

HOLBETON PARISH COUNCIL CLIMATE CHANGE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Held via Zoom on 3rd November 2020

Attendees - Cllr Harry Baumer (Sub-committee Chair), Diana Baumer (Hon Secretary), John Sherrell (Chair Holbeton Parish Council), Andrew Hollett (Councillor), Chris Flower (Councillor), Anna West, Caroline Howarth (Parishioners), Paul Hardy (Biodiversity and Environmental lead, Newton and Noss Parish Council).

Harry Baumer welcomed Paul Hardy to the meeting as an observer.

1. **Apologies** were received from Jan Sellick
2. **Minutes of 6th October 2020.** The Minutes were accepted as correct.
3. **Matters Arising.**
 - a) **Holbeton School.** Following the last meeting Chris Rickard e-mailed expressing his desire for the school to be involved wherever possible.
 - b) **Parish Council environmental policy.** This has now been approved by the Parish Council with the addition that, when planning applications are considered, environmental issues need to be considered.
 - c) **Low energy lighting in parish council premises.** Andrew Hollett indicated that the bulbs in the Reading Room and eventually the Public Lavatories will be replaced with LED bulbs. Harry Baumer asked who would fund this as the Reading Rooms don't belong to the Parish Council. This will be on the Agenda at the next Parish Council meeting.
 - d) **Low energy lighting street lighting.** Andrew Hollett has surveyed the Reading Rooms and also has a plan of action for the public lavatories. Andrew reported that the Village Hall now has a low energy light in the entrance porch. Andrew will present his findings at the next Parish Council meeting.
 - e) **Parish wide survey of home and business lighting.** Andrew Hollett asked whether the graphics in the survey should be coloured to make it stand out. It was suggested that he contact Chris and Gilly Bray to ask for their help. Harry Baumer suggested including the question "Who supplies your electricity and have you ever switched providers?" Also, "Are you on a meter?" Andrew Hollett will prettify and refine the questionnaire. The decision about delivery will be made at a subsequent meeting. The meeting was also informed about the South Dartmoor Community Energy organisation (partly funded by YCE) which helps people who are suffering energy poverty by providing grants and other support. It was suggested that this information be put into the Holbeton News.
 - f) **Tip of the month.** Caroline Howarth was congratulated on her "Tip of the Month" feature in the Holbeton News. Jan Sellick is due to do next month's "Tip of the Month." Harry Baumer and Andrew Hollett agreed to look at electricity saving in relation to devices in the home. This will go into the Holbeton News "Tip of the Month" after Jan Sellick.
 - g) **Funding to support the Environmental Action Plan.** We have been allocated money from YCE. We will make recommendations to the Parish Council about how we wish to spend this money (this should be to support our environmental action plan). Andrew

Hollett asked whether we should aim to spend the money each year and if not should we have plans as to how the money would be spent? Paul Hardy stated that Yealm Community Energy have 5 criteria for spending and they have some big initiatives planned. Harry Baumer agreed to draft some criteria for the sub committee to consider and agree.

- h) **Parishioners' Forum.** Anna West reported that she had a list of Parishioners who were happy to receive info and e-mails to flag up projects.
- i) **Electric Car Charger in the Village Hall car park.** Harry Baumer has made an expression of interest, suggesting possibly 2 charging points. Devon County Council will approach Western Power to discuss the feasibility of charging points in the village hall car park. Andrew Hollett has discussed the matter with the other 2 Village Hall Trustees.

4. Other Matters

- a) **Environmental & Climate Change Books for the Reading Rooms.** Anna West requested that we send her titles of any books that we want considered.
- b) **Briefing on Yealm Community Energy.** Do we want a briefing? It was suggested we could use a sub-committee meeting to host this. Potential speakers could be Stephen Brown and Tracy Ebbrell. Chris Flower agreed to organise this.
- c) **South Hams District Council Climate Change Board.** Two individuals from the parish have put themselves forward.
- d) **Reducing Electricity Use.** Harry Baumer and Andrew Hollett to look at electricity saving in relation to devices in the home.
- e) **Wildflower Area by the Reading Rooms.** Anna West reported that a small group had expressed interest in planting a small area in front of the Reading Rooms with wild flowers. It was unclear who owns this land (N.B. Since the meeting it has been confirmed that the Church owns the land. Permission will be sought from the PCC) There will be a notice board at the bottom of the steps for information about the wild flower areas. Di Baumer agreed to source and cost the wild flower plugs/seeds and the notice board.
- f) **Rebel Botanists initiative** - Anna West suggested seasonal walks to look at hedgerows.

Date of next meeting, Tuesday 1st December 2020, 7.30pm