

**MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MEETING
HELD AT 6.00PM, ON
WEDNESDAY 10 JULY 2024
BOURGES/VIERSEN ROOMS, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH**

Committee Members Present: Councillors: Ellis, McNally, Z.Ali, Boyce, Antunes, Ahmed, Wiggan (Vice-Chair), Ann Shaheed, Day (Chair) Barkham

Others Present: Aryan Nahata and Assya Gadkari, Youth Council Representatives

Officers Present: Charlotte Cameron, Senior Democratic Services Officer
Charlotte Palmer, Service Director for Environment and Climate Change
Claire George, Head of Safer Communities

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Judy Fox, Elsey, Walsh and Independent Co-opted Member Stuart Dawks.

Councillors Boyce and Antunes were in attendance as substitutes.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WHIPPING DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations of interest or whipping declarations.

3. MINUTES OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 MARCH 2024

The minutes of the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 13 March 2024 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

4. CALL IN OF ANY CABINET, CABINET MEMBER OR KEY OFFICER DECISIONS

No call ins were received.

5. APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS 2024-2025

The Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee received a report in relation to the appointment of Co-opted Members in accordance with the Council's Constitution Part 3, Section 4 – Overview and Scrutiny Functions. The purpose of the report was to seek approval from the Committee to appoint Stuart Dawks, Esther Norton and Parish Councillor Terry Young as nonvoting Co-opted Members for the municipal year 2024/25.

The Senior Democratic Services Officer introduced the report and explained that the nominations for Parish Council Co-opted Members had been put forward by the Parish

Council Liaison Working Group and that the appointments would be reviewed annually. The Committee unanimously agreed to the appointments of Stuart Dawks, Esther Norton and Parish Councillor Terry Young as non-voting Co-opted Members for the municipal year 2024/25

The Chair welcomed the co-opted members who were in attendance and invited them to join the committee for the rest of the meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee:

1. Appointed Stuart Dawks to the Committee as an Independent Co-opted Member with no voting rights for the municipal year 2023/2024. Appointment to be reviewed annually at the beginning of the next municipal year.
2. Appointed Dr Esther Norton to the Committee as an Independent Co-opted Member with no voting rights for the municipal year 2023/2024. Appointment to be reviewed annually at the beginning of the next municipal year.
3. Appointed Parish Councillor Terry Young as an Independent Co-opted Member with no voting rights to represent the rural area for the municipal year 2023/2024. Appointment to be reviewed annually at the beginning of the next municipal year.

6. REVIEW OF 2023-2024 AND WORK PROGRAMME 2024-2025

The Senior Democratic Services Officer presented the report which considered the 2023/24 year in review and looked at the work programme for the new municipal year 2024/25 to determine the Committees priorities. Members also noted the Terms of Reference for the Committee.

The Service Director for Environment and Climate Change provided an update on the following items that had not been included within the report.

- The pensions scheme aimed to reduce emissions by 23% by 2024 and was using the same rate as the European policy curve. Recent investments had been made into green funds and the Council were proactively following the policy.
- The procurement service and climate change criteria had a detailed project plan and a report on further progress could be provided. Members referred to the brown versus green energy tariff and were advised that the next review date is in the Autumn.

Members asked questions including:

- Members queried whether the carbon literacy training would be available to Parish Councils and community groups and were advised that a course would be developed to roll out that was bespoke to those groups.
- Members congratulates the team for their work on this training.
- Members emphasised the importance of work with Parish Councils in the development of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and sought confirmation from Officers on this engagement.
- Members noted the importance of the new Local Plan and asked when it would be brought to Committee. Member asked Officers to look into holding a joint scrutiny committee meeting.
- Officers advised that the money allocated to the work of the adaptation plan had been secured and the team were in the procurement phase.

