



Tiverton Town Council

Town Hall, St Andrew Street, Tiverton, Devon, EX16 6PG

Town Clerk: J F Vanderwolfe FILCM Chartered MCIPD

Tel 01884 253404

Email: townclerk@tivertontowncouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Climate Change Committee Meeting held at the Town Hall in the Council Chambers on Monday 13th February 2023.

Present: Cllr S Bush (Chairman), Cllr S Griggs, Cllr A Hendy, Cllr P Hill, Cllr B Holdman, Cllr A Perris, Mr N Purves, Mr Wright and Mr A Walker.

In attendance: Mrs J Hubbard (Assistant to the Town Clerk).

97	Apologies No apologies had been received.
98	Declaration of Interest under the Code of Conduct No Declarations of Interests were made at this stage of the meeting
99	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 27 th June 2022 having been previously circulated, were agreed as a true record.
100	Matters Arising No items
101	Democratic Period No items
102	Action Plan 2023/24 Cllr Bush said that there had been no further advancement to date for a “Plastic Free Tiverton”, awaiting a policy for this. The Climate Heroes Award Scheme project still needed to have a date established, Cllr B Holdman suggested that this could be announced at the Electric Nights event at the Pannier Market in June or July 2023. All agreed to this proposal. There was now a need to work on the framework for the event and how best to promote this. It was hoped that potential new councillors could assist on working on this after the May elections. Cllr Bush said that the idea of working with schools had not progressed any further. He suggested waiting until after the elections when the new committee could work on this. The members discussed the idea of allocating funding from the budget to facilitate the planting of more trees. Cllr P Hill informed the members that he had endeavoured to contact the Rights of Way officer on the subject of footpaths/cycle ways but had received no response to date from his emails. However, he said that the Ramblers Association were trying to consolidate all the footpaths to ascertain any that may have fallen out of use. Any new pathways would be ratified by 2026. Cllr B Holdman pointed out that there was a lot of un-adopted land in the

	<p>town, including the lane leading from Hillcrest to Chapel Street. It was currently very poorly lit. He suggested that the town council might like to adopt the lane with the aim of improving it.</p> <p>In regards to Flood Management, Cllr Bush said he was still working on this. He noted that there were some alternative energy sources within the parish. The MDDC proposed Hydro-electric project for the river Exe had come to a halt. This had been in part, due to the Environment Agency, who had concerns for the welfare of the fish within the river, along with an additional risk of flooding. It was deemed to be too large a turbo for the proposed site. Potentially, a smaller scheme may be acceptable or a solar energy scheme.</p> <p>MDDC would now look at this again after the May elections.</p> <p>The members discussed options for adding solar panels to the town council's New Hall community building and the Town Hall. It was deemed that the New Hall would be more suitable for solar panels on its roof. The Town Hall being a grade II listed building would not be so suitable.</p> <p>The options for additional vehicle electric charging points was discussed, members thought a way forward would be to work with the district council on this.</p>
<p>103</p>	<p>Tree Team Update</p> <p>Mr Purves informed the members that a quantity of 500 trees had been planted this last winter on two sites just outside of Tiverton. With pruning and mulching works carried out on existing trees.</p> <p>Some members expressed some concern over recent tree planting carried out by MDDC at a site used for dog walking and ball games. Residents did not appear to have been consulted before the tree planting had been carried out. Cllr Bush said that consideration needed to be taken in the suitability of potential sites with a view to whether they might be targeted by vandalism. This he said, had happened to newly planted trees on the Wilcombe site, and in his opinion, plastic wraps were not enough to protect them from damage. Mr Purves said that this was one of the reasons why the community orchard site had been selected, after due consideration to potential damage and vandalism. They had also involved Tiverton High School with this project. Cllr Holdman said he would see if he could get an update on any further planned tree areas for the town.</p>
<p>104</p>	<p>Sustainable Tiverton Update</p> <p>Mr Purves gave an update on Sustainable Tiverton. They had secured new premises and would soon be based in two offices within the Raymond Penny building. There were plans for workshops, and upcycling projects, along with the idea of an items library, where household items could be hired out for a small charge. Exeter Community Energy would also be utilising one of the offices on a regular basis twice a week.</p> <p>Mr Purves said that all current projects such as the Repair Café and Re-Rooted, were going well. The town library was currently closed due to a refurbishment. This meant that the community fridge would be housed temporarily within the foyer area of Mid Devon District Council offices. Cllr P Hill said that the Tiverton Neighbourhood Plan contained a number of non-policy related provisions which might cross over to the Climate Committee. Items such as walking/cycle routes, and environment issues could come under the committee's umbrella. Public transport and improved</p>

	<p>connectivity to and from Tiverton Parkway train station could be looked at. Cllr Hill said that pollution in rivers was another issue that could be viewed. Cllr Bush suggested that the committee might approach South West Water to discuss possible initiatives.</p> <p>Mr Purves said that groups and organisations such as the River Exe Transition Project, and Friends of the River Exe could also be approached.</p>
105	Next Meeting: TBC