



Ottery St Mary Town Council

Minutes of the **REGENERATION AND CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING** of **OTTERY ST MARY TOWN COUNCIL** on **THURSDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2022** at **6.00pm**. The meeting was held at the Council Offices, OSM EX11 1BZ.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor (**Chair**), Cllrs Grainger, Green, Martin, Copus and the Deputy CEO

OTHER PERSONS PRESENT:- Dave Moss, Joe Williams, Jill Dixon, Nick Sneller Brian Nelson, Lisette Johnston, and David Knox.

RCA22/02/01

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Vicky Johns (Mayor), Cllr Stewart, Vicky Mclachlan, John Waddingham, Amber Waddingham, Emma Grainger and Fiona Pavelin

RCA22/02/02

TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND RECEIPT OF REQUESTS FOR NEW DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPIS) DISPENSATIONS FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

No interests were declared.

RCA22/02/03

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 (PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST BY REASON OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED): TO AGREE ANY ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH AFTER THE PUBLIC AND PRESS HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED

No confidential items are to be discussed.

RCA22/02/04

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGENERATION AND CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE OF 12TH NOVEMBER 2021 (MINUTE REFS RCA21/11/01 – RCA21/09/14) AND TO APPROVE THE SIGNING OF THE MINUTES BY THE CHAIR AS A CORRECT RECORD

The minutes of 12th November 2021 (Minute refs RCA21/11/01 – RCA21/11/14) were reviewed and signed as a true record of the meeting.

RCA22/02/05

CONFIRM UPDATED TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference will be updated once a consultant has been appointed to give them the opportunity to include their comments and to reconfirm the vision of the committee.

Chair`s Initials.....

RCA22/02/06

TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK FROM GROUP LOOKING AT THE REGENERATION PRIORITIES

Thanks were given to Dave Moss for producing three flow charts which were reviewed by Cllrs Lucas and Green. Mr Moss stressed that there needs to be a decision on whether the committee work is going to be based on the Neighbourhood Plan viewpoint or an alternative viewpoint. It was noted that the Neighbourhood Plan contains bigger projects although there was a view that some smaller projects were needed to galvanise community support and maintain enthusiasm. It was acknowledged that there is a limited number of people available so it is going to be necessary to recruit additional volunteers.

RCA22/02/07

TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK FROM THE GROUP LOOKING AT THE CLIMATE ACTION PRIORITIES

Cllr Green gave a presentation which included information compiled by Joe Williams. The priorities are mitigation and to decide what adaptations that need to be made. The consultant, when appointed, will be co-ordinating the work required. It was suggested that the Council contact the Country and Land Association who may be able to help. It is important to look at all elements including heritage, regeneration, employment and repurposing of buildings. An important priority is to ensure every house is insulated adequately. Another priority is to have electric charging points. It was felt it is still worth pursuing the Tumbling Weir to generate electricity. It was agreed it would be worth contacting Regeneration South West at Exeter University. It was **AGREED** that Climate Action will be headed by Cllr Martin, Joe Williams and Jill Dixon.

RCA22/02/08

TO CONSIDER ANY REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS (IF APPROPRIATE) IN RESPECT OF THE REGENERATION OF THE TOWN AND CLIMATE ACTION

Cllrs Green and Lucas have met with members of Ottery in Bloom and have looked at the various areas within the town and discussed concerns with Idverde and where the new planters will be placed. Brian Nelson spoke to the Committee on behalf of Ottery in Bloom and advised that three key members of the group are considering their position. An emergency meeting of Ottery in Bloom is being called. The scoring for the Britain in Bloom competition is 40% horticulture, 30% community involvement and 30% environment. It was noted that Begonias are not bee friendly. The Council would like to involve Otter Garden Centres to support the entry and to compliment the extensive experience of the members of Ottery in Bloom. It was confirmed that due to the short timescales involved the easiest thing was to replace areas where planters are already in place. The new planters will be deeper which will mean different plants can be planted in them. It was suggested that peat free soil should be used. It was noted that additional volunteers are needed to support the work of Ottery in Bloom. Cllr Lucas will check the location of the proposed planters at the Library to ensure that they do not interfere with the location of the Christmas Tree.

RCA22/02/09

Chair`s Initials.....

TO FURTHER CONSIDER PROFESSIONAL CONSULTATION IN REGARD TO VARIOUS LARGER REGENERATION AND CLIMATE ACTION PROJECTS UNDER CONSIDERATION

Two meetings have been held with potential consultants and a third will be arranged shortly. It is hoped that a consultant will be appointed before the next committee meeting.

RCA22/02/10

TO RECEIVED UPDATE REGARDING THE WELCOME BACK FUND

The Council has secured a £10,000 grant to be spent on a replacement bench for Tip Hill and for new planters around the town made of sustainable oak. This will be installed by mid-March in line with the grant criteria.

RCA22/02/11

TO CONSIDER SECTION 106 PROJECTS FOR LAND OF CANAAN

Cllr Green has spoken to EDDC regarding the proposed projects and it appears that a replacement bridge would be a very big project. The suggestions include a community shelter and a youth shelter.

RCA22/02/12

TO WELCOME COMMENTS AND IDEAS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Dave Knox spoke about his plans for increasing the profile and events available to the community of Ottery St Mary through the King of Clubs and also as music champion for East Devon. It was raised whether a MUGA is the most appropriate thing to be built at Strawberry Lane and whether a bike track has been considered. It was noted that a covenant is in place stipulating that there cannot be a bike track on the land. Other ideas such as archery will be considered.

RCA22/02/13

TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS IN RELATION TO REGENERATION AND CLIMATE ACTION

None.

SIGNATURE OF CHAIR	
DATE OF SIGNATURE	

Chair`s Initials.....