

Holme Valley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL CLIMATE EMERGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 16th NOVEMBER 2020 via the Zoom Platform

Those present:

Chairman: Cllr P Davies

Councillors: T Bellamy, D Gould, R Hogley, J Roberts, S Sheard [*Councillors Roberts and Gould joined the meeting late and struggled to maintain an internet connection*]

Co-opted Members: C Anstey, S Barker, G Bradley, A Colwill, A Morgan, C O'Halloran, J Queening, M Tulley

Climate Emergency Co-ordinator: Michelle Brown

Officer: R McGill, Deputy Clerk/RFO

Welcome

Public Question Time

No members of the public were present for the Public Session.

2021 32 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) Council meetings can now be recorded. The Parish Council was recording the meeting in video and audio formats through Zoom for upload to its YouTube channel.

2021 33 To accept apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and approved by the Committee for Cllr Firth and co-opted Member, Frances Bennett.

Cllr D Gould came late to the meeting and never appeared to establish an internet connection but is considered to have been present. Cllr Roberts' connection dropped in and out throughout the meeting.

Cllr Barker was not present at the meeting.

2021 34 To receive Members' and Officer's personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda

None were received.

2021 35 To consider written requests for new DPI dispensations

None had been received.

2021 36 To consider whether items on the agenda should be discussed in private session

RESOLVED: No items to be heard in private session.

2021 37 To confirm the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: The Minutes of the Climate Emergency Standing Committee meeting held on 28 September 2020, numbered 2021 15 – 2021 31 inclusive were confirmed.

Holme Valley Parish Council

2021 38 Climate Emergency Mobilisation

The Chairman asked for Members to consider amending the agenda order so that budget discussion followed the feedback from all the sub-groups. **RESOLVED:** The Committee voted to change the running order and to move the budget discussion after the sub-groups feedback.

The Climate Emergency Co-ordinator reported on the series of weeklong virtual, online events to promote the Holme Valley Parish Council Climate Emergency Action Plan. The events had reached 15,000 people and some of the videos had 200 views and many positive comments and likes. The Climate Emergency Co-ordinator was now working on creating shorter video content for the YouTube channel and new Facebook page.

RESOLVED: To ensure that the Climate Emergency website was cross-referenced with the Parish Council website and vice-versa.

RESOLVED: The Climate Emergency Co-ordinator to contact local community groups which have significant mailing lists to spread the message further.

The Chairman and the Climate Emergency Co-ordinator reported on their meeting with Colin Parr, Kirklees Strategic Director for Environment and Climate Change, and another member of his team, John Atkinson.

2021 39 Climate Emergency Sub-groups to feed back

Energy, Housing, Buildings (home energy efficiency measures, renewables)

Member Steve Barker commented on his work with Frances Bennett. They had finished a first draft of the Home Energy Savings booklet.

RESOLVED: The Climate Emergency Co-ordinator to edit and finalise the booklet for publication in the New Year.

RESOLVED: Mmbr S Barker was to press on with the energy audits of Holmfirth Civic Hall and Honley Library.

RESOLVED: Other aspects of the sub-groups work and budgeting like the ground-source heating project would be carried over into next financial year.

Transport/Travel (public transport promotion, electric vehicles, walking, biking)

Mmbr Cath O'Halloran reported that the sub-group was focusing on trying to reduce the number of petrol/diesel car journeys and encouraging cycling, walking, use of public transport and electric cars. The onset of COVID had, though, affected the provision of public transport. Members were liaising with the local cycling community and groups. Mmbr O'Halloran reported that the Holme Valley's hilly aspect and steep routes made cycling as a means of short-distance transport difficult and a challenge to promote. The sub-group also wanted to focus on identifying and supporting safe routes within the Holme Valley and suggested concentrating on 1-, 2- or 3-mile routes centred on Holmfirth at the outset. Mmbr Matthew Tulley reported on the possibility of a project for on-street electric vehicle charging and wanted to identify a street or section of street for a pilot.

RESOLVED: Members to identify streets for the electric vehicle charging project.

Mmbr John Queening reported that eBikes were a way of making the Holme Valley more accessible. He commented on schemes to help improve the eBike infrastructure like the provision of more eBike servicing specialists.

Waste/Consumption (minimising waste as well as recycling)

Mmbr John Queening reported on the water fountain. Member Caroline Anstey reported on the recent session of the Repair Café and the need to promote shopping locally. John also reported on a potential furniture recycling project.

Holme Valley Parish Council

Agriculture, Food, Environment, Land Use (engaging farmers and landowners; local focus)

Mmbrs Alison Morgan and Andrew Colwill reported on a project to map land use in the Upper Holme Valley and were trying to apply for a grant of £10000 to fulfil this. Andrew reported on a carbon survey on his own farm.

**2021 38
contd.**

The Standing Committee considered project planning for the rest of the financial year to end March 2021 with associated budgetary provision.

- **RESOLVED:** The Committee approved the expenditure of £1000 on a phone and laptop for the use of the Climate Emergency Co-ordinator.
- **RESOLVED:** With regard to the Environment and Land Use sub-group, it was resolved that up to £5000 be authorised for use towards the land-use mapping project for match funding.
- **RESOLVED:** With regard to the Energy, Housing, Buildings sub-group, it was anticipated that the Home Energy Savings booklet would be completed in the financial year with associated expenditure. The energy audit of Parish Council properties would continue. £7000 would be needed to fulfil projects 2020-21 and £7000 would not be used and need to be requested again as part of next year's budget request.
- **RESOLVED:** For the Transport sub-group, it was anticipated that the electric vehicle on-street charging scheme would need to be fulfilled next year and a budget reinstated for next year. Some preparation work (with Kirklees, for example) could be undertaken this year with associated budgetary provision already in place. It was hoped that the purchase and setting up of air pollution sensors could be accomplished in 2020-21 and that part of the budget used. But other projects and budget would need to be instituted for 2021-22. £7800 would be needed to fulfil the projects for 2020-21 (air pollution sensors £2k, bike racks £2k, groundwork for eVehicle charging points £3.8k).
- **RESOLVED:** The Waste sub-group did not anticipate any addition to budget planning for the rest of the financial year.
- The Committee considered payment for hosting the standalone Climate Emergency website. **RESOLVED:** The Committee resolved to authorise expenditure on the website for the entire year as a single payment at a cost of £9.99 a month, - £119.88.

2021 40

Climate Emergency Standing Committee Budget 2021/22

Councillors on the Committee considered the budget for the 2021-22 Council Year.

RESOLVED: The Climate Emergency Standing Committee resolved to request an equivalent budget to the 2020-21 budget with a similar category and sub-group breakdown.

RESOLVED: Any unspent budget from the Climate Emergency budget 2020-21 could be vired to other Committees on application as long as those Committees included relevance to the Climate Emergency Action Plan in project plans.

2021 41

Holme Valley Climate Action Partnership

NOTED: The relationship between the Parish Council and the Climate Action Partnership would be considered at the next meeting of Council.

Holme Valley Parish Council

.....
Chairman