

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY SUB- COMMITTEE OF
WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE
ON MONDAY 8 JANUARY 2024 AT 8.00 PM**

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

Other councillors present: Councillor A Crawford

Others present: J Harvey – Sustainable Wantage

Deputy Clerk: S Sanders

A. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor E 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 23 October 2023

The minutes were approved and signed.

E. Matters arising from the sub-committee meeting held on 23 October 2023

a) Update from Wantage and Grove Active Travel Group

There was no representative present from the Wantage and Grove Active Travel Group to provide an update on the proposal for the signposting of walking/cycling routes.

Councillor Crawford reported the new S106 agreement for Crab Hill is in addition to the existing agreement, meaning more funds were available.

b) Update from Sustainable Wantage

Jo Harvey reported that the trees had been planted in the Manor Road Memorial Park. She updated the committee on a few activities that had been planned.

c) Earth Day event 20 April 2024

A letter had been sent to all town centre businesses inviting them to take part in the event. The working party were to discuss inviting other businesses from the wider area.

Action: Working Group

Councillor Crawford had received a response from the district council regarding his request for someone to attend the event to offer advice on possible fuel saving for businesses. He was to investigate this further.

Action: Crawford

It was noted that the planned work for improvements to the Portway Car Park was not scheduled to take place around the date of the event (20 April 2024).

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY SUB- COMMITTEE OF
WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE
ON MONDAY 8 JANUARY 2024 AT 8.00PM

Councillor Kirby-Harris had contacted local primary schools and was due to visit some of them in the coming weeks. It was agreed that he should look to involve 11 schools. The idea is for the pupils to create displays to be presented at the event. **Action: Kirby-Harris**
The event was to run from 2pm-6pm. The Ridgeway room had been booked but it was noted that there was no time to allow for setting up/clearing down. The deputy clerk was to find out if there were any additional rooms available. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

Sustainable Wantage to set up a swap zone subject to the availability of additional rooms. **Action: Harvey**

Councillors Dunford and Wright to draft letters to invite people to give talks. It was agreed to invite 6 speakers including students from King Alfred's Academy. **Action: Dunford/Wright**

It was hoped that the PA system owned by Wantage Town Council could be used. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

d) 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**

There was to be a working group meeting – date to be agreed. **Action: Chair**

e) Active travel survey

There was no representative present from the Wantage and Grove Active Travel Group to give an update.

h) Emergency planning

The document to be provided by Councillor Morris. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

F. Review of progress on Action Plan and prioritisation

The plan was still work in progress. There was to be a working group meeting – date to be agreed. **Action: Chair**

G. Items for the next meeting on 19 February 2024

None.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm
