

# Stone Town Council – Environment Sub-Committee

## Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone, on Tuesday 18 June 2019

**PRESENT:** Councillor P. Leason in the Chair and  
Councillors: T. Adamson, K. Argyle, Mrs A. Burgess, M. Green, M. Hatton, T. Kelt,  
R. Kenney, J. Powell and R. Townsend

By Chairman's invitation: Mrs J. Hood

**ABSENT:** There were no Councillors absent

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**ENV20/001** **Apologies**

There were no apologies.

**ENV20/002** **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

None received

**ENV20/003** **Representations from Members of the Public**

None

**ENV20/004** **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

That the minutes of the Environment Sub-Committee meeting held on the 19 March 2019 (Minute Numbers ENV19/015 – ENV19/019), be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**ENV20/005** **Membership of Working Groups**

RESOLVED: To confirm membership of the following Working Groups:

**Single Use Plastics and Environmental Issues Working Group**

Councillors: T. Adamson, Mrs A. Burgess, M. Green, M. Hatton, T. Kelt, P. Leason,  
R. Townsend

Co-opted non-Councillor Member: Mrs T. Lindop

**ENV20/006** **Members Motions Under Standing Order 4**

**Councillor T. Adamson**

*Stone Town Council should declare a climate emergency in common with an increasing number of other councils throughout the country. We have 12 years to act to reduce the effects of climate change and as a Town Council we need to*

*be clear that we want to address this emergency.*

*It is proposed that the Town Council:*

- 1. Publicly declares a climate emergency.*
- 2. Sets a target that Stone should become carbon neutral by 2030.*
- 3. Assigns a climate emergency working group reporting to the Environment Sub-Committee. This group should co-opt members to ensure that it represents a cross section of the community. It should look at all aspects of how Stone could become carbon neutral.*
- 4. Puts pressure on the Borough and County Councils to also declare a climate emergency.*
- 5. Puts environmental impact as a higher priority in making decisions and considers how its decisions impact the goal of carbon neutrality.*

In proposing the above motion, Councillor Adamson expressed his vision that a climate crisis action plan be devised within a working group consisting of co-opted members appointed from a cross section of the community, incorporating all age ranges.

The Sub-Committee thanked Councillor Adamson for his briefing, but recognised that the subject matter was complex and raised concerns about Members being well enough equipped with knowledge of the subject matter to be able to consider his proposal at this meeting. It was considered that further investigation was required, including whether the cost implications of his proposal would be achievable within the constraints of the Town Council's budget (present and future).

RESOLVED: That the Single Use Plastics and Environmental Issues Working Group is asked to consider Councillor Adamson's proposal and that its findings are reported back to the Environment Sub-Committee.

## **ENV20/007    Updates**

To consider updates on matters from previous Minutes:

- a) Leaflet on the Meadow

### **Minute Number ENV19/005 & ENV19/018:**

*That the costs of producing an information leaflet be investigated by Councillor Leason, and the findings reported back to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee*

The Chairman advised the Sub-Committee that the leaflet illustrating flora and fauna on Crown Meadow was making progress. A second leaflet featuring Spring and Summer was also to be planned.

b) Community Planting Exercise

**Minute Number ENV19/012 & ENV19/018:**

*That a community planting exercise is considered for the planting of new wild flowers on Crown Meadow.*

The Chairman informed the Sub-Committee that he would like to arrange an on-site meeting with Sub-Committee members and the Grounds Maintenance Contractor to discuss the execution of a community planting exercise on Crown Meadow. The findings from this meeting would be reported back to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

c) Tree & Hedge Planting – Charter for Trees Campaign

**Minute Number ENV19/013 & ENV19/018:**

*That the location identified in Crown Meadow is recommended for tree planting and that this is undertaken through a community tree planting project*

The Chairman informed the Sub-Committee that he would like to arrange an on-site meeting with Sub-Committee members and the Grounds Maintenance Contractor to discuss the execution of tree and hedge planting on Crown Meadow. The findings from this meeting would be reported back to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

It was suggested that an arboricultural officer/tree officer be invited to the next meeting.

The Chairman advised that he would be setting a schedule of dates for future meetings.

RESOLVED: To note the updates on matters brought forward from previous Minutes.

**ENV20/008** Reports from Working Groups

To receive a report from the Chairman of the Sub-Committee and working groups:

**Plastic Free Community & Environmental Issues Working Group**

The Chairman advised the Sub-Committee that no Working Group meeting had been held.

RESOLVED: To note the progress report on the work of the group.

**Town Mayor**