge My Street' – community benefit society that installs and operates community EV chargepoints.
[chargemystreet.co.uk | EV charge point community benefit society](#)
- Sub-group 6 – Mobilisation: *climate action*
The main focus had been the Big Green Week Event as considered in **item 2122 34**.

2122 36

To consider items for publicity

Members were asked to identify events or news from the meeting they wished to publicise via the press, website and/or Facebook. Key points were:

- i. Further cross-referencing and links between HVPC and HVPC Climate Emergency

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websites would increase the visibility of these issues.

- ii. Request to be made to Susan Hampshire at Holme Valley Review to publicise the Energy Savings Booklet given that energy price rises is currently topical.
- iii. All members reminded to link with Climate Emergency Co-Ordinator to publicise relevant events/news.

BUDGETARY ITEMS – CURRENT POSITION, GRANT REQUESTS FOR 2021-22 AND FUTURE PRIORITIES FOR 2022-23

2122 37 CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE Expenditure Against Budget

NOTED: The expenditure against the budget report for the year-to-date.

The Committee expressed the wish to work with RFO to identify how mobilisation can be recognised as an element in all the budget lines moving forward.

BUDGETARY ITEMS – 2021-22 TO CONSIDER AND SEND ON WHERE APPROPRIATE TO FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT 22-11-2021

2122 38 To consider proposal arising from Holmfirth Civic Hall Energy Audit Report (energy 4810)

Cllr Hogley tabled an additional paper for consideration that outlined the priorities identified from the audit in the short-term for 2021-22, medium term (next 2 years) and long term (2 years plus).

It was clarified that there were monies available in the energy budget line 4810 of the **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE** budget but that the HVPC scheme of delegation meant that **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE** could not award monies itself. It could recommend the awarding of monies via **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** up to £5,000, with any monies above that threshold needing **FULL COUNCIL** approval.

The proposals arising from the **Holmfirth Civic Hall Energy Audit Report** were not just about saving money but complying with the principles of mitigating the Climate Emergency. The monies requested were estimates: a lot of work remained to be done to gain quotations and move this work forward. It was felt that prioritising the elements listed below would ensure the project was manageable at this stage.

RESOLVED: to recommend to **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 22-11-21** that it recommends to **FULL COUNCIL 13-12-21** to approve £10,000 from **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE** energy budget line 4810 for Holmfirth Civic Hall to action the short term recommendations regarding lighting and heating from the **Energy Audit Report**.

RESOLVED: to recommend to **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 22-11-21** that it recommends to **FULL COUNCIL 13-12-21** the creation of **EMR CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE 1** an **earmarked reserve** from 1st April 2022 equivalent to the approved amount (£10,000). To be used only in the circumstance that monies allocated in 2021-22 budget for this purpose have not been drawn down by the end of the financial year.

This to be created in consideration of the short turn-around times needed for the Holmfirth Civic Hall to obtain quotations and then proceed with and complete the schedule of works by the end of the financial year 2021-22, thereby ensuring that monies would be available to complete the project.

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2122 39 To consider funding request for Holme Valley cargobike pilot scheme (transport 4815)

RECEIVED: Papers to support funding for EPiKS Holme Valley cargobike pilot scheme

The following points were made in discussion:

- i. Budget line 4815 has £12650.00 available.
- ii. Cost of cargo-bike is £6900.00
- iii. As this is over £5k **FULL COUNCIL** approval needed.
- iv. The main benefit of the scheme is to increase awareness/visibility of efforts to reduce carbon emissions, pollution and parking issues rather than to show reduction of carbon emissions in hard data.
- v. Based on a successful Calderdale scheme.
- vi. Anticipated that the monies would be drawn down in 4th quarter of financial year – or perhaps 1st quarter of next financial year. May need to earmark monies for 2022-23.
- vii. A combination of volunteers/paid workers would be used for deliveries.
- viii. Full amount requested would be needed to ensure bike could be purchased.
- ix. The Committee was reminded of its target to achieve carbon neutral status by 2030. This would be mainly achieved through getting a lot of residents to make small changes.

RESOLVED: to **RECOMMEND** to **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** on **22-11-21** and thence to **FULL COUNCIL** on **13-12-21** the awarding of the full amount requested £6900.00 from 2021-22 budget line 4815 transport subject to the incorporation of HVPC branding to be displayed on the bike.

RESOLVED: to **RECOMMEND** to **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** on **22-11-21** and thence to **FULL COUNCIL** on **13-12-21** the creation of **EMR CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE 2** from 1st April 2022 of £6900.00 to allow for the drawdown of funds for the Cargo-bike into the next financial year. To be used only in the circumstance that monies allocated in 2021-22 budget for this purpose have not been drawn down by the end of the financial year.

FURTHER ACTIONS FOR 2021-22 INCLUDING POSSIBLE FUNDING ALLOCATIONS FROM WITHIN CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE BUDGET FOR 2021-22

2122 40 To consider allocating funds for the roll out of the 'If it's not far, leave the car' campaign in Honley (transport 4815)

RESOLVED: the awarding of £1000 for the roll-out of the 'If it's not far, leave the car' campaign to Honley from 2021-22 budget line 4815.

RESOLVED: to create **EMR CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE 3**, an Earmarked Reserve from 1st April 2022 of £1000 in the **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE** budget to cover any final roll-out of the 'If it's not far, leave the car' campaign. To be used only in the circumstance that monies allocated in 2021-22 budget for this purpose have not been drawn down by the end of the financial year.

2122 41 To consider funding request for a Cycling Feasibility Study (transport 4815)

This item was deferred to be considered alongside item 2122 43.

2122 42 To consider progress on bike racks across the valley (transport 4815)

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The discussion of this item concluded that although the further provision of bike racks across the Holme Valley was desirable the **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE** did not have the power or resources to take this further at the current time as sites identified required Kirklees Highways approval.

2122 43 To consider project and funding for River Holme Connections riverside cycleway (transport 4815)

Item 2122 41 To consider funding request for a Cycling Feasibility Study (transport 4815) was considered as part of this item.

The Committee heard that a proposal for a riverside cycleway stretching from Huddersfield to the Holme Valley is being developed. Although this is a project of interest for the future no agreement was made to allocate monies to the project at this time.

2122 44 To consider the provision of ChargeMyStreet Community EV charge-points (transport 4815)

Actions and funding needed 2021-22 to progress the provision of EV charge-points across the valley were considered, as was rolling over EV kerbside pilot project funding to 2022-23

No proposals were brought forward but it was left open to explore further the feasibility of further actions in the future.

2122 45 To consider allocating monies for the Living Streets in schools project (transport 4815)

Cllr Blacka declared an interest as the Vice-Chair of Hepworth School Governing Body, this being one of the schools considered as suitable for pursuing this project, the other being Upperthong.

Living Streets is a structured initiative to encourage children to walk to school, thereby improving health, reducing congestion and air pollution in local communities. The intention is to seek to work with two local primary schools which were suggested and agreed as Hepworth and Upperthong as both were already engaged in environmental matters.

It was shared that the next walk-to-school week is May and that therefore any monies allocated may not be drawn down until the 2022-23 budget is in operation.

RESOLVED: to approve the release of up to £2000 for the 'Living Streets' in schools project from 2021-22 budget line 4815.

RESOLVED: to create **EMR CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE 4**, an Earmarked Reserve from 1st April 2022, a fund of £2000 for completion of 'Living Streets' (transport) project past 2021-22. To be used only in the circumstance that monies allocated in 2021-22 budget for this purpose have not been drawn down by the end of the financial year.

2122 46 To consider focus of CLIMATE EMERGENCY CO-ORDINATOR over Autumn/Quarter 3 and looking ahead to the Spring/Quarter 4 (mobilisation)

The Climate Emergency Co-Ordinator reported that the key focus for Quarters 3 and 4 would be to have a presence at other local events/festivals in order to raise awareness of the objectives of the **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE**.

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2122 47 To consider progress on land use mapping (land use 4825)

Cath O'Halloran declared an interest as a director of *EcoHolmes* and Sarah Sheard also as family members are involved with *EcoHolmes*.

RESOLVED: to approve the sending of the letter tabled at the meeting to the Community housing fund in support of the *EcoHolmes* funding application in respect of the Chippings site.

NOTED: There is £1000 in the budget line 4825 as yet unallocated.

2122 48 To consider progress regarding the creation of further allotments (land use 4825)

The **CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE** continues to support in principle increasing the provision of allotments and community growing projects in the Holme Valley:

- 1) by petitioning Kirklees **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** to allow re-purposing of small parcels of unused recreational land in the Valley.
- 2) by asking landowners to allow repurposing of parcels of land for rental as allotments.
- 3) by the Parish **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** purchasing additional land for the purpose of increasing allotments.

The Committee heard that work to further this project is continuing and resolutions may be brought to a future meeting.

2122 49 To consider actions and funding needed regarding recycling and waste reduction (waste 4820)

This item was considered alongside item 2122 51 below.

2122 50 To consider actions and funding needed to progress engagement with local businesses (economy and business)

RESOLVED: to create a budget line for Business and Economy with £2000.00 from 2022-3 (subject to Council approval of the 2022-3 budget) for the creation and maintenance of a **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** business/organisation contacts database.

Climate Emergency Co-Ordinator is leading this project. Cllr Bustard to advise on any maintenance issues once database is in operation.

