

KEYNSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment & Sustainability Committee held on
Tuesday 30th May 2023 at 7pm in Keynsham Town Council Office, Temple Street, Keynsham.

PRESENT: Councillors C Brennan, E Cannon, C Davis, A Greenfield, C Leonard
and H MacFie

NOT PRESENT: Cllr S Alenshasy

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: James Boxall-Clasby (JBC)

IN ATTENDANCE: Katherine Sears – Deputy Town Clerk

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2023/2024

RESOLVED:

That Councillor A Greenfield be appointed as Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee for the Municipal Year 2023/2024.

2 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN 2023/2024

RESOLVED:

That Councillor C Leonard be appointed as Vice Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee for the Municipal Year 2023/2024.

3 MEMBERSHIP OF THE ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE 2023/2024

RESOLVED:

Noted that Councillors S Alenshasy, C Brennan, E Cannon, C Davis, C Leonard, A Greenfield and H MacFie are the appointed members of the Environment and Sustainability Committee for the Municipal Year 2023/2024, as agreed at the Annual Meeting of the Town Council on 23rd May 2023.

4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received and accepted from Jon Parker and Ros Durrant.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest were received from:

Cllr C Brennan in respect of Keynsham Music Festival

Cllr C Leonard in respect of ethical banking as she works for Triodos Bank UK

Cllr H MacFie in respect of Keynsham Community Energy

Usher 11/7/23

6 DISPENSATIONS
There were none.

7 TERMS OF REFERENCE

RECOMMENDATION:

To recommend to Town Council the following amendments (in blue) to Terms of Reference:

NAME OF COMMITTEE	ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
MEMBERSHIP	<p>7 Members of the Town Council</p> <p>5 (Lead) Community Representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynsham Plastics Reaction • Keynsham Wombles • Keynsham Active Travel • Keynsham In Bloom • Churches Together <p>2 Business Representatives – one large employer, one High Street independent trader</p> <p>1 B&NES Ward Councillor</p> <p>B&NES Cabinet member for ClimateEmergency and Neighbourhoods</p>
OFFICERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominated B&NES Officer • Town Clerk or Deputy Town Clerk of the Town Council
TERMS OF REFERENCE	<p>(i) To make recommendations to the Town Council on an Action Plan to implement its Single Use Plastic Policy and monitor progress towards implementation.</p> <p>(ii) To formulate a climate change and ecological emergency policy and action plan for adoption by Town Council, to include a proposed date for reaching net zero, and monitor progress towards implementation and delivery.</p> <p>(iii) To consider how the Town Council can best achieve its corporate objectives, priorities and actions so as to minimise or eliminate carbon emissions, single use plastics and the adverse impacts of climate change.</p> <p>(iv) To champion positive and constructive actions to support the climate change and single use plastics agendas across</p>

	<p>the Town Council's operations, and broader sphere of influence.</p> <p>(v) To champion the case for Biodiversity and ecosystem recovery in Keynsham and surrounding areas.</p> <p>(vi) To work with community partners and stakeholders, to encourage and support the community and residents to meet the objectives to reach net zero.</p>
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8 RECORD OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Environment and Sustainability Committee meeting held on 24th January 2023 be received and noted.

9 KEYNSHAM TOWN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT PLAN

i) Cllr Greenfield took the opportunity here to introduce, in his opinion, the 2 main elements of KTC's impact within the E&S Committee.

1) KTC Grants for local community organisations and volunteers working hard to make a positive environmental impact.

2) Eco Festival, explaining that this was introduced three years ago, Churches Together took this on after it's first year and organised two very successful festivals, but felt that at the last festival in 2022, they were talking to the converted so this year they are holding an Eco Village as part of Keynsham Music Festival. There was a discussion about that potentially the Eco Festival would be good to do every other year. All agreed that it's a great event and should continue. This led to a discussion around other events with an E&S ethos that could be part of the Project Plan, a charity shop catwalk to promote sustainable fashion. Cllr Brennan was keen to take this to the EATH Committee.

JBC suggested talks from University of Bath on Climate Emergency.

Cllr MacFie suggested more outreach and presence at the Farmer's Markets in Keynsham.

The Project Plan was discussed, Cllr Leonard stated that it needs dates and resources requirements, such as budgets, grants, personnel and time. Cllr Cannon agreed that 5 columns are needed to give a clear indication of what the priority is and how to achieve it.

RESOLVED:

i) That a separate meeting be held with Cllrs Leonard, Greenfield, Cannon and MacFie to discuss and proposed amendments to the E&S Committee Project Plan at the next meeting.

