

LISKEARD TOWN COUNCIL

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Committee: Environment Emergency Working Group
Date of Meeting: 31st October 2019
Recorded By: Steven Neal
Approved Date:
Published Date:
Date of Next Meeting: 25th November 2019 10:30
Overview of Meeting:

9/19 Attendees

Councillor Naomi Taylor (Chair); Town Mayor Councillor Rachel Brooks; Councillors David Ambler; Ian Barlow; Susan Shand; Town Clerk Steve Vinson; Tristram Besterman and Megan Evans of Liskeard Plastic Free; Steven Neal (Secretary)

10/19 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Simon Cassidy; Councillor Julian Smith and Councillor Christina Whitty

11/19 Notes From the Last Meeting (19th September 2019) (For Items Not Already on the Agenda)

- Confirmation that the Plastic Free Liskeard initiative would be taken forward by the group. Mr Besterman will check that SAS are happy for the leadership of the initiative to pass to the working group. Mr Besterman also confirmed the grant monies would continue to be applicable for the initiative.
- Mr Besterman and Ms Evans have two local contacts who can bring expertise to the group who they will contact to contribute to future meetings.

12/19 Confirmation of Recommendations to be Made to Full Council

- Cllrs David Ambler and Naomi Taylor to speak to Edwina Hanniford who is the portfolio holder for climate change. Will speak to Cornwall Council about how to obtain a carbon audit. -This cannot be commissioned via the Town Forum.
- Plastic Free status has been achieved however this is the beginning of the process. The continuing process will involve the monitoring of businesses and cafes who have signed up to be a part of the initiative. Mr Besterman to provide a list of cafes signed up committing to operate plastic free to the group.

- Steve Vinson circulated results of latest audits dated 2017 into PV, renewable energy generation etc. to the group. This will be circulated again, and this will be looked through to see which data is still relevant and which will need updating. This can provide a background for looking into future plans for renewable energy generation in the town.
- The grass cutting schedule to be looked at to ensure protection for wildflowers.
- The Localism Summit event will provide information on the Forest for Cornwall and renewable energy projects which the town hopes to be a part of.
- The planning committee have been invited to a meeting with one of the Planning officers to discuss environmental considerations when considering Planning applications. The group suggests requesting carbon impact statements with applications so the figures can be provided to Cornwall Council along with Planning Officer's recommendations. Planning committee members to report back after 14th November 2019.
- Ongoing bid for improved provision of cycle racks in the town centre.
- There are ongoing initiatives through the Footpaths Working Group. The plan to improve connectivity in the town to be examined at a future meeting of Environment Emergency Working group. This needs to link with the walking group set up through C&E
- Councillor Naomi Taylor still attempting to contact Aldi area manager about bee hotel.
- Facilities Committee to explore utilising a small budget for cutlery and crockery to discourage hirers of the Public Hall to bring disposable utensils.
- Councillor Naomi Taylor to speak to Facilities Manager Tony Misson about arranging a site visit with Biffa to explore their waste management facilities.
- The group agreed to not commission a thermal survey. Instead the group have agreed to investigate grants available for household insulation improvements and installation of solar panels. Steve Vinson to speak to Tania Horrocks at Cornwall Housing for advice. This can then be promoted online and via the Lyskerrys magazine.
- Councillor David Ambler will speak to the Traders Association via the Town Forum regarding the installation of rain catchers for watering plants.
- The group agreed to look into the provision of a modern drinking water fountain in the town square to discourage the purchase of bottled water. The refill scheme is currently being implemented with a number of businesses signed up and advertising themselves as a refill point.

13/19 Feedback from St Matthews Fair & Consideration of Involvement at future Events

The feedback was positive with the seeds being popular. Future event suggestions include having a presence at the Lights Up event where the town Council will have a marquee in the Christmas market and will be offering the PFL bags for sale again. Town mayor Councillor Rachel Brooks has made contact with a textile upcycling company about appearing at the event. There was a discussion around the proliferation of single use plastics used by street vendors at the event. The group agreed to contact the Liskeard Lions to discover if street vendors have a licence. Cornwall Council have brought out revised guidelines around licencing which should be enforced.

