



GLASTONBURY
TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Climate & Ecological Emergency Advisory Committee (CEEAC) held on July 24th 2024 at 7pm	
Councillors Present	Cllr Serena Roney-Dougal, Cllr Lindsay MacDougall (chair)
Apologies	Ailsa Masterton, Cllr Mike Smyth
Absent	
In Attendance	Alakhrupa Harper, Joe Joseph, Gareth Lowe, Susannah Clemence, Melissa Taylor (clerk)
Public Participation	No members of the public spoke during public participation. The subjects raised included: 1.

16. ELECT A CHAIR

Cllr Lindsay MacDougall was elected as Chair of this committee. Cllr Roney-Dougal proposed, Joe Joseph seconded, supported unanimously.

17. ELECT A DEPUTY

Susannah Clemence was elected as Deputy Chair of this committee. Cllr Roney-Dougal proposed, Gareth Lowe seconded, supported unanimously.

18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Mike Smyth and Ailsa Masterton due to other commitments.

19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

20. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The MAY meeting minutes were reviewed, were considered a true record. A printed copy was not available to sign. Melissa will make sure these are signed by the Chair.

21. CONSIDERING A NEW YEAR FOR CEEAC

Cllr Roney-Dougal summarised the situation for people who weren't at the last meeting. Laura left the group, and members are tired with few attending meetings. Although projects are still continuing, does the committee need to continue meeting to do this work? The following roles that CEEAC provides were discussed:

- Link between Community and GTC – Cllr Roney Dougal reports to full council meetings (providing an official channel)

- Has provided the seeds for projects like 5FF, which emerged from the people who were brought together by our food event.
- Funding from GTC for community projects
- Will keep environmental issues on the GTC agenda, in future when Greens may not have a majority.
- Has provided ideas and direction for the work of the Climate Emergency and Resilience Officer (CERO).
- Could build on its role for bringing all the green groups together for sharing and networking.
- The Community Review process may raise some ideas for projects that CEEAC could lead.
- The issues that CEEAC works on should be embedded in everything that the council does.
- CEEAC should be doing more not less.
- We need to reframe the purpose of the group, as well as what it does. Task and Finish project groups with clearly defined timing and purpose have been very successful (Bus Poems, Reusable Cups, 5FF, Solar roofs). While ongoing projects like Litter picking which seem endless are harder to get people to commit to.
- Remember that a lot has been achieved in 5 years, for a small town.
- The Stall and Newsletter have been a very effective way of engaging people.
- CEEAC has more time and energy than GTC to discuss some of these issues at length, act on projects, secure funding, provide publicity, and invite expertise from the community.
- The agenda has the same topics on everything month, and the same conversations seem to go round and round.
- Would like to see the meetings being less frequent but harder working with more outcomes.
- A good speaker at each meeting would attract more people to attend.
- Ideas from Cllr Lindsay MacDougall and others: Car Share club or GTC's EV to be rented out; Rooftop solar for businesses. GB Energy, Community Energy England; Litter picking; Aluminium can collections for recycling; gardening/ food growing workshops; Water butts; Meat Free Mondays; Advice for new MP, to lobby parliament on issues.

DECISION: Cllr Lindsay MacDougall proposed, Joe Joseph seconded, four voted in support, one abstention.

That CEEAC will aim to meet quarterly from now on, with a more varied agenda. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 24th, to which representatives from local green groups will be invited, as well as a good speaker. This meeting will also agree the purpose of the CEEAC. In the meantime, the stall and CERO can act as points of contact between meetings. The format will be reviewed in 6 months and tweaked as needed.

22. CONSIDER FINANCES

No update.

Initial:

Date:

6

23. REDUCING: secure bike parking; active travel.

- SECURE BIKE STORAGE: Melissa had not investigated secure cycle parking for the town but will do.
- ACTIVE TRAVEL: Crossing over relief road near B&Q, Millstream residents are organising fundraising for a crossing, which could be around £100,000.

24. DECARBONISING: road closure bus routes; bus franchising; bus & poems leaflets

- BUSES: Susannah updates. The new 373 bus will need people to use if it is not to be cut. It is travelling from Wells to Street, via Windmill Hill, and is important for people who live there.
- BUSES: Two possibilities are being discussed for a bus to Castle Cary station.
- BUS STOPS: Scarlet has been pushing to get a bus stop outside the hospital. Scarlet approached Clarks who have offered half of the funding, so we need to find funding to match this.

25. WORKING WITH NATURE: AFFF project; Scything; Glyphosate

- AFF: The group is planning to switch to a task and finish group, focussing on the Land Alliance conference Nov 22-23rd. They just need to clarify whether their funding can be used for this.
- SCYTHING: Susannah is working with Miranda Bruce of Bridie's Mound to arrange a scything event in the fields there. She hopes it might lead, or contribute, to the founding of a loose volunteer group to help manage the town's verges, as suggested by County Highways officer Andrew Turner. Melissa will ask whether GTC is able to insure and coordinate the people in this workforce.
- A question was raised about weeding and ban on Glyphosate. It is only banded on public land in Glastonbury, not people's gardens. EU has banned Nicotinoid insecticides, but the UK has allowed some 'emergency' use.

26. INFLUENCING: Newsletter and stall; Great Big Green Week Freecycle, Fairtrade

- STALL: The stall is busy and Susannah is planning another newsletter.
- GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK FREECYCLE: The event was a big success and will happen again.
- FAIRTRADE: Fairtrade includes Climate Justice, so can be included in CEEAC's work. Fairtrade Fortnight runs from Sept 9th to 22nd.

27. ADAPTING: Climate Adaptation Plan

CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLAN: The final launch event is planned for Saturday August 24th in St John's Church.

28. REPORT from Climate Emergency & Resilience Officer

- 2030 (previously Resilience) Committee meeting Tuesday Aug 6th, discussing Emergency Plan and Flood resilience.
 - Conor has arranged for Katie to clerk these meetings from now on.
 - Conor has arranged for Haylee Wilkins to support work on the emergency plan, based on her experience at Somerset Council.

- Presented to Property & Assets committee on progress to carbon neutral, energy use and running costs:
 - Carbon footprint reduced by 56% so far (-26% more efficient heating system, and -30% switch to ecotricity, -3% from replacing van with EV – but this was wiped out by increased diesel vehicle use resulting in +0.1%)
 - Energy use has decreased in the town hall and GIC, increased slightly in most areas due to more activity, decreased by 70% at the Skate park due to replacement LEDs, increased hugely at the EV charger, adding £6000 to GTC’s electricity costs – the suggested solution is to fit a switch, so that the EV charger can be turned off at night along with the parking payment machines.
 - Pre-application meeting with conservation officer about PV and retrofit measures was encouraging, and we are waiting for her formal response before taking this forward. Historic England have just published a new advice note: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/adapting-historic-buildings-energy-carbon-efficiency-advice-note-18/heag321-adapting-historic-buildings-energy-carbon-efficiency/>
 - Following a suggestion from Serena we will shift the funding from the rooflights (which will need listed building consent) to measures like draughtproofing that don’t require listed building consent, and have started looking for builders who can do this work.
 - I spoke about the Jevons Paradox which, at domestic, local, national and global levels is driving continued growth in emissions despite improving efficiency and renewable energy supplies.
- Drafting a press release about all of this.
- Climate Adaptation report launch August 24th - Can anyone give me details of local environment groups please?

29. ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were shared.

30. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 24th 7pm in the Council Chamber.

SIGNED:	DATE:
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