

Chigwell Climate Action Working Group

March 13th 2023, 6:30-7:30pm

On zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81216043953?pwd=MVNFG90d2NwbWpFTkVKZy9EeXhoUT09>

Meeting ID: 81216043953

Password: 1wP7Q0*XhT

Minutes (draft)

1. Welcomes (all)
 - a. Present: Cllr Naveed Akhtar, Richard Coates, Cllr Elliot Costa, Scott Donovan, Karen Kuderovitch, Chris Lord (chair), Erika Skingsley, Lorraine Smart, Sam Warren
2. Report on where we are
 - a. Queries arising from the most recent terms of reference (Chris & Karen)
 - i. (para 1) The group is sometimes called the Chigwell Climate Emergency Group, and sometimes the Chigwell Climate Action Working Group. The name should be consistent.
'Chigwell Climate Action Working Group'
 - ii. (para 1) The climate emergency was declared in 2021, not 2001.
Agreed: 2021
 - iii. (para 4) 'The Climate Action Working Group will meet bi-monthly with frequency and timings to be determined by the working group.' - does that mean we can meet when we want, or does it have to be bi-monthly?
'At least bi-monthly'
 - iv. (para 5) 'The membership of the Climate Emergency Working Group will be noted at full council. It will consist of at least two Chigwell Parish Councillors, District & County representatives' - does this mean we must have members at District and County level?
Limit it to two Parish councillors
 - b. Emissions (Chris)

- i. Calculation of carbon footprint
Chris gave a brief history of what the working group has done so far, particularly the calculation of the parish council's carbon footprint.
 - ii. carbonfootprint.com
We decided not to engage with these consultants for advice on how to reduce our footprint, at least until after we had already taken the initial straightforward steps (see 3a below).
- c. Biodiversity (Scott and Sam)
- i. Essex Wildlife Trust management plans
Scott: all in place. EWT's management plans are good. We haven't got a mower that collects, which it ideally should. Need to change tools too, in order to enhance biodiversity. Previous contracts are constraints. Lots of work to do! (too much...). Volunteers? Possibly... Some litter-picking is already in place. Looking for more employees to support Scott and Sam.
 - ii. Sam: proposal for a topsoil/compost plan - do it all in-house. To look at this in more detail next meeting. Top-end quote: £82k, but cheaper options are available. Naveed - this ties in with the community garden (see next point).
 - iii. Naveed: new project for a community garden (the 'Parish Meadow', behind the offices), local schools growing crops, farmers/gardeners to teach the kids; then cooking the vegetables! Then other kinds of garden. Funding nearly in place. Working with charities - a national scheme - Chigwell could be a model. Link ups with Grange Farm (Sunflower group) and local schools: Chris to put Naveed and Karen in touch with the people there.
 - iv. Karen: heard of examples where local people had taken over the management of parcels of land. Have we done this? Scott: a few attempts in the past but nothing much - e.g. St Mary's Way bee garden. Agreed to try and kickstart this again, in St Mary's Way and Barnaby Wood.

3. Possible actions for short and medium term (all)

- a. Emissions: engage carbonfootprint.com to design a plan to reduce our emissions?
General view to reduce it ourselves first: Renewable electricity supplier - in hand. Next Monday's (20th) full council meeting should have a proposal for this (Green Energy Advice Bureau - who are giving us free advice). Richard - make sure we check the company they

*recommend - due diligence. Karen to send Richard where we are so far.
We also have quotations for changing light bulbs to LED.*

- b. Biodiversity: *lots happening already (see above (c))*
 - c. Wider engagement: *on Monday Karen to recommend biodiversity as the council's theme for the annual parish meeting; newsletters too. Fuller discussion at the next meeting.*
4. Next meeting: date, format (in person?), main agenda items
Chris to send a doodle poll for mid-April.