

**Northam Town Council – Minutes of the Climate Emergency Committee Meeting held 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 6.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Hames (Chairman), Laws and Mrs Hodson.

**In attendance:** Wendy Lo-vel (co-opted member)  
Guy Langton - Deputy Town Clerk

**2302/930 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs McCarthy and Newman-McKie and from Mr B Bruins and Mr T Wiersma (co-opted members).

**2302/931 Chairman's announcements**

The Chairman noted the meeting was inquorate, so no decisions could be resolved. The information would be presented, however, to ensure committee members remained up to date.

He further reported that he had attended a teams meeting regarding central government's planning reforms, which could include carbon auditing of development proposals and policies relating to building retention and renovation rather than demolish and rebuild, as the favoured approach.

**2302/932 Declarations of interest:**

Members were reminded that all interests should be declared prior to the item being discussed.

**2302/933 To agree the agenda as published**

The agenda could not be agreed – the meeting was inquorate.

**2302/934 To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

The minutes could not be confirmed – the meeting was inquorate.

**2302/935 To consider Action Points**

It was reported that Full Council had approved the costs of planting the council's planters would be met fully within the budget of the Town Projects and asset Management Committee.

The action points were noted.

**Action: Cllr Mrs Hodson to liaise with Bideford College and St Mary's primary school.**

**2302/936 To consider the Climate Action Plan**

The committee heard the updates as presented:

Action		Responsible	Updates - 27.02.2023
1. Waste	1.2 Food Waste Scheme with Schools	Climate Emergency Committee	The head teachers would be asked how food waste was handled when the Council dropped the coronation medals to each of the schools.
2. Transport	2.1 Replacement of oldest current vehicle Electric vehicle for the Maintenance Team	Town Projects Committee	To be considered at the March 2023 meeting of that committee.

3. Energy	3.5 Northam Hall heating system	Council Staff	The HIVE system had occasionally failed and been re-booted or over-ridden. It had once needed professional attention since installation.
6. Biodiversity	6.2 Open spaces plan to increase biodiversity/climate resilience	Town Projects Committee	The Committee had recommended to the Town Projects Committee a planting scheme for the Council's open spaces and planters, to include wildlife friendly and drought resistant plants. The TP committee had resolved to adopt the scheme The CEC has heard that Torridge District Council would be interested in working together to plant the gardens at Hillcliff Terrace a the northern end of Irsha St, Appledore with pollinator-friendly and drought resistant plants.
8. Procurement	8.1 Procurement policies to be reviewed for sustainability	Councillors and Council staff through the Review Committee	At its 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2023 meeting, Finance and HR had resolved to add the phrase "with due consideration given to environmental impacts of those purchases" to the clauses, ensuring that best value and value for money are achieved in all purchases.

2302/937

**Public Participation**

No members of the public were present.

2302/938

**To receive an update on engagement with parish schools and Bideford College.**

The Deputy Town Clerk updated the meeting with the plans for hedge planting at Appledore School, the plants were expected week commencing 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023, with the planting planned for week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

Cllr Mrs Hodson offered to follow up with Bideford College, the Deputy Town Clerk not yet having had a response to his email.

2302/939

**To consider the final draft of the Climate Poster.**

The members received the poster.

**Action point: The Deputy Town Clerk to prepare a report on printing the poster for the next meeting of the committee.**

2302/940

**To receive an update on the work of Torridge District Council's Active Travel committee.**

An update would be provided to the next meeting of the committee.

There being no further business the meeting finished at 7:37pm.

Signed..... Dated.....