14/19 Update on Dark Sky Initiative and Cornwall Council Climate Emergency Plan

Steve Vinson has contacted Cornwall Council re the Dark Sky initiative and Cornwall Climate Emergency Plan. The Emergency Plan is hoped to be completed in its first iteration in December 2019. It was **AGREED** that creation of the Town council emergency plan would wait until the Cornwall Council one has been released. There will be more information on the Dark Sky initiative at a Localism Summit on 6th November in Wadebridge. Mr Besterman and Town mayor Councillor Rachel Brooks hope to attend together.

15/19 Update on Communal Car Club from Cllr Barlow

The communal car club is being deployed by Cornwall Council in Truro and other towns. Councillor Barlow to follow up with Cornwall Council to clarify the criteria needed for Liskeard to be part of the scheme. It was also agreed that councillors should be looking to car share whenever possible for council business which requires a lengthy journey.

16/19 Date of next meeting

The date of the next Environment Emergency Working Group was to be 25th November 2019 at 10:30AM in the Council Chamber

ACTIONS FROM COMMITTEE:

Mr Besterman to speak with SAS over leadership of Plastic Free Liskeard Initiative to pass to Environment Emergency Working Group.

Cllrs Taylor and Ambler to feedback to the group following their meeting with Edwina Hannaford.

Town Mayor Cllr Rachel Brooks to feed back to the group after attending the localism summit.

Mr Besterman to provide a list of cafes signed up to the plastic free initiative.

Planning Committee members to feedback to the group following a meeting with Planning Officers.

Arrange a site visit to Biffa.

Investigate commissioning a water fountain in town.

Cllr Barlow to provide further update on Communal Car Club.

Summary of Actions

Action	Person responsible	Committee responsible	Timescale	Notes	Completed
Create Climate Plan	Environmental Emergency Working Party	Environmental Emergency Working Party	January		
Creation of a Community Energy Plan		Environmental Emergency Working Party	Ongoing	IB to look at 2017 audit for further information	
PV/LED Bulbs. 40% of the current bulbs have been changed to LED bulbs. PV panels are in place on the roof of the Public Hall.	Tony Misson	Facilities	PV Panels 2015 – ongoing implementation of LED bulbs		
Ongoing monitoring of Plastic Free Liskeard initiative		Facilities	Ongoing		
Investigate if carbon energy audit can be commissioned through Cornwall Council	Councillor David Ambler		25/11/19		
Weedkiller review and investigate the possibility of community involvement with picking and composting weeds.	Tony Misson	Facilities	12/01/2020		
Look into the schedule of grass cutting to protect wildflowers.	Tony Misson	Facilities			
Investigate specifics of planting and wildflowers around the town including cost	Tony Misson	Facilities committee	12/11/2019		

Continue to request that Cornwall Council include carbon impact statements when making planning recommendations.	Yvette Hayward	Planning	Ongoing		
Gaining further information from Localism Summit	Rachel Brooks		30/09/2019		
Continue to lobby for improved public transport facilities as well as walking and cycling provision	Yvette Hayward	Planning	Ongoing		
Improve provision of cycle racks in the town	David Ambler	Planning			
Improving connectivity between estates & town centre	David Ambler	Planning			
Investigate the current energy providers environmental sustainability plan	Tony Misson	Facilities	23/09/2019		
Contact the area manager of Aldi regarding Bee Hotel's initiative	Councillor Naomi Taylor		17/10/2019		
Continue to encourage Town Council tenants and members of the public who hire the hall to find alternatives to single use plastics.	Tony Misson	Facilities			
Looking at and managing recycling and waste management processes.	Tony Misson	Facilities			

Gather more information on a communal car scheme	Councillor Ian Barlow		17/10/2019		
Investigate grants available to residents to improve insulation and for installation of solar panels.	Steve Vinson				
Encourage shops and businesses in the town to install rainwater catchers to enable flowers to be watered directly from rainwater.	David Ambler				