2122 51 and 49 To consider actions and funding needed to progress the management of waste (waste 4820)

RESOLVED: Clerk to report back on what happens to trade waste within Kirklees and what is being done to encourage local businesses and HVPC assets such as *Holmfirth Civic* to recycle.

RESOLVED: to extend the meeting to 9.10pm to allow all business to be concluded.

NOTED: £500.00 remains in 2021-22 budget line 4820 to facilitate progress in the management of waste to reflect The Climate Emergency.

2122 52 To consider Honley Library Energy Audit Report proposal to earmark funds 2022-23 (energy 4810)

NOTED: Budget line 4810 2021-22 had £12,400.00 remaining, £10k of which to be allocated to Holmfirth Civic Hall to meet short term recommendations of Energy Audit in accordance with

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2122 38.

Cllr Andy Wilson and Mr Steve Barker had met with *Friends of Honley Library* to discuss Energy Audit recommendations.

RESOLVED: Subject to approval of **2022-23 CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE Budget**, £10,000.00 from Energy budget line 4810 2022-23 to be allocated to implement Honley Library Energy Audit recommendation.

2122 53 **To receive report regarding Yorkshire Motorsport Festival – plans to offset carbon footprint through creation of a community orchard**

The Chair gave a verbal report on the meeting of 11-10-21 held with Yorkshire Motorsport Festival organisers. The organisers have asked for feedback on possible locations for the creation of a community orchard as an ongoing goodwill gesture in light of concerns about the environmentally detrimental impact of the Festival.

As part of the discussion following the report the points below were raised:

- i. The gesture offered in no way offsets against the environmental damage of the 30k event attendees.
- ii. Charging an extra £1 at future events to go on *Climate Emergency* projects may be of more help – but not within **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** control to take forward.
- iii. **HOLME VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL** needs to be consistent and equitable in its stance towards events. In the case of the Yorkshire Motorsports Festival the focus should be on concerns about the Hillclimb event rather than, for example, journeys made by event attenders.

2122 54 **To consider budget for 2022-23 to recommend to FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED: to recommend to **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** and thence to **FULL COUNCIL** that an overall budget of £46,000 be allocated to **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE**. This is the same overall budget as 2021-22.

RESOLVED: to create a new budget line for 2022-23 for Business and Economy of £2,000 within the overall £46,000 budget.

RESOLVED: subject to the approval of the overall £46,000 2022-23 budget, monies to be allocated to the different budget streams as follows:

- 4805 Community mobilisation: £22,000
- 4810 Energy Strategy: £20,000
- 4815 Transport Strategy: £1,000
- 4820 Waste and Consumption Strategy: £500
- 4825 Environment and Land Use Strategy: £500
- NEW STRAND Business and the Economy: £2,000

RESOLVED: to recommend to **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** and thence to **FULL COUNCIL** that Earmarked Reserves be created totalling £19,900 from 1st April 2022 and allocated to the **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE** in line with the following resolutions.

EMR CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE 1 £10,000 Holmfirth Civic Hall – Energy Audit efficiency measures (to be used only in the circumstance that monies allocated in 2021-22 budget for this purpose have not been drawn down by the end of the financial year.)

RESOLVED: to recommend to **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 22-11-21** that it

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recommends to **FULL COUNCIL 13-12-21** the creation of an **earmarked reserve** from 1st April 2022 equivalent to the approved amount (£10,000). This to be created in consideration of the short turn-around times needed for the Civic to obtain quotations and then proceed with and complete the schedule of works by the end of the financial year 2021-22, thereby ensuring that monies would be available to complete the project [**2122 38**]

EMR CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE 2 £6,900 for completion of Cargo-bike project (transport) to be used only in the circumstance that monies allocated in 2021-22 budget for this purpose have not been drawn down by the end of the financial year.

RESOLVED: to **RECOMMEND** to **FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** on **22-11-21** and thence to **FULL COUNCIL** on **13-12-21** the creation of EMR from 1st April 2022 of £6900.00 to allow for the drawdown of funds for the Cargo-bike into the next financial year [**2122 39**]

EMR CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE 3 £1,000 completion of roll out of 'If it's not far, leave the car' campaign (transport) to be used only in the circumstance that monies allocated in 2021-22 budget for this purpose have not been drawn down by the end of the financial year.

RESOLVED: to create an Earmarked Reserve of £1000 in the **CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE** budget from 1st April 2022 to cover any final roll-out of the 'If it's not far, leave the car' campaign (transport) [**2122 40**]

EMR CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE 4 £2,000 for 'Living Streets' (transport) project to be used only in the circumstance that monies allocated in 2021-22 budget for this purpose have not been drawn down by the end of the financial year.

RESOLVED: to create an Earmarked Reserve fund from 1st April 2022 of £2000 for completion of 'Living Streets' (transport) project past 2021-22 [**2122 45**]

Meeting closed: 9.20pm

SIGNED:
CHAIRMAN