



Agenda

Meeting: **Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group**
Date: **28 February 2020**
Time: **12.00 pm**
Place: **Middelburg Room - Civic Centre Folkestone**

To: Councillors Gary Fuller, Jackie Meade, Ian Meyers, Stuart Peall, Lesley Whybrow and David Wimble

The Working Group will consider matters listed below on the date and at the time and place shown. **This meeting will not be open to the press and public.**

1. **Chairman's Introduction**
2. **Apologies for Absence**
3. **Declarations of Interest**
4. **Minutes**

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2020.
5. **Feedback on proposed actions**
6. **Proposed Estate definition**
7. **Establishing a Baseline Position for Carbon Emissions**
8. **Cycling Infrastructure and Plans**
9. **Update on Electrical Charging Points**

Queries about the agenda? Need a different format?

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Email: committee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk
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Declarations of Interest

Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)

Where a Member has a new or registered DPI in a matter under consideration they must disclose that they have an interest and, unless the Monitoring Officer has agreed in advance that the DPI is a 'Sensitive Interest', explain the nature of that interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a DPI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation permitting them to do so. If during the consideration of any item a Member becomes aware that they have a DPI in the matter they should declare the interest immediately and, subject to any dispensations, withdraw from the meeting.

Other Significant Interest (OSI)

Where a Member is declaring an OSI they must also disclose the interest and explain the nature of the interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a OSI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation to do so or the meeting is one at which members of the public are permitted to speak for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter. In the latter case, the Member may only participate on the same basis as a member of the public and cannot participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter and must withdraw from the meeting in accordance with the Council's procedure rules.

Voluntary Announcement of Other Interests (VAOI)

Where a Member does not have either a DPI or OSI but is of the opinion that for transparency reasons alone s/he should make an announcement in respect of a matter under consideration, they can make a VAOI. A Member declaring a VAOI may still remain at the meeting and vote on the matter under consideration.

Note to the Code:

Situations in which a Member may wish to make a VAOI include membership of outside bodies that have made representations on agenda items; where a Member knows a person involved, but does not have a close association with that person; or where an item would affect the well-being of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but not his/her financial position. It should be emphasised that an effect on the financial position of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc OR an application made by a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc would both probably constitute either an OSI or in some cases a DPI.

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Minutes

Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group

Held at:	Boulogne Room - Civic Centre Folkestone
Date	Tuesday, 7 January 2020
Present	Councillors Gary Fuller, Ian Meyers, Stuart Peall and Georgina Treloar
Apologies for Absence	None
Officers Present:	Kate Clark (Committee Services Case Officer), Hazel Sargent (Low Carbon and Sustainability Specialist), Charlotte Spendley (Director of Corporate Services) and Adrian Tofts (Strategy, Policy & Performance Lead Specialist)
Others Present:	Councillor Tony Hills

7. **Chairman's Welcome**

Councillor Stuart Peall advised that he, at the request of the Leader, would chair this Working Group. He apologised for not attending the previous meeting.

8. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

9. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2019 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

10. **General discussion on flood risks in the District**

A slide presentation was given to members showing the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) for the district dated 2015. Councillor Tony Hills elaborated further giving details concentrating on the Romney Marsh and how flooding impacts the Dungeness Nuclear Power Station. Lessons had been learnt since the Fukushima tsunami in 2011 and flood defences at Dungeness had been upgraded.

A further slide shown was the SFRA in 2119 which shows flood defences breached predominately affecting the Romney Marsh.

Points raised included:

- Flooding affecting housing, farmland and aquifers, which in turn affects the economy.
- Flooding would impact severely on vulnerable residents in the district, ie disabled, elderly, unemployed and low income families.

Further comments included:

- Strategic long term actions in place for vulnerable residents and the importance of looking at emergency response protocols.
- Lydd Ranges flood defence.
- SFRA to be updated as part of a review of the Local Plan; the timing of the update needs to be chosen carefully to make best use of resources as national information changes frequently
- Information received advising that the Nailbourne stream is due to flood and will impact low lying areas, daily walks undertaken to check.

Action points:

- Investigate flood action plan for Elham Valley and the Pent Stream.
- Contact Max Tant, Flood Risk Manager at KCC.
- To look at budgeting position with regard to an SFRA update.
- Planning perspective and progress to date with regard to Lydd Ranges flood defence.
- Request a copy of KCC's emergency plan for the district
- Consider ensuring landowners create resilience and control flows due to flooding.

On a final point on this item, Councillor Georgina Treloar advised she had received a letter from a concerned resident with regard to the prospective development at Princes Parade and sea defences. The resident was keen to mention this area to the working group.

11. **Update from previous working group meeting**

Miss Hazel Sargent, Low Carbon and Sustainability Specialist, gave a brief re-cap on the previous meeting.

Members noted the following:

- Increase electric vehicle recharging points, 10 planned in the district with one at the Civic Centre.
- Continue to encourage cycling and walking, further cycling routes installed within the district.

- Lobby local businesses and Government towards a low carbon economy.
- Solar tiles on new buildings
- Induction technology on highways.
- Crematoria – rebricking to be carried out at Hawkinge Crematorium which would drastically reduce energy bills. Cryogenic fragmentation was an idea mentioned which is carbon neutral, along with green burials.
- Recycling, all recycling needs to be well managed and behaviours need to change with regard to contamination. It is also important to consider where items purchased originate from and the manufacturing process.

12. **Climate change strategy**

The Chairman was keen to clarify the terms of reference for this working group with regard to a commitment to reduce Folkestone and Hythe District Council's estate and operations to zero net carbon by 2030.

It is assumed all buildings in the district owned by the Council would be part of the estate including land and vehicles, however this will be confirmed.

In working towards zero net carbon emissions, initial ideas coming forward were tree planting, reviewing and renewing energy contracts, expertise, budgeting and working with partners.

An online tool mentioned was 'ScatterCities' which supports local authorities in measuring greenhouse gas emissions and building carbon reduction plans, this is a free tool that will be reviewed to ensure it is fit for purpose or, if not, whether expertise needs to be brought in.

Points raised:

- Correspondence from KCC re flooding.
- All slides shown today to be shared with working group members, working group member will provide comments to Hazel Sargent.
- Working group members were reminded that funding totalling £10m have been set aside for climate change work and in this respect an action plan needs to be costed and agreed for recommendation to Cabinet.
- Future energy proposals could provide payback.
- A goal for plan publication to be agreed, possibly Summer 2020.
- Next meeting to be scheduled for approx. 6 to 8 weeks' time.
- A key aspect that is important to the working group is communication to residents.

13. **Letter from the Co-op to the Leader of the Council**

Members were encouraged by the letter from the Co-op and the Chairman will respond accordingly.

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