

**ALTON TOWN COUNCIL
CLIMATE CHANGE SUB COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 16th March 2022 AT 9.30 AM
Held in the Town Hall, Market Square**

Present: Councillor Ginny Boxall
Councillor Graham Hill
Councillor Pam Jones
John Hubbard (Energy Alton)
Eleanor Hill (Substitute Representative - ACAN)

In attendance: Leah Coney (Town Clerk)
Wendy Simson (Assistant to Town Clerk)

Apologies: Philippa Brealey (ACAN)

09 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Phillipa Brealey.

10 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Hill reminded members of their obligation to disclose any pecuniary interest in items on the agenda. None were declared.

11 Town Hall Retrofitting Update

The Town Clerk informed the Committee that D&D Drylining Developments had been engaged to complete the insulation in the Town Hall, a deposit has been paid but the contractor has repeatedly failed to attend. Court papers have now been issued to recover the funds. Basingstoke Energy Services Co-operative who negotiated the contract with D&D Drylining Developments have also tried to make contact and have now offered to complete the work themselves.

The secondary glazing is out to tender and quotes are due to be received by 5pm on 16th March. A summary of the returns will be circulated to the Committee for recommendation to the Full Council meeting on 27th April.

12 EV Charge Points at Anstey Park and Jubilee Fields

The Town Clerk has been in discussion with the contractors who are appointed to provide charging points for HCC who are completing a feasibility study on both sites. If the study is positive, the supplier would install and maintain the points with no cost to ATC. The Anstey Park site is likely to be more attractive as there are 2 charging points at the new Sport Centre at Jubilee, if Jubilee is not viable for a commercial supplier, then a grant may be requested from HCC to meet part of the cost of installation.

It was noted that the charging points at the Sports Centre are often not working; the Town Clerk remarked that statistics showed that at any time 35% of charging points nationally were not operational.

Councillor Hill informed the Committee that EHDC had £300,000 budgeted for Climate Change in 2021/22 of which £50,000 has been spent, a further £300,000 has been allocated in 2022/23. The Town Clerk asked if this fund was open for bids as support could be requested for projects in Alton; Councillor Hill suggested that ATC could lobby for funding.

13 Plastic Free Alton Reusable Cup Scheme

The Town Clerk explained that the model of reusable drinking glasses and coffee cups (as per the report circulated) seems to work in location such as the O2 but may not be viable in Alton, where events attract much smaller numbers. It was agreed that residents should be encouraged to take their own travel mugs to coffee shops in the town; the Town Clerk agreed that promotion of this would be included in the electronic Altonian.

14 E-Cargo Bike demonstrator and “Recycle your Bicycle” scheme

The Town Clerk informed the Committee that it was hoped that the E-cargo tricycle would have arrived prior to the meeting so everyone could see it but it is due to arrive later in the week. The bike has been given to ATC for a year and it will be loaned out on a weekly basis to anyone interested in purchasing one. Draft T&Cs were included in the papers for the meeting and the Committee agreed that these met ATC requirements.

ATC have offering free cycle lessons to children over the summer holidays and plan to ask for donated children’s bikes at the “All Things Outdoors” market which can then be serviced and used by children who don’t have a bike. ATC will also purchase helmets which can be given to children.

15 Lighting at Anstey Park MUGA

The Town Clerk informed the Committee that this project was out to tender with quotes due back by 30th March.

Councillor Hill agreed to give £1,000 of his Councillor Grant towards this project if the Council was not successful with other funding streams

Responses to the invitation to tender will be circulated to the committee before being added to the agenda for the July Full Council meeting.

16 Tree Planting Update. Will Hall Farm and Windmill Hill.

The Town Clerk informed the Committee that as part of the Jubilee Canopy, ATC are planting 50-70 native fruit and nut trees in November at Windmill Hill. Larger trees will be sourced at a cost of £50 per tree plus planting cost, sponsors for trees are being sort. Will Hall Meadow has been planted with 1,800 whips and a living fence is being planted at the Redrow site.

Councillor Boxall agreed to give £1,000 of her Councillor Grant for this project (Clerk to advise Mrs Harris to submit application)

17 Cycle Hoop installation. ATC Public Open Spaces

Councillor Platt has given £1,000 towards additional cycle hoops for the town, 14 new hoops have been purchased for use at Kings Pond and Anstey Park, along with other locations to be identified.

18 Update from ACAN

Eleanor Hill updated the Committee that the Eco Street Project position has been approved with a 12 hr/week paid member of staff. There have been some strong candidates and it is hoped that whoever is successful will attract likeminded people to ACAN.

Eleanor Hill asked if ACAN could use the ATC logo on publicity materials as a grant was given by ATC to support its work. The committee confirmed that it could be used.

Young ACAN are holding a “Back on the Rack” clothing exchange event on 2nd April with workshops demonstrating recycling ideas. The winner of the Great British Sewing Bee, Serena Baker, is attending and will deliver one of the sessions. Any clothing remaining at the end of the event will be donated through the clothing bank. Notices promoting the event will be posted on ATC noticeboards.

It was agreed that an update from ACAN should be included on all agenda for the Climate Charge Committee meetings.

19 Update from Energy Alton

John Hubbard gave the Committee an update on the Green Homes Grants and the new home surveyors that have been recruited, there are now 6 employed which will enable more free home surveys to be carried out. ACAN are also working with Community Energy South to provide small businesses with energy saving information and support.

Leah Coney agreed to put the link to the ACAN website in the digital Altonian to promote the free home surveys.

Graham Hill asked if John Hubbard would lead a workshop at the next Climate Charge meeting about driving down energy usage.

Graham Hill asked about sending a copy of the “Clean Heat from Alton Homes” to every home in the town (13,000 to 15,000 houses) which it was suggested EHDC would fund as discussed at the last meeting. Leah Coney agreed to get a quote for delivery and John Hubbard agreed to get quotes for printing, both to be circulated to all member of the Committee. Ginny Boxall expressed concern that printed copies were being produced and suggested that ensuring copies were available in key locations would be more environmentally friendly as a high percentage of those delivered to homes would be put straight in recycling.

It was agreed that an update from Energy Alton should be included on all agenda for the Climate Charge Committee meetings.

20 ATC Budgets for 2022/23

The following items were put forward to the Budget Workshop on 12th January and outcome included,

- Secondary glazing at Town Hall – included in budget
- Replace Halogen floodlights for LED units at The MUGA – no budget allocated but funding being applied for.
- Air Source Heat Pump to replace gas boiler at Town Hall – on hold due to Listed Building Consent issues
- Technical assessment of heating system at Finnimore – on hold
- Thermostats for heating to allow zoning at Finnimore – on hold
- Jubilee Bungalows, retrofit in line with Energy Alton assessment - no budget allocated but funding being applied for.
- An Environmental Grant scheme – sufficient funds not available.
- Budget for training/marketing/improving awareness of Climate Change - sufficient funds not available.

21 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 15th June at 9:30am in the Town Hall.