

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of Sidmouth Town Council's
Environment Working Group held on
Monday 11 July 2022 at 6.30pm

Councillors present: Ian Barlow (Chair)
Denise Bickley
Richard Thurlow
Deidre Hounsom
Rachel Perram
Louise Cole

Invited Reps: Ed Dolphin (Sidmouth Arboretum)
Dave Bramley (Sidmouth Science Festival)
Diana East (Sidmouth Arboretum)
Jon Ball (Sidmouth Arboretum)
Jeremy Woodward (Vision Group of Sidmouth)
Catherine Causley (EDDC Climate Officer)
Richard Eley (Chamber of Commerce)

Apologies Cllr Chris Lockyear, Cllr Clarissa Evens

The meeting started at 6.30pm and finished at 7.55pm

PART 'A'

1 Minutes

The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 25 April 2022 were confirmed and agreed as a true record subject to the following amendments:

2 Declarations of Interest

Name	Item Number	Type	Action Taken	Details
Cllr Denise Bickley	All items	Personal	Remained in the Meeting during discussion and voting	Member of Extinction Rebellion, Member of Friends of the Earth, Member of Greenpeace, Chair of Sidmouth Plastic Warriors Member of Sidmouth Biodiversity Group
Cllr Rachel Perram	All items	Personal	Remained in the Meeting during discussion and voting.	Member of Sidmouth Plastic Warriors

3 Matters of Urgency and Report

There were no matters of urgency or report.

4 Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED: that the classification given to the documents to be submitted to the Council, be confirmed, and that the reports relating to exempt information, be dealt with under Part B.

5 Natural Environment:

The Working Group considered a new ambitious target to plant 14,000 trees (1 for every person that lives in the Sid Valley)

A group was setup consisting of Ed Dolphin, Diana East and Ian Barlow to look at the feasibility and of 1,000 trees being planted by April 2023. The group would approach farmers, landowners and others looking to find suitable areas to plant the trees.

They would look to plant the remaining 13,000 trees within 4-5years.

- 6** The Working Group considered funding tabards for Friends of Glen Goyle
Jeremy Woodward requested £160 for 20 tabards for the Friends of the Glen, this was to make them look more official when they were out working. This was agreed. The group asked that Sidmouth Town Council be printed on the tabards along with FOG. (Friends of Glen)

7 Built Environment

The Working Group considered setting up a small Sub Working Group, to investigate how to reduce the cluttering of the town centre with unnecessary signage and to the possibility of additional planters within the road layout to help improve the appearance of the town centre (including the repurposing of the telephone boxes) to add interest and vibrancy to the town centre whilst having particular regard to improving the environment and benefitting the economy.

The sub-working group was set up to include Richard Thurlow, Richard Eley and Deidre Hounsom. It was agreed that they could work on the issue as one item or split it in to 2 parts if this was deemed necessary.

8 Sustainability

The Working Group considered setting up a small Sub Working Group, to look into the long-term production of electricity in the Sid valley including solar, wind and hydro and other means of production to help make Sidmouth more sustainable.

A sub working group was set up to include Richard Thurlow, Dave Bramley, Jon Ball and Chris Lockyear. It was agreed that the group would also examine providing charging points at the Knowle car park, which was currently owned by East Devon District Council, but which would be transferred to the Town Council.

- 9** The Working Group considered setting up a small Sub Working Group, to include a member of the Chamber of Commerce, to produce a investigative report showing how Sidmouth could be made more 'plastic aware' and how reduce unnecessary plastic packaging in local businesses. The group would look at how it could be achieved, implemented and what, if any, financial resources would be required. A sub-working group was set up to include Denice Bickley, Rachel Perram and a member of the Chamber of Commerce (Dan Lakeman).

10 Engagement

The Working Group considered setting up a small Sub Working Group, to examine how to better engage with groups and the population to encourage them to better engage with the green agenda locally.

A sub working group was setup of Denice Bickley and Dave Bramley and given the challenge to get local people more engaged in the green agenda.

11 Items raised by invited representatives

Innovation and Resilience Fund (IRF) bid presentation

A short presentation from Cllr Louise Cole about the successful IRF bid was given and a short discussion resulting focussing around sustainable tourism and the part this committee can play in its success.

12 Exclusion of the Public and Press

RESOLVED: That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of its contents.

PART 'B'

13 School Weir Fish Pass project

Councillor Thurlow gave a project update as the Town Council's representative on the group.

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CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

