MEMBERS AND OFFICERS CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP MEETING NOTES

Date and Time: Tuesday 20 September, 14:30

Place: Teams Virtual Meeting

Present:

Cllr David Neighbour (Chair) - DN **CIIr Alan Oliver** - AO - GB **CIIr Gill Butler** Cllr Dr Anne Crampton - AC - SF **CIIr Steve Forster** John Elson - JE Mark Jaggard - MJ **Martin Hobley** - MH - SK Steph King Tamsin Briggs (Friends of the Earth) - TB

Jenny Murton (Minutes)

Item		Action
1.0	Introduction and apologies Apologies were received from Peter Summersell, Cllr James Radley, Adam Green and Wilf Hardy.	
2.0	Notes from previous meeting The previous meeting's Minutes were agreed	
3.0	Planning – Update from Planning & Building Control on decarbonising new homes. Followed by Q&A	
	MH who manages the Building Control team gave an update – notes are attached to these minutes.	
	MH suggested that the group go to the Future Homes Standard Hub for more information.	
	MJ asked MH to explain when new standards apply to new developments and to existing sites and planning permissions. MH confirmed that there is currently a transitional arrangement in place. If builders start after 15 th June 2023, they are subject to 'rules of the day'.	
	AO questioned what the definition of starting a plot meant and MH confirmed that it is when physical foundations have been laid.	

AO also asked what the council can do in additional to tighten up minimum standards. MH replied that the council is pushing hard to be 80% better than May 2022 and the Planning department do have the ability to set other standards if required. MJ reminded the group that Daniel Hawes had already bought a draft TAN for energy efficiency for new development homes to Overview & Scrutiny Committee, and this group as well. Further work could also be considered by the team. MJ and MH briefly mentioned EV charging points, how financial limits are set out per plot and that two quotes per energy supplier are required. SF reminded the group that many homes (possibly 30-35%) have on-street parking where EV charging points could not be fitted. DH questioned the EV conditions placed on new build homes. MH encouraged the group to email any further questions through to him. DN asked MH to confirm the difference between Building Regulations Legislation he's seen recently and Permitted Development Rights. DN specifically mentioned overheating regulations and loft conversions. MH reported there had been approximately 1200 applications last year to the council and half were Permitted Development. SF asked the group, as a council what could be done to encourage residents to be more energy efficient when undertaking building work and to strive for more than the minimum standards. The group agreed that this was vital and would be built into future communications were applicable. Action: It was proposed by MJ for SK and MH to have a SK & separate conversation on communication issues when MH appropriate. 4.0 **Communications Update & Big Green Week** SK gave an update on the latest communication work: A large focus currently is the Big Green Week. SK and the Countryside team had attended Hook Schools Summer Fair.

- There had been regular updates to staff and councillors on schemes, grants, and upcoming events.
- Solar Together 2022 is soon to end.
- The Sustainable Warmth Scheme is progressing slightly more now (aimed at people on lower incomes with large housing costs).

SK summarised that Big Green Week starts on 24th September and runs until early October. One of the Council's main focuses for this campaign is looking at planet pledges, which councillors and staff have suggested to her.

ACTION: SK asked the group to send any further planet pledge ideas to her.

SK highlighted the upcoming Yateley Sustainability Fair where the council's Countryside team has a stand and the Council's Showcase event on 29th September at the Harlington.

SK is also working on an Eco Fair with local retailer Scoop, which is a free family event on October 1st in the Hart Shopping Centre.

SK continues to work on the website expansion and climate change branding.

AO questioned the Sustainable Homes grants and queried how the council targets the relevant people who could benefit from them.

SK summarised that it's the Managing Agents responsibility for distributing these grants, but the promotion is the Council's responsibility.

GB suggested that ward councillors could work where appropriate to target residents who may be suitable for Sustainable Warmth grants.

Action: SK to look further at how specific groups can be targeted for these grants.

SF asked for an update on the previously discussed infra-red (thermal imaging) cameras.

JE confirmed that the camera idea is still being developed and discussions are ongoing with senior management. JE highlighted that some Parish Councils manage their own camera loaning scheme.

GB reiterated the need to set a deadline to implement the camera scheme and the group all agreed that they wanted to see it accelerated as soon as possible.

DN confirmed it could be an Executive Decision not a Cabinet one.

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SK

	SF is keen to see more information highlighted to residents on e- bikes and the possibility of local retailer Pedal Heaven getting involved in the Eco Fair on October 1 st .	
	ACTION: SK to investigate including e-bikes for the upcoming Eco Fair and if this is not possible to look at developing opportunities in the future.	sĸ
	ACTION: JE and DN to speak to senior leadership about the infra-red (thermal imaging) camera scheme.	JE & DN
	SF highlighted the group Hampshire EVs to SK.	
5.0	Update Hart Climate Change Action Plan	
	JE confirmed that Sustrans have now been appointed by the council and this work sits with the Place directorate.	
	JE reminded the group that the Carbon Pathway report is going to Overview & Scrutiny on 27 th September and Cabinet for endorsement in October. The Council will produce its own updated Climate Change Action Plan following this.	
	Solar PV installation has been delayed until 24 th October – 5 th November.	
	The project to replace the Council's carpark lighting with LEDs is ongoing and a survey has been commissioned.	
	The EV charging points project went to Cabinet in August and work is ongoing on a feasibility study.	
	SF declared a business interest (rapid charging) in the EV charging project due to his work with the infrastructure business.	
	ACTION: PS to provide a written update to the group when he returns.	PS
6.0	AOB	
	All to send SK any more pledges for Big Green Week. TB has saled BS to determine in his undeterwhen the final	
	 TB has asked PS to determine in his update when the final plan is expected to be in place. 	PS
	DN thanked JE for all his work as it was his last meeting.	
	Date of Next Meeting	
	22 November – time TBC	

Meeting ended at 15:47.