

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY SUB-COMMITTEE OF
WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE
ON MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 7.30 PM**

Committee members present: Councillor C Walters (Vice Chair)
Councillors A Dunford, P Kirby-Harris and K Morris

Other councillors present: Councillor A Crawford

Others present: J Harvey – Sustainable Wantage
G Wilkin – Wantage and Grove Active Travel Group

Deputy Clerk: S Sanders

A. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors V Wright (Chair) and E L Johnson

B. To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, other registrable interests, and non-registrable interests.

None.

C. Statements and questions from the public

None.

D. To approve the minutes of the sub-committee meeting held on 13 July 2023

The minutes were approved and signed.

E. Matters arising from the sub-committee meeting held on 13 July 2023

a) Update regarding initiatives for Town Council to reduce its own carbon footprint

The Council had offset 8 tonnes of carbon dioxide by supporting a global portfolio of verified carbon reduction projects with a payment of £72 for two years up to 31 March 2023.

b) Update from Wantage and Grove Active Travel Group

The consultant for the Local Cycling and Walking Plan was due to be appointed by Oxfordshire County Council after 1 October 2023.

The proposal for the signposting of walking/cycling routes was almost complete. It was hoped that a proposal will be made at the next meeting. **Action: Wilkin**

c) Update from Sustainable Wantage

The planting of trees at Manor Road Memorial Park was due to commence in autumn 2023. It was agreed that Wantage Town Council would purchase the trees once the list had been received. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

Funding was being sought for room hire at The Beacon to hold the Wantage Community Larder. The Mix will be holding an event to mark their 10 year anniversary on 1 December 2023 to coincide with Dickensian Evening.

d) Earth Day event 20 April 2024

A room at The Beacon had been booked. It was agreed a working group should be considered to organise the event. **Action: All**

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e) Tree Planting

Site visits had taken place at Naldertown and Stockham Park allotment sites/playing field. The suggestion for planting will be brought to the Leisure & Amenities Committee meeting on 18 September 2023. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

f) Letters to David Johnston MP regarding sewage water and sustainable building projects

The Chair had not yet prepared a draft response to Mr Johnston's letter. **Action: Chair**
Councillor Dunford had not yet drafted the letter concerning sustainable building projects.
Action: Dunford

g) Active travel Survey

The travel survey aimed at understanding the local community's views on the current infrastructure for walking, wheeling and cycling in the area had been launched. It will be shared by several different channels including Wantage Town News.

h) Emergency planning

Councillor Morris was to re-send the document as it had not been received by some members.
Action: Morris

F. Review of progress on Action Plan and prioritisation

The plan was still work in progress. **Action: Chair**

G. Other business

None.

H. Dates of future meetings

23 October 2023, 8 January and 19 February 2024.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm
