

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Budleigh Salterton Climate Change Group held online via Zoom on Monday 16 January 2023 at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Cllr M C Hilliar (Chairman, Town Mayor)
Cllr Mrs M P Lewis
County Cllr Mrs C Channon
Cllr J Tresidder (East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council)
Ms J Moore (St Peter's School)
Mr P Fletcher (Lions Club of Budleigh Salterton)
Mrs K McDermott-Darley (Budleigh Community Workshop Trust)
Mr M McGlade (Budleigh Salterton & District Chamber of Commerce)

Secretary: Mrs J E Vanstone

It was agreed that in the absence of the Chairman, Jemima should act as Vice Chairman.

CC/20 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from District Cllr Paul Jarvis, George Maddaford (Otter Valley Association) and Clare James (Clinton Devon Estates).

The Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr D J Hayward was not present.

CC/21 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 October 2022 had been circulated prior to the Meeting. It was unanimously agreed they be signed as a true record.

CC/22 Water Pollution on our Beaches

Christine reported on the meeting with South West Water (SWW) at Exmouth Town Council. She said she was disappointed it had been hijacked by protestors so they had not been able to get to the bottom of what SWW was going to do regarding the pollution of the sea and local rivers.

She felt it was important to talk to Simon Jupp MP and SWW.

The East Devon AONB was also concerned about this issue and she would pursue that avenue as well.

She said the main issue was that SWW were not communicating what the problems were. She was concerned about the number of additional houses planned for Budleigh Salterton as the system could not take this pressure.

There was a lengthy discussion about the effects of the Lower Otter Restoration Project and the lack of monitoring and reporting. It was agreed

- Monitoring kits could be purchased and regular testing carried out by teachers and/or children from St Peter's School. Jemima will take the suggestion to the Leadership Team and report at the next meeting. Mark offered to fund this with the possibility of the Town Council making up any difference
- Jo will write to SWW and Simon Jupp

John left the meeting and Peter joined.

CC/23 Local Public Transport Issues

Jemima reported that Christine had visited the school and met with the Eco-Champions; the children had asked if Christine could organise a bus for those children who live outside Budleigh Salterton. Jemima said that a questionnaire had been sent out to all parents but only a few responses were received. She thought it might be a good idea to resend it.

Christine explained that the school transport system was difficult and it was actually the parents' responsibility to get their child to school, rather than the local authority's. She said there was no funding for an additional bus because of the overspend on Adult and Children's Services. She had been impressed with the children and wondered if the PTA could be involved with the bus idea.

Jemima explained that the children were not thinking about finances, just the pollution aspect of using so many cars.

Penny wondered if the Eco-Champions could give a presentation to the Budleigh Salterton Traffic Group. She thought it was important that safe walking and cycling in the town be encouraged and the Traffic Group was focussed on cars rather than walkers and cyclists.

CC/24 EV Charging Points

Prior to the Meeting further information received from Char.gy had been circulated.

It seemed that a lot of their clients were larger councils who would have different needs to Budleigh Salterton and its rural issues. Jo was asked to contact some of these councils and ascertain if there were any problems regarding installation etc. She will report to the next meeting.

All agreed that the proposed installation around the town of 25-30 EV Chargers was a great start but it would be good to have more.

Peter asked that the cycle racks, which had been removed from Rolle Mews Car Park to make way for the EV Charging Points, be replaced. Jo said she would ask East Devon District Council (EDDC) to attend to this.

CC/25 Any Other Business at the Chairman's Discretion

- Kate mentioned Free Trees were available from Axminster later in the month and was this something this group could apply for. Jemima asked if there were any suitable locations around the town. Jo said she would circulate the information on the Town Council's Facebook page. Mike added that Clare was going to look at potential sites for more trees.
- Christine said she had been a bit disappointed that EDDC was not being very proactive regarding Climate Change. Penny thought they were doing well on some aspects, such as recycling.
- Mike asked if there had been any response from EDDC regarding the ban of disposable barbecues. Jo said she would contact the relevant officer for an update.
- Christine felt the suggestions for more housing in the town should be fought tooth and nail.

CC/26 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Zoom on Monday 6 March 2023 at 6.00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 7.00pm.

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Chairman

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Date