



Seaford Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Seaford Town Council's Climate Change Sub-Committee on Thursday, 26th October 2023

Held at the Council Chambers, 37 Church Street, Seaford, BN25 1HG on Thursday 26th October 2023 at 7.00pm.

Present:

Councillors C Bristow (Chair), R Buchanan (Vice Chair), R Clay, J Meek, I Taylor and M Wearmouth (substituting for Cllr Matthews)

Louise Lawrence, Head of Assets, Projects & Services

Helen Vits, Events & Sponsorship Officer

Zoe Polydorou, Projects Officer

There were 7 members of the public in attendance.

CC06/10/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L Boorman, O Matthews, and L Wallraven.

CC07/10/23 Disclosure of Interests

There were no disclosures of interests.

CC08/10/23 Public Participation

Speaker	Statement
<i>Resident A</i>	<i>Representing On the Verge they outlined their support of the National Nature Reserve, but pointed out that landscape needs to be taken into account. They also expressed that Seaford Town Council has the opportunity to use their land to contribute to the network.</i>
Town Council Response	Thanked the resident for their contribution, explained the advantages and disadvantages of the National Nature Reserve will be reviewed, and agreed the importance of landscape.

	The Head of Assets, Projects and Services explained Seaford Town Council will be working alongside other parties to look at new ways of farming to join land areas together.
<i>Resident B</i>	<p><i>Expressed their excitement that Seaford Town Council is taking leadership on environmental issues, and reminded members that there is expertise within the community and groups.</i></p> <p><i>They felt that the green spaces policy has stalled, and urged members not to forget about it, and reminded members of the toolkit for community gardeners and management of greenspaces.</i></p> <p><i>They highlighted that in terms of the management of the golf course the grass cutting is not collected.</i></p>
Town Council Response	<p>Thanked the resident for their contribution, and confirmed that training will be taken into consideration, and agreed that it would be good to be involved in the Toolkit.</p> <p>The Head of Assets, Services and Projects explained that a renaturing policy is in progress.</p>
<i>Resident C</i>	<i>Ran through the history of the Climate Change Sub Committee and expressed frustration and concern of the speed at which progress is being made.</i>
Town Council Response	<p>Thanked the resident for their powerful contribution.</p> <p>Expressed that Seaford Town Council need to collectively take a fresh look, and take a realistic approach, and are keen to work with outside parties.</p> <p>A member suggested a register of CIC groups. It was agreed to look into this.</p> <p>Another member welcomed the community participation comments.</p>
<i>Resident D</i>	<i>Expressed their concern that disposable cups are still being used by concessions since the pandemic. Also brought up their concern of the lack of climate change messaging at The View.</i>
Town Council Response	Thanked the resident for their contribution.

	<p>The Events & Sponsorship Officer explained that discussions are and will continue to be made with concession holders.</p> <p>The Chair mentioned the recent introduction of the national requirement to stop the majority of single use plastic.</p> <p>The Head of Assets, Projects and Services confirmed that The View is being reviewed.</p> <p>A member queried whether a People's Assembly could be made earlier than 2025. They also felt disheartened about the speed at which green spaces is moving, and suggested areas which could be moved forward.</p>
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CC09/10/23 Temporary Toilets in Seaford – Public Feedback

The Sub-Committee considered report 92/23 providing an overview of the public feedback relating to the temporary compostable toilets on the seafront and to start a discussion on the Town Council's stance on types of toilet facilities to be used going forwards.

The Head of Assets, Projects and Services summarised the report, and thanked the Events & Sponsorship Officer for their work.

The Events & Sponsorship Officer provided information on the toilets, summarising them in a positive way.

Members heard how there are various specifications for eco toilets in general.

Initial teething problems were discussed along with the benefits of compostable toilets.

CC09.1 It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the report and the outcome of the compostable toilets survey.

CC09.2 It was **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** to Community Services Committee to make the decisions to not use plastic portable toilets going forward.

A member queried the type of toilets in relation to CC10.3. The Head of Assets, Projects and Services clarified it related to temporary toilets. The Chair pointed out that the decision on delegation will be made at Community Services Committee.

It was discussed that the resolution to be updated to the below.

CC09.3 It was **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** the Community Services Committee to delegate power to officers to determine the appropriate arrangements when toilet facilities are being introduced, by considering types of alternatives toilets in the context of sustainability and environmental impact and whether temporary toilets are rented or bought, subject to the requirements of the Town Council's financial policies.

(8.05pm - one resident left)

CC10/10/23 Draft Climate Emergency Policy- Update October 2023

The Sub-Committee considered report 94/23 presenting the updated draft Climate Emergency Policy for review and discussion.

The Chair summarised the decision from the last Climate Change Sub Committee on the draft policy and explained its current status.

A member praised the clear policy.

CC10.1 It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the report.

Members clarified the process to have the policy adopted by Full Council – with initial consideration by the Community Services Committee – and a decision made on when the policy would go live.

CC10.2 It was **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** the updated draft Climate Emergency Policy for consideration by the Community Services Committee, and to bring the draft policy to Full Council in January 2024 for final consideration and the policy live date to be discussed.

CC11/10/23 Climate Change Update Report – October 2023

The Sub-Committee considered report 93/23 providing an update on climate change activities and plans within the Town Council.

The Head of Assets, Projects and Services summarised the Climate Change Delivery Plan update, and the Chair added to this summary.

Members discussed various issues, including the problem with the peddler's licence with single use plastics, and the importance of supporting the plastic free campaign at the bonfire night. The Chair recommended adding an action point on this topic to a forthcoming meeting.

It was discussed and agreed that it was important to be aware of, and to keep abreast of, the rate of change within the area of climate change.

It was discussed how engagement will be made with the wider community. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the January meeting.

CC11.1 It was **RESOLVED** to review the Climate Change Delivery Plan and to provide the following feedback;

- To develop a strategy, following on from the policy, which future workstreams will align with.

- CC11.2** It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the update with regards to single use plastics and the Town Council's policy document.
- CC11.3** It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the closure of the electric car charging point project.
- CC11.4** It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the forward plan for the Climate Change Sub-Committee, with the amendment that the draft policy will go to Full Council in January 2024 for approval.

The meeting closed at 8.42pm.

Councillor C Bristow

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Chair of the Climate Change Sub-Committee