

KEYNSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment & Sustainability Committee held on
Tuesday 11th July 2023 at 7pm in Keynsham Town Council Office, Temple Street, Keynsham.

PRESENT: Councillors E Cannon, C Davis, A Greenfield, C Leonard, H Macfie
Cllr Wait (BANES)

NOT PRESENT: Cllr S Alenshasy

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

James Boxall-Clasby (JBC) – Keynsham Active Travel
Ros Durrant (RD) – Eco Festival
Alastair Singleton (AS) – Keynsham Community Energy
Jon Parker (JP) - The Bristol East Fringe Cycling & Walking Group

IN ATTENDANCE: Katherine Sears – Deputy Town Clerk

13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Brennan.

14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

15 DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

16 RECORD OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Environment and Sustainability Committee meeting held on 30th May 2023 be received and noted.

17 ROOFTOP REVOLUTION

NB this agenda item 11 was brought forward.

AS gave an update from Keynsham Community Energy on the solar panel project on the two roofs of the Riverside development. This was started back in 2016 when AS first started communications with BANES. The project will feed power to the Leisure Centre at a discounted

price compared to the market, this would be a community owned project which would generate funds for local projects typically to do with carbon reduced, renewal energy and energy saving. Project has moved slowly, mainly because the installation was initially going to take place when the building was originally constructed. ADL were reluctant to allow solar panels to be put on during the development in fear of delaying the project, but before ALD handed it over BANES ensured they installed the wiring from the road to the Leisure Centre.

Since then, the original model will not now work as the flats in Riverside have been sold, so BANES are no longer the sole owners and they would have to get permission from the individual flat owners, these residents wouldn't have any financial gain in the project. GLL (Leisure Centre) are putting pressure on BANES along with Councillors. Request for KTC to send a letter to BANES requesting movement on this project.

Currently talking to schools, religious buildings, commercial premises in the area about putting solar panels on roofs and optimistic that one of these will be successful. Been giving energy saving advice to residents over the Winter and working with Children's Centre giving slow cookers, ingredients and recipe books to families. Still interested in KTC original thoughts of having a group buying scheme for solar PV in the town and will be happy to move this project forward.

Discussion about the French Government have approved that any car park over a certain size must have solar panels under which people will park. AS said that BANES are keen to move idea forward as Ashton Way is not in green belt unlike the P&P.

RESOLVED:

- (i) **KTC to write to the Cabinet Member to request pressure be put on this project.**
- (ii) **Cllr Wait to add to the agenda of the BANES Scrutiny Panel.**

18 BRISTOL EAST CYCLE AND WALKING PATHS

NB this agenda item 6 was brought forward.

JP gave update on the following:

Willsbridge and Keynsham cycle link - WECA have approved the outline business case. Thanks, given to KTC for publicising the consultation. WECA also allocated full funding for the full business case hopefully generated by end of 2024, overall, very positive.

Ring Road path - £200k allocated from Active Travel to carry out a study from Warmley to Longwell Green to report on route through Barrs Court residential area, report should be in by end of March 2024 which will lead to bidding for delivery funding.

Railway Path – Encouraging news. Improvement programme funded by City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements. Looking at the hazardous areas of the railway path. Also, Sustrans are looking at the barriers, bollards and pinch points.

Started to design map showing aspirational active travel across the area. This will enable local authorities to go to WECA and help them update the cycling and walking infrastructure plan with community led requests.

RESOLVED:

That the information be received and noted.

19 CONNECTING CYCLE AND FOOTPATHS (CROSS COUNTY BORDERS)

NB this agenda item 7 was brought forward.

Clr Wait confirmed that Taylor Wimpey are committed to building the cycle lane along the road, which will require knocking down the large wall by the over flow station car park.

JBC gave update on the following:

Meeting scheduled with Keynsham Active Travel and BANES Councillors and KTC Councillors to discuss what is feasible in a TRO along the section of the top of Charlton Road to Redlynch Lane junction, with the aim being to have pavements, cycle paths and reduction in the speed limit.

RESOLVED:

That the information be received and noted.

20 KEYNSHAM TOWN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT PLAN

Working Party met to discuss how to structure the plan and determine priorities. Will meet again in a few weeks' time and report back.

RESOLVED:

That an update be provided at the next E&S meeting.

21 TREE PLANTING

The list of tree planting requests was presented.

RESOLVED:

- (i) DTC to go through the list, update it and ascertain the ownership of the land.*
- (ii) DTC to send selected streets to Councillors for them to speak and ask residents if they agree and whether they will take on watering.*
- (iii) Clr Wait to ask the residents of Conway Green.*

22 UPCYCLE/CHARITY FASHION SHOW with ECO FESTIVAL

Update received on the new event focussing on Upcycle and Pre-Loved businesses, with a charity fashion and a platform for up cycle companies, promoting sustainable fashion and lifestyle. Funding can come from the HAZ Project if the venue will be on the High Street. Potentially 22nd October 2023.

RESOLVED:

That the update be received and noted.

23 WEST OF ENGLAND LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY WEBINAR

No Councillors present attended the meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the DTC enquire if the webinar was recorded and if so, circulate to Committee.

24 ECO FESTIVAL

Although not on the agenda, with the agreement of the Committee an update from RD was given on the Eco Festival.

This year the Eco Festival was part of the Music Festival in July, following the feedback from last year. It was set up as an Eco Village with 18 stalls, a good range of charities, businesses and organisations. Feedback was good and the stall holders weren't preaching to the converted as in previous years.

JBC said that he can put RD in touch with Bath University Institute for Sustainability as they can do outreach for these events, involving children in Science and Research.

RESOLVED:

That the update be received and noted.

25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the next meeting of this Committee will be held on TUESDAY 26th September 2023 at 7.00 p.m. in Keynsham Town Council office.

The meeting ended at 8.10 p.m.

SIGNED:..... (Chairman) Dated:.....