

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Budleigh Salterton Climate Change Group held online via Zoom on Monday 11 September 2023 at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Cllr D J Hayward (Town Mayor)
Cllr M C Hilliar
Cllr Mrs M P Lewis
District Cllr Ms C Fitzgerald
Ms J Moore (St Peter's School)
Mr P Fletcher (Lions Club of Budleigh Salterton)
Mr M McGlade (representing Budleigh Traders)
Mrs C James (Clinton Devon Estates)
Mr R Wiltshire (Otter Valley Association)

Town Clerk: Mrs J E Vanstone

CC/33 Election of Chairman

Penny proposed, David seconded and it was unanimously agreed that Mike be appointed Chairman.

CC/34 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs C M Cunningham, County Cllr Mrs C Channon and Katie McDermott-Darley (Budleigh Community Workshop Trust)

Cllr J Tresidder (East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council) was not present.

CC/35 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 March 2023 had been circulated prior to the Meeting. It was unanimously agreed they be signed as a true record.

CC/36 Water Pollution on our Beaches

Jemima updated Members on the purchase of water testing kits. She said that she had not had much success – there were many types of kits on the market and she was not sure which one was suitable for our needs.

Bob advised that the Otter Valley Association (OVA) were carrying out tests on the River Otter and they got their kits from the Westcountry Rivers Trust.

There was some further discussion on the different types of kit.

Clare advised caution when carrying out the tests; Jemima confirmed the sample collection would be done by teachers and the testing would be done in the school.

Charlotte thought the East Devon District Council (EDDC) Beach Safety Officer (Pete Blyth) might be able to help and will forward his contact details to Jemima.

Mark confirmed that Home Instead would sponsor the purchase of any kits.

CC/37 EV Charging Points

Jo updated Members on the possible installation of EV Charging Points. She explained that following the elections in May, the Town Council was now able to adopt the General Power of Competence (GPoC) which in turn means the Council will have more freedom in its actions.

The Town Council will consider adopting GPoC at its next meeting.

Once this is adopted, the Group can investigate suitable positions for the Charging Points along with the availability of power etc.

CC/38 Refill Town

Consideration was given to making Budleigh Salterton a Refill town. Mike explained that this had been raised some years ago. Jemima added that before lockdown the School's Eco Champions had contacted businesses in the town to ask if they would put Refill stickers in their windows. It was agreed to contact Refill to see if they would send some more stickers and then contact The Treasury in the High Street for their assistance. Jo advised that there is a water fountain at the Jubilee Shelter plus refill stations at Oxfam and Seachange but it was agreed it would be a good idea for some more around the town. Penny suggested a water fountain could be installed outside the Public Hall.

CC/39 Plastic Free Status

Consideration was given to getting Plastic Free Status. Jemima reported that the School was already Plastic Free and two residents had started the process for the town but she had not heard from them in a while. She thought it would be an idea to encourage reusable shopping bags and cups and it was suggested she speak to the ladies who run The Treasury. There was a discussion about installing a container on the seafront in which residents/visitors could put their plastic bottles, similar to Exmouth but not so "flashy"! Maybe a giant lobster pot?

CC/40 Free Tree Scheme

A discussion took place to decide if there any spaces that would benefit from the Free Tree Scheme currently being run by Devon County Council. There are very few areas in the town and with the deadline for applications only two weeks away it was not feasible to apply this time. It was suggested that Jo contacts the Cricket Club to see if they were interested.

CC/41 Devon Wildlife Trusts Wildlife Garden Award

Consideration was given to promoting this Award. Jo will attach a link to the Town Council's website and Facebook page. It was also suggested that members of the Garden Club could be involved with overseeing the School's gardening club. There was some discussion about hedgehog corridors and Jo will forward the information she has to the Group members.

CC/42 Any Other Business at the Chairman's Discretion

No other business was raised.

CC/43 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting would be held on Zoom on Monday 20 November 2023 at 6.00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 6.59pm.

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Chairman

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Date