

MINUTES OF CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

30 NOVEMBER 2022

PRESENT:

Members of the Working Group: Councillors Mrs Crane (Chair), Edwards, Harrington, Ms Livesey, Picker and Roodhouse

14. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2022 were approved.

15. DECARBONISING OF THE HOUSING STOCK

The Working Group received a verbal progress update from Asset Maintenance Manager on energy efficiency improvements of the Council's existing housing stock and Government initiatives being explored by the Council.

16. PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN OCTOPUS AND ILKE HOMES TO BUILD ZERO ENERGY BILL HOMES

The Working Group considered the [My Green Pod article](#) concerning the world-first partnership to build zero-emission homes with zero energy bills.

17. SUSTAINABILITY WEST MIDLANDS CLIMATE CHANGE RISK ASSESSMENT AND ADAPTATION PLAN

The Working Group considered the Sustainability West Midlands Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan 2021 – 2026 concerning an overview of risks faced by the region and mitigations being put in place.

A key part in the development of Rugby's adaptation plan was the completion of a risk assessment. A tool developed by Local Partnerships was used to provide initial information required to carry out a risk assessment. The Deputy Chief Executive was assisted by Sustainability West Midlands in interpreting the risk analysis and was working with them on developing a risk assessment involving consultants as and when required. The aim was to complete the risk assessment by April 2023.

The Working Group agreed that it would be beneficial to engage with the National Farmers' Union and the NHS about their adaptation plans and resolved to extend an invitation to the NFU and the NHS to attend a future meeting of the Working Group.

18. COUNCILLOR CLIMATE CHANGE TOOLKIT

The Working Group considered the Councillor Climate Change Toolkit. The toolkit was designed as a single quick reference point where people could find out more about the climate emergency and ways to get involved.

Following the launch of the Councillor version, the toolkit would be adapted for the council staff, community groups, parish councils and residents.

Members were asked to provide feedback on the draft toolkit to Deputy Chief Executive by Christmas 2022 to enable an early New Year launch.

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting of the Working Group

The Chief Officer of Leisure and Wellbeing would be invited to attend the next meeting of the Working Group to provide an update on partnership working with the Wildlife Trust and the Garden Organic.

Members were asked to give thought to what the council could be doing through parks and open spaces to help further the climate change work.

An Event with Local Businesses

The Working Group considered options for an event to engage with local business.

A Business Breakfast took place earlier in 2022 where broader topics were discussed with local businesses.

The Deputy Chief Executive and the Communities, Homes, Digital and Communications Portfolio Holder to discuss a way forward subsequently to the meeting.

Carbon Literacy Training

The West Midlands Combined Authority and the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games were offering [Carbon Literacy training](#) to public across the West Midlands as part of the Games' sustainability ambition to create a carbon neutral legacy for the region. The Chair encouraged the Working Group to undertake the training.

CHAIR