

Chigwell Climate Action Working Group

July 6th 2023, 6:00-7:00pm

On zoom

Minutes

1. *Present: Chris Lord (chair & minutes), Cllr Elliott Costa, Cllr Celina Jefcoate, Lorraine Smart*
Apologies: Richard Coates, Cllr Lee Scott
2. (10 mins) Difficulties arranging meetings (all): what's the best way of doing this?
Doodle poll good, but do check the website for the council meetings before setting it up; OK to nag people
3. (15 mins) Updates
 - a. Emissions
 - i. Electricity supplier (Celina)
Agreed and happening. Green Energy reviewed CPC's gas and electric and CPC are implementing changes. Electric (ENGIE) now done (apart from one contract not yet expired). Gas (British Gas) awaiting full council's approval soon
 - ii. LED light bulbs - do we have a quotation? (Celina)
Changed in the office; to check the cemetery

(And most street lights are now off between 1 and 5am)
 - iii. 2021-2022 carbon audit: getting the information
Chris to do this, skipping 2021-2022, and doing instead 2022-2023
Chris to contact Olga or Celina for the information
 - b. Biodiversity
 - i. General biodiversity progress report (Celina/Scott)
No mowing in May
EECOS (Essex Wildlife Trust) reports are being implemented
Need to replace the non-native hedge in the meadow behind the car park
- any grant sources? Chris to ask Richard Coates

- ii. Progress on getting a mower that collects the mowings
Stuck for now with a long-term contract; Cllr Lee Scott trying to negotiate a new lease agreement
- iii. Progress on getting local people to take on some of the work, e.g. Barnaby Wood and St Mary's Way
Not addressed
- iv. Progress on getting a topsoil/compost machine (Sam)
Not guaranteed for this year - we need a more detailed business plan
- v. Community garden - update (Naveed)
Perhaps a separate charity?
Interest in Limes Farm - perhaps do it there? General support from CCAWG members for that option

4. (30 mins) Development

a. Emissions

- i. From the Terms of Reference (under Key Tasks): 'To develop a rolling plan to "to get Chigwell to Net Zero by 2030" – first draft and proposals for adoption to be presented to Full Council by May 2023, and thereafter to be reviewed annually.'
- 1. How do we do this?
Chris to start a shared document for all to contribute to over the summer, in time for CCAWG to approve in September, and to finance and governance in October
- 2. *Celina to coordinate relevant changes to the Terms of Reference - make it less specific*

b. Biodiversity

- i. Can we audit our biodiversity - to show improvement year on year?
Elliott to do some research on this and see how feasible it is
- ii. How about a visit to the cemetery and other lands? Next meeting?
Chris to pursue
- iii. Verge management, esp. more widely in Essex (Celina)
Some verges in Essex mown with no reason before seeding: Celina to talk to Lee
Lorraine to investigate mowing policies of Qualis (for the District) and Essex Highways

- iv. How to identify what grant funding is available this year for replacing non native hedges with native ones (as recommended in the biodiversity report) *See 2.b.i above*
- c. Wider engagement: how can we engage with local stakeholders and residents?
Ideas:
 - *Stall at next year's fête*
 - *Local naturalists showing people different species: bat walk? Fungi walk? Ask Lambourne field study centre for help?*
 - *Packets of seeds*
 - *Supporters mailing list & newsletter, or just get on the Facebook local feeds*
 - *Improving recycling facilities?****To return to this in September - plan a definite event for the autumn***
- 5. (5 mins) Next meeting: Wednesday 6th September, 8-9pm, at the cemetery (*Chris to confirm after checking with Scott*)