



## Blockley Parish Council – Environment Sustainability Committee

Minutes - Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 7.30pm, remote via Zoom.

Present: Cllrs - Paul Baines, Jon Bryan, Clare Turner

Chris Crookall-Fallon (Head of Climate Action at CDC), Charlie MacKinnon-Little (Cotswold Green Energy)

Sarah Longbottom (Clerk)

Members of the public: 3

1. The meeting opened at 7:32pm, apologies for absence none – Tom Bradley’s resignation from the committee was received by the committee Chair on the 2nd March 2021. Introductions were given. The Chair thanked the members of the public for their interest and attendance at the second Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC) meeting.
2. Items for any other business: None
3. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations for items on the agenda – Councillors must declare it if they have an interest in any matter before the council either at the start of the meeting or prior to commencement of discussion of the topic in question – None
4. Matters arising from the minutes of the ESC meeting 04.02.21:
  1. Biodiversity meeting with Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust  
Some preliminary discussions have occurred, and a meeting is to be scheduled (AP:11.03.4.1)
  2. Review of mowed areas  
Cllr Turner presented prospective identified areas (Jubilee Green, Paxford play-area, Churchill Close, Landgate and the cemetery) to generate biodiversity and the benefits and risks. Two areas, a section of the churchyard and a section of Back Ends Common, have already been committed to wild areas. Discussion followed regarding the management of land and informing the public as to the rationale behind any decisions and the potential inclusion of a professional botanist surveys. The proposal is to be an agenda item of the next full council meeting.
  3. CDC representative overview of a parish strategy  
Chris Crookall-Fallon (Head of Climate Action at CDC) was invited to share his suggestions at a parish level of initiatives other Cotswold parishes have implemented and the potential support from Cotswold District Council. This included electric car rental schemes, sharing off-street charge points between neighbours through ‘Co-Charger’, Cotswold Friend’s steps to source zero emission vehicles, the improvements to local leisure centres to reduce carbon through a potential grant, retrofit changes to houses and parish websites providing sign posts to low carbon solutions.  
  
The importance of sharing knowledge across the region and CDC being a facilitator of disseminating good practise and supporting parishes to adopt changes was discussed. CDC are recruiting a sustainable transport lead and the Cabinet adopted EVCP strategy in January which is to be reviewed by Blockley Parish Council (BPC).
  4. Strategic sharing with Moreton in March Town Council  
Some preliminary discussions have occurred and a meeting is to be scheduled (AP:11.03.4.4)

5. EV charging points – a report of preliminary practicalities and costing was circulated by the Clerk in advance. Potential procurement options with CDC are to be explored. The proposal of further research, possible locations and obtaining actual quotations is to be an agenda item of the next full council meeting.
  
5. Discuss provisions for parish litter pick  
Historically BPC have arranged an annual litter pick in the spring, but it was agreed that there is a need for more regular picking. CPRE have launched a campaign to tackle litter in the Cotswold; they are providing 15 pickers free of charge to BPC. The collection of the waste and recycling it was discussed. CT is to draft a letter to send to all previous volunteers to understand the appetite for arranging regular picking sessions and designating areas. The proposal is to be an agenda item of the next full council meeting.
  
6. Consideration of the Environmental Sustainability Committee format  
The suggestion to disband the ESC and become a working group is to be proposed to the full council at the next meeting. To facilitate the sharing of reports and files with members of the working group in a more sustainable way was considered and it was agreed that expanding the parish councils Microsoft account to include Teams would be an effective means. The proposal is to be an agenda item of the next full council meeting.
  
7. Any other business: None
8. Date of Next Meeting: April TBC

Meeting closed at 09:15pm.