

Minutes of the Meeting of the Climate & Biodiversity Committee

Monday 8th March 2021, 7pm

Present:

Mayor of Faversham, Cllr A Reynolds Cllr E Thomas Cllr H Perkin
Deputy Mayor, Cllr T Martin Cllr C Williams

In Attendance:

L Bareham (Town Clerk)

Public Session

A resident expressed his concern about the usage of plastic grass. It was noted that other media providers have been providing false information concerning this subject. It was requested that the committee should consider adding informative information about plastic grass to future literature where possible, in order to inform residents about the negative impact plastic grass has on the climate.

Cllr Perkin agreed with the resident and would be interested in receiving their information flyer about plastic grass. Cllr Williams noted that the committee will keep in touch with the resident about this matter and asked for the leaflet to be sent to the Clerk.

Cllr Perkin suggested that this could be investigated/involved in the committees' individual gardens motion.

106. Apologies for Absence
None

107. Declarations of Interest
None

108. Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising
The Minutes were proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr T Martin and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Climate and Biodiversity Committee Meeting dated 26th January 2021.***

It was noted that Cllr Williams and the Clerk will now meet with Cllr Saunders (Cabinet Member of the Environment at SBC,) concerning the pesticide-free status. It was also noted that the Clerk has contacted Michael Payne regarding this subject as well.

109. Living Roof

It was noted that there could be a delay in delivering the product and a potential increase in the delivery charge due to Brexit. It was suggested by Cllr Thomas, that the suppliers clarify the overall cost.

The Clerk noted that the grant application for this project was approved and the funds have been received.

It was proposed by Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr Perkin and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED for Cllr Williams and the Clerk to seek further information concerning the pricing on the work to be carried out on the bus shelter roofing for Stone Street and The Mall.**

110. Youth Climate Panel

Cllr Williams proposal concerning a Faversham Youth Climate Panel was noted by the committee.

It was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Martin and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to form a Youth Climate Panel, overseen by the Climate and Biodiversity Committee, to work with Faversham Town Council and the community, to help to bring about a low carbon, resilient and attractive Faversham where all people are proud to live and work.**

111. Community Gardening

It was agreed to refine the chosen 'Keep Faversham Buzzing' logo designs.

Cllr Williams proposal on 'Community Gardening' and resident's comments were noted by the committee. Concerns were raised regarding land ownership and residents housed near the selected community gardening areas. It was suggested by Cllr Thomas that a survey should be sent out to the residents near the potential community gardening areas.

Cllr Perkin expressed her thanks to Lesley Seager and Swale Litter Squad for their hard work and efforts.

It was proposed by Cllr Williams that Brooke should continue to keep a record of residents interested in community gardening and continue advertising.

Cllr Williams proposal regarding for the seedball giveaway were noted by the committee.

It was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Martin and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to allocate £500 to the seed giveaway project and for Officers to oversee**

112. Ethical Banking

Cllr Williams Ethical Banking proposal was noted by the committee.

It was proposed by Cllr T Martin, seconded by Cllr Reynolds and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to accept Cllr Williams' Ethical Banking documentation as part of the Climate Emergency Action plan.***

113. Events

Cllr Williams noted that Grace Couch from SBC had started to make plans for Earth Day and agreed to liaise with Grace further about the project and support where possible.

It was noted by Cllr T Martin that the committee should look to host an event in Autumn. Cllr Perkin suggested that it would be worth showcasing what residents have been doing to support the ecosystem virtually.

It was agreed to host a virtual event for World Environment Day which will feature and showcase the residents of Faversham. Cllr Williams suggested that the committee should come together to refine the event details before the next Climate and Biodiversity Committee Meeting.

114. Allotment Update

Allotment updates were noted. It was agreed to accept the gift of the strip of land as proposed by the neighbouring developers, which the Facilities Manager would oversee.

115. Any Other Business

It was requested by Cllr Perkin that 'Log Burning Firers' should be added to the next Climate and Biodiversity Agenda as an item.