



HAVERHILL
TOWN COUNCIL

Haverhill Town Council

Notes of a Meeting of Haverhill Town Council's

ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY WORKING PARTY

Held remotely on Monday 18th September 2023 at 7.00pm

Present: Mayor D Smith
Councillor J Burns (Chair)
Councillor A Luccarini
Councillor L Miller-Jones (from 7.08pm)

Apologies: Councillor L Smith
Gary Wilson, Operations Manager
Sara Marsh, Events Manager

Absent: Councillor J Mason
Councillor D Page

In Attendance: Colin Poole, Town Clerk
Jane Lomas, Council Administrator

Three members of the public were present:
Claire Ling, Suffolk Climate Change Partnership
Nan Eshelby
Angelica Cofer, Castle Manor School

Welcome:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded Councillors that the working party has no delegated powers and can only make recommendations to Full Council.

MINUTES

		ACTION
ES23 /040	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> The above apologies were noted.	
ES23 /041	<u>Declarations of Interest and requests for Dispensation</u> None.	
ES23 /042	<u>Minutes of the previous meeting</u> It was proposed by Councillor D Smith, seconded by Councillor A Luccarini, that the minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 13 th June 2023 be agreed as a true record. RESOLVED	

ES23 /043	<u>Actions from the previous meeting not on the agenda</u> ES23/030 Application to join the Approved Energy Performance Framework – The Town Clerk confirmed that the Framework document has been signed and we are awaiting Cambridge to return them to us with confirmation. This will allow solar panels on the roof of the Zone, and a new heat and ventilation system for the Arts Centre building. Energy contracts will be switched this month. Urban Chain (West Suffolk Solar Farm) will provide all electricity, and gas will be supplied by British Gas. Corona who provides energy for the Zone have been informed of the switch. ES23/033 b) Cllr L Miller-Jones is waiting for Damien Parker to send possible meeting dates. ES23/033 d) Biodiversity Project site: The meeting clarified the area of land to ask about, at Railway Walk behind Lidl. The Clerk will make contact with Havebury Housing to ask what they know of the site. ES23/033 f) The Clerk is still trying to find the name of the responsible officer for wildlife corridors in the town.	Clerk Cllr L Miller-Jones Clerk Clerk
ES23 /044	<u>Public Forum</u> Claire Ling spoke about the work of the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership (SCCP), which is working with 172 different community groups sharing knowledge and resources (eg funding bids, grants, training). A bimonthly newsletter is sent to all groups on the database and she shared contact details for receiving the newsletter and/or further information (Appendix 1). SCCP's Facebook page shows nationwide initiatives, as well as for Suffolk. Claire described a project using thermal imaging cameras (attached to a smartphone) to survey houses for heat loss which helps with energy efficiency and carbon reduction. Sixty-two community groups took part in 2022, delivering a total of 152 weeks of surveying across Suffolk. However, take-up in West Suffolk was light. It was noted that often engagement in West Suffolk is challenging which may be because communities look to Newmarket (Cambridgeshire), the largest local town. Cllr D Smith asked how we can encourage engagement. Claire Ling advised that HTC contact SCCP who are willing to help. Claire informed the meeting that in November, two large face-to-face community events are planned: one in Bury St Edmunds and the other in Saxmundham. There will be stalls, a showcase panel, and guest speakers. HTC are invited to send two delegates. Nan Eshelby introduced Anjelica Cofer, who has offered to be the new contact at Castle Manor School. Once Angelica is settled in, she will meet with Nan Eshelby to explore the next steps regarding the Eco Club. At present this is for Castle Manor School but will hopefully link with the community on a wider scale in the future.	

Appendix 1

Links and Information provided by Claire Ling (SCCP)

Meetings (tickets are available through Eventbrite):

- East Suffolk – Saturday 4th November, 10:00-14:00, Saxmundham Market Hall.
- West Suffolk – Wednesday 8th November, 10:00-14:00, Unitarian Meeting House, Bury St Edmunds.

Contact: claire.ling@suffolk.gov.uk

Please see the two new initiatives below: Suffolk Climate Change Partnership – Green Suffolk. They have been created to assist likeminded community groups to share news and ideas, events, and projects as well as network:

- The Creating the Greenest County Community Network Facebook (private) page. Join here: <https://www.facebook.com/greenestcountycommunitynetwork/>
- The second is the Community Network which is a platform for connecting community groups working towards carbon net zero and environmental/eco initiatives. The community network has a newsletter sent via email every other month which aims to update, network, showcase, and share events such as the thermal imaging camera project. Here is the consent form for the database so we know what you are involved in and what projects you might be considering in the future:
<https://forms.office.com/r/gh315GyqBT>

<https://www.greensuffolk.org> is the address of our Suffolk creating the greenest county webpages.

<https://www.suffolknews.co.uk> speaks about Paul Martin in Great Bealings and his bee cafes project.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust community staff would be happy to help.

Groundwork East are always fabulous at assistance and they were working with making community gardens and food produce off local land.

Solar Together will be back soon and we will have a 0% green loan out in the next 6-8 weeks.

Another good group for assisting in greening areas for biodiversity is Greener Growth Not for Profit organisation: www.greenergrowth.co.uk

SCC have just switched to a new water company called Water Plus.

Warm Homes Suffolk for those off gas for heating and income less than £31,000 for insulation.