- 2 potential sites had been identified for the Eco Homes project and there had been an architect's competition. Delivery routes were being explored however there was a capital moratorium on spending in the Council which had led to a pause in the project.
- The Youth Councillor queried whether work experience could be offered for young people in the Eco Homes project and the Officers advised they would look into it.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee:

1. Considered relevant items which were presented to the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee during 2023/2024 and makes recommendations on the future monitoring of these items where necessary.
2. Noted the information provided in Appendix 1 and considers if further information on the items presented in 2023/2024 is necessary.
3. Noted the Recommendations Monitoring Report attached at Appendix 2 and considers if further monitoring of the relevant recommendations made by the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee during 2023/2024 municipal year is required.
4. Determined its priorities and approves the draft work programme for 2024/2025 attached at Appendix 3.
5. Noted the Terms of Reference for this Committee as set out in Part 3, Section 4, Overview and Scrutiny Functions attached at Appendix 4 and in particular paragraph 2.1 item 4, Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee.

ACTIONS

The Committee also requested:

- That they be provided with the timeline for the renewal of the Council's energy tariffs.
- Confirmation of whether Parish Councils and Local Community Group have been consulted with on the LNRS.
- That Officers investigate the plans for the Local Plan to be presented to Scrutiny.
- That Officers investigate the possibility of offering work experience as part of the architect process for the Eco Homes project.

7. TACKLING FLY-TIPPING ACROSS PETERBOROUGH

The Committee received a report in relation to on the proposed approach to delivering the Fly-Tipping Intervention grant.

The Head of Safer Communities introduced the report and highlighted the following:

There had been a grant received to tackle fly-tipping of £50k which had a deadline on spending by September. There was a requirement to split the funding between the urban and rural areas and background had been provided in the report that explained why specific wards were chosen.

If the plans were successful, they could be ruled out further and Officers welcomed guidance from Members on how to implement the grant.

The Committee asked questions and responses included:

- Members were advised the Council would not need to bid further for an expansion of the scheme.
- Informative communications were available in multiple languages and Officers had worked with the Communications Team to develop a plan that would support this.
- Members referred to the impact flytipping had on residents who lived on unadopted roads and queried what the Council can do to help. Officers advised that the housing associations should be removing flytipping and the Council worked closely with them to ensure this was done.
- Members were advised of the distinction between unadopted roads and unregistered land. Unregistered land would be small patches of land where a side garden leads to the edge of an access road and the ownership of the verge may not be clear. In this case, the Council would intervene.
- Members were concerned that the burden on residents was unreasonable when there were complex issues of land ownership and management.
- Members queried whether Aragon could collect flytipping from across the City where there were unadopted roads as there were concerns that residents were paying a service charge without the service being delivered.
- Officers advised that the mapping system would be updated on Fix my Street to ensure ownership of land was clear.
- Tape had been ordered to cordon off some flytipping sites to highlight that action had been taken against flytipping.
- The grant would allow for additional cameras and the development of a rogue gallery so that residents would have the confidence to come forward as witnesses.
- There were targeted adverts for both the rural and urban areas as there were differences between the flytipping activities.
- There had been a close working relationship with the education and climate change teams to ensure there was both education and enforcement.
- The Youth Councillor advised that education should be targeted at all young people and not just children at primary school age.
- The educational material was ready and had been developed in time for September. There would be trial initially before it was rolled out further.

The following recommendation was proposed by Councillor Antunes and seconded by Councillor Z Ali, that the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee recommend that the Environment and Climate Change team investigates the possibility that flytipping is collected in all areas across the city regardless of whether the land is unadopted, unregistered, owned by the housing associations.

A vote was taken, and this recommendation was **UNANIMOUSLY** agreed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee review and comment on the proposed approach to the delivery of the Fly-Tipping Intervention grant awarded to the council.

In addition, the Committee recommended that the Environment and Climate Change team investigates the possibility that flytipping is collected in all areas across the city regardless of whether the land is unadopted, unregistered, owned by the housing associations.

8. FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

The Chair introduced the report which included the latest version of the Council's Forward Plan of Executive Decisions containing decisions that the Leader of the Council, the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members would make during the forthcoming month. Members were invited to comment on the plan and where appropriate, identify any relevant areas for inclusion in the Committee's Work Programme.

- Members sought clarification on who the contact was for the Lincoln Road Regeneration Project KEY/29JUL24/01.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee considers the current Forward Plan of Executive Decisions and identifies any relevant items for inclusion within their work programme or request further information.

CHAIR

Meeting began at 6.00pm and ended at 7.11pm

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