Cllr MacFie explained that not enough has been done to reduce the CO2 emissions and that we need to do more to encourage the people of Keynsham to change their habits. If we could find 10 things that people could do and provide supporting documentation for each, conduct a survey of the involvement of people and then repeat in a year to compare the impact.

RESOLVED:

*Clr G-d
11/2/22*

- ii) *Cllr Greenfield proposed to take this to the separate Project Plan meeting and to incorporate a survey into the plan.*

10 KEYNSHAM TOWN COUNCIL 4 YEAR PLAN

RESOLVED:

To recommend to Town Council that Objective 1.1 be split into two parts. Single Use Plastic being one and show that this has been implemented and happening and then climate emergency as a separate section.

11 BRISTOL EAST FRINGE CYCLING AND WALKING GROUP

RESOLVED:

Received and noted the update from Jon Parker.

Cllr Greenfield took the opportunity to thank Cllr Brennan for her hard work and commitment with Sustrans to clear a large stretch of the cycle path/pavement on Willsbridge Road.

12 CONNECTING CYCLE AND FOOTPATHS (CROSS COUNTY BORDERS)

JBC provided the following update from Keynsham Active Travel (KAT):

Bilbie Green roundabout to Redlynch Lane junction;

- *2 bike lanes (North/South), a pavement, barriers, a 6m wide road for cars and a 30mph speed restriction on the section. There is sufficient room for this along most of this section.*
- *The safety of the Redlynch Lane junction towards Queen Charlton is particularly important, if the road closure is to be widely used as an active travel route.*
- *CIL application was denied: Broadly favourable reception, but insufficient funding, and no clear funding source for the works if the feasibility study and design consultation were completed.*

Next steps:

Coordinate with Nick Helps (B&NES Active Travel Manager) for resubmission in 2023.

Discuss supplementary funding. We are considering approaching BWCE and Chelwood Community Fund.

Charlton Road and QC Lane trial road closure.

We remain broadly in favour of the road closure, with some key reservations in this case.

No mitigations have been made for road safety on Woollard Lane/Charlton Road for the increase in traffic on these roads, particularly active travel users from e.g., Compton Dando, Woollard, Pensford.

The junctions at either end of the route are of paramount importance for encouraging active travel. For our purposes, we would like to highlight for Keynsham Town Council the Redlynch Lane junction in this case. This is the main obstacle to the wide-spread use of closed QC Lane as an active travel route.

We are concerned that our sincere and constructive criticism may be lost in the official feedback form, which only allows us to select Support, Partially Support or Object - the nuance of our position might thus be easily lost.

Again, we would like to strongly advocate for the reduction of the speed limit to 30mph from Redlynch Lane, and 40mph for the rest of its length. Traffic calming is also necessary around Parkhouse Lane junction.

Redlynch lane in particular is an accident black-spot.

Multiple car/bike collisions have occurred between Bilbie Green Roundabout and Parkhouse Lane junction just in the past year.

This is something we are advocating for both within and beyond the Queen Charlton/Whitchurch Village Liveable Neighbourhoods scheme.

RESOLVED:

That the information be received and noted and that JBC be thanked for the update. JBC has been advised to contact local BANES Councillor and to note that this stretch of road is beyond the area of Keynsham Town Council.

13 TREE PLANTING

RESOLVED:

That Councillors email DTC any suggestions for tree planting.

DTC to contact the Friends of Manor Road Community Woodland to enquire whether they have space for any trees.

DTC to keep the Grounds Team involved on suitable places.

To prepare for a tree giveaway at a Farmers Market if we cannot locate a suitable planting solution.

14 FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE TRAINING

RESOLVED:

That the feedback from Cllr Biddleston be received and noted.

Cllr Leonard reported that we need to advertise the co-benefits to engage with the community and that data puts a lot of people off.

Cllr Greenfield suggested people submit pictures of their wildflowers from our giveaways for a prize or trophy.

15 ROOFTOP REVOLUTION

RESOLVED:

DTC to invite Alastair Singleton to the next E&S meeting to discuss the progress of the solar panels on the Keynsham Leisure Centre.

16 WESSEX WATER – TACKLING STORM OVERFLOW

RESOLVED:

That the letter from Wessex Water be received and noted.

17 NATURE CHAIN

RESOLVED:

Defer to next meeting when Philippa Paget can provide an update.

18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the next meeting of this Committee will be held on TUESDAY 11th JULY 2023 at 7.00 p.m. in Keynsham Town Council office.

The meeting ended at 9.10p.m.

SIGNED:  (Chairman) Dated: 

