

MARLOW TOWN COUNCIL

Court Garden, Pound Lane, Marlow, Bucks

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE, MARLOW ON TUESDAY 6TH JULY 2021 DIRECTLY AFTER THE PLANS ONLY MEETING

Present:	Chairman	Cllr J Towns
	Councillors	Cllr N Marshall Cllr C Hoyle Cllr C Stapley Cllr R Scott
	Admin	Debbie Abbott

ES.01.21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

ES.02.21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared

ES.03.21 ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT TO GO ON THE WEBSITE

DECISION

The Environment & Sustainability Committee was created in June 2021, reflecting the Council's increasing engagement in Environmental matters. The Committee leads on topics such as climate change, air quality, waste reduction, active travel, biodiversity and maintaining the vitality of Marlow town centre. Sustainable Marlow reports into this committee.

RECOMMENDED: That members agree to adopt the above paragraph for the website.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to adopt the above paragraph for the website

ES.04.21 CARBON AUDIT ACTIONS

DECISION

Following the Carbon Audit published in March 2021 officers and the environment sustainability consultant are recommending the following actions to reduce the Council's carbon emissions. Whilst the Council's footprint is relatively small it is equivalent to 1.4 Marlow households there are actions that can be taken to reduce it further.

1. The Council commits to continue to lobby Buckinghamshire Council to move the current Town Bus from a diesel vehicle to an electric one.
2. The Council ensures that all power tools are replaced with battery powered tools only at the end of their useful life. In addition, for future tenders for

ground maintenance contracts scoring weighting to be included in favour of contractors using battery powered tools.

3. The Council works with the current Christmas Lights supplier to reduce emissions within the existing contract where possible including exploring the options for timers.
4. Officers present costings for an electric bike for use by officers to go about their work in and around the town in an eco-friendly way to the next TC meeting.
5. The Council commits to replacing the current Town Council diesel van with a more environmentally friendly option – as soon as costings are viable.
6. Officers to explore the options of eco-friendly paper for the Marlovian magazine.

RECOMMENDED: That members agree on the above actions and recommend them to Full Council for approval to proceed.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to recommend the above actions to the Full TC for approval

ES.05.21 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME

DECISION

Following the Community zoom meeting on March 18th, we continue to establish a programme to gain support from residents and interested bodies and groups to set out our challenges and goals and establish deliverables for Marlow. This will be chaired by a Councillor and driven by our consultant and fall within the remit of sustainable Marlow. The TC will retain the final say on decisions. The detailed proposal is attached as appendix A.

RECOMMENDED: That members agree the above proposal for presentation to the TC for approval.

RESOLVED: Members agreed that the above proposal be presented to the Full TC for approval.

ES.06.21 BEE TOWN

DECISION

Wild Marlow presented their plans for making Marlow a Bee Town to Full Council on April 27th, the presentation shared is attached as appendix B. The proposal is that we confirm our support for this to be formally adopted at the next Town Council meeting. Council is already supporting this initiative with our new Wildflower areas that have already been established in and around the town.

RECOMMENDED: That members agree to confirm their support for the Bee Town initiative and that it is adopted by Full Council.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to support the Bee Town initiative and will ask the Full TC to adopt the initiative

- **Sustainable Marlow** will be at Marlow Carnival in Higginson Park on Saturday 11th September. After discussions with the carnival organisers, it is intended that some of the park be designated as a 'Green Village' with 10 to 20 stalls for local environmental interest groups and businesses to be represented. The theme for this year's carnival procession is 'Think Global, Use Local'.
 - The cost of having spaces for stalls will be met by the Marlow Environmental Trust (MET) which is a local, privately funded trust operating under the governance of the Charities Aid Foundation. Stall holders will need, however, to provide their own stall/gazebo. As well as providing information, it will be possible to market membership and/or sell appropriate goods.
 - The Green Village will engage with all age groups to create and stimulate community awareness of key climate and sustainability issues by being collaborative and fun whilst encouraging sustainable personal/household choices. The Carnival is, of course, very much a family event.
 - Volunteers will be required to help on the day please.
- **Wildflower Planting** – Wild Marlow have offered to help with our Wildflower areas and a proposal will be submitted at the next TC meeting.
- **AQMA** – Bucks will be consulting on turning Marlow AQMA into a Clean Air Zone (CAZ) in the autumn, detailed report will follow.
- **Active Travel** – A walking plan is currently in development.
- **Marlow’s Performance Index** will be regularly updated.
- **Tree Planting** – we are working with BC to establish a local tree planting programme, we are reviewing costs and work involved and will present our budget plans at the next meeting along with our plans on working with residents. On street planting remains under the auspice of Buckinghamshire Council.
- **Parks and Green Spaces** – members continue to lobby Buckinghamshire Council Green Spaces team for running repairs and grass seed planting in areas that are looking tired.
- **Eco-schools** - Due to Covid restrictions we are unable to hold this conference in person, so the schools and the sustainable Marlow team are planning a virtual event for delivery in July.

Members are requested to note the information reports above.

ES.08.21 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

INFORMATION

Tuesday 7th September 2021 directly after the Full Planning and Transportation meeting

Signed:

(Chairman)

Date: