

HUNTINGDON TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

To: All Members of the Environment Sub Committee

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONSED TO ATTEND
a meeting of the
ENVIRONMENT SUB COMMITTEE
to be held in
TOWN HALL, MARKET HILL, HUNTINGDON
on
THURSDAY 24th AUGUST 2023
at **approximately 7:30pm**
following the Planning Applications Panel.

AGENDA

12. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive any apologies for absence

13. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda (see notes)

14. **MINUTES**

To receive and approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Sub Committee held on 18th July 2023 (M1)

15. **ADDRESS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND TOWN COUNCILLORS TO SUB COMMITTEE**

To hear any address to the Sub Committee from members of the public and other members of the Town Council on matters within the responsibility of this Sub Committee.

16. **ENVIRONMENT UPDATES**

To receive a verbal update on ongoing environment projects, including:

- Eco Fair 2023 review
- Town Hall energy saving
- Community engagement

17. **FUTURE PROJECTS**

To discuss and prioritise ideas for future environmental projects.

18. **DATE AND AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING**

12th October 2023



**PHILIP PEACOCK
TOWN CLERK**

17th August 2023
Town Hall
Market Hill
Huntingdon
PE29 3PJ

This meeting will be serviced by the Town Clerk – 01480 410383

Copies for information to:

The Members of Huntingdon Town Council, Town Clerk & Deputy Town Clerk.

Notes

A. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

(1) Members are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests and unless you have obtained dispensation, cannot discuss or vote on the matter at the meeting and must also leave the room whilst the matter is being debated or voted on.

(2) A Member has a disclosable pecuniary interest if it

(a) relates to you, or

(b) is an interest of -

(i) your spouse or civil partner; or (ii) a person with whom you are living as husband and wife; or (iii) a person with whom you are living as if you were civil partners and you are aware that the other person has the interest.

(3) Disclosable pecuniary interests includes -

(a) any employment or profession carried out for profit or gain;

(b) any financial benefit received by the Member in respect of expenses incurred carrying out his or her duties as a Member (except from the Council);

(c) any current contracts with the Council;

(d) any beneficial interest in land/property within the Council's area;

(e) any licence for a month or longer to occupy land in the Council's area;

(f) any tenancy where the Council is landlord and the Member (or person in (2)(b) above) has a beneficial interest; or

(g) a beneficial interest (above the specified level) in the shares of any body which has a place of business or land in the Council's area.

B. Other Interests

(4) If a Member has a non-disclosable pecuniary interest or a non-pecuniary interest then you are required to declare that interest, but may remain to discuss and vote.

(5) A Member has a non-disclosable pecuniary interest or a non-pecuniary interest where -

(a) a decision in relation to the business being considered might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing of you or a member of your family or a person with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the council tax payers, rate payers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Council's administrative area, or (b) it relates to or is likely to affect any of the descriptions referred to above, but in respect of a member of your family (other than specified in (2)(b) above) or a person with whom you have a close association and that interest is not a disclosable pecuniary interest.

HUNTINGDON TOWN COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT SUB COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the Environment Sub Committee was held at Huntingdon Town Hall on Tuesday 18th July 2023.

Present: Councillors M Baker; K Brockett (Ex-Officio); S Gifford; G Hunt (Chairman); A McAdam; S McAdam; J Taylor and K Webb

In Attendance: 1 member of the public

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

The Deputy Mayor asked for nominations for the election of Chairman. It was proposed and seconded that Cllr G Hunt be appointed as Chair of the Environment Sub Committee for the ensuing year. With no further nominations, it was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to appoint Cllr G Hunt as Chair of the Environment Sub Committee for the local government year 2023/24.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor D Cole.

3. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman asked for nominations for the appointment of Vice Chairman. It was proposed and seconded that Councillor S McAdam be appointed as Vice Chairman of the Environment Sub Committee for the ensuing year. With no further nominations, it was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to appoint Cllr S McAdam as Vice Chairman of the Environment Sub Committee for the local government year 2023/24.

4. **TERMS OF COMMITTEE**

It was advised that the terms of committee were the same for all of the Council's committees and it was for Members to decide on the following:

- i. Whether the Environment Sub Committee was open to members of the public to attend. It was agreed that members of the public would be able to attend.
- ii. Whether the Environment Sub Committee should appoint any co-opted members for specific items that fall under the responsibility of the committee. It was agreed to co-opt members when and if it was required.
- iii. Whether all agendas and minutes should be kept/marked as 'Private and Confidential'. It was agreed that the agendas and minutes would be made available to the public.

5. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

6. **MINUTES**

Members had before them copies of the minutes of the Environment Sub Committee meeting held on 23rd February 2023 (M3). It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to approve and adopt these minutes.

7. **ADDRESS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND TOWN COUNCILLORS TO SUB COMMITTEE**

A Member indicated that they wished to speak, and it was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting.

Cllr S McAdam noted that he would like to see the Environment Sub-Committee meet more frequently and be more active with projects throughout the year. It was suggested that HTC should engage with other councils and community groups to work on environmental projects. It was requested that an item be added to the next agenda to brainstorm ideas for future projects for the committee.

Chris Jordan updated Members on the activities of several eco community groups including Huntingdon Eco Action Team (HEAT), the Eco Huntingdon Facebook page, Huntingdon Green Town and Wild About Huntingdon, and expressed support for HTC working with community groups. Members were reminded that the repair café event would be taking place at the Coneygear Centre on 25th August 2023.

Cllr Gifford expressed concern about the amount of litter around the town, and suggested engaging with the schools and other youth groups to educate young people. It was noted that Waste Minimisation Team at HDC had recently visiting local schools to discuss litter and recycling, and it was suggested that this could be an opportunity for HTC and HDC to work together on a project to address this further. It was requested that representatives from the Waste Minimisation Team be invited to attend the next Environment Sub Committee meeting.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their comments, and it was then proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to reconvene the meeting.

8. **ECO FAIR**

The Corporate Officer gave a verbal update on the upcoming Eco Fair event taking place on 22nd July 2023:

12 stalls had been confirmed for the event, as well as an exhibition of electric and hybrid vehicles by TC Harrison Ford, and a free clothes swap event taking place inside the Town Hall.

The event would include an HTC stall to showcase the environmental projects the council has worked on across all sites. The Estates Team were attending to display the composter, electric van and other electric equipment. Members were encouraged to attend and support the event and help man the HTC stall.

Members thanked the Corporate Officer for her work in organising the event.

9. **NET ZERO STRATEGY PROGRESS MONITORING**

Members had before them a spreadsheet outlining the progress of the recommendations made in the HTC Eco Audit Net Zero Strategy. It was explained this was intended to be a working document that was regularly updated to show what work had been done towards each recommendation.

It was noted that the Estates Manager and Facilities Officer were currently working on making improvements to the Town Hall windows to reduce drafts, and had requested quotes for transitioning the Town Hall to LED lighting. It was noted that members would need to look at which larger projects, such as boiler replacement, external cladding or solar panels, to prioritise as budget would need to be allocated in advance.

Members thanked Officers for their work. A Member noted that in addition to making improvements across the HTC sites, the Council should consider the environmental impact of all of its decisions, such as when commenting on planning applications or moving forward with projects that involved the loss of trees and green spaces.

10. **ECO PRODUCTS AUDIT**

The Corporate Officer informed Members that the Facilities Officer and Amenities Officer had worked to review the products being used across all HTC sites and source eco friendly alternatives. Most products were now ordered from a local supplier instead of ESPO to reduce both the cost and the carbon emissions from nationwide deliveries.

Members thanked Officers for their work, and noted it would be positive to share more about the internal work HTC was doing, such as the switch to eco-friendly alternatives, on social media and the Huntingdon magazine to make more residents aware and encourage others to make more eco-friendly choices.

11. **DATE & AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was noted as to be confirmed.

CHAIRMAN

ENVIRONMENT PROJECTS

Project Ideas:

- Youth engagement – visits to schools
- Littering
- Networking events with local environmental groups
- Talks/lecture events
- Refill campaign
- Promoting switch to sustainable/recyclable alternatives
 - Engaging with local food businesses re. takeaway packaging
- Promoting active travel
- Environment policies for the Huntingdon Neighbourhood Plan
- Climate strategy/environment policies
- Town Hall efficiency improvements
- Electric vehicles

Members should consider what budget is required for projects for the coming years and request money to be allocated during the 2024/25 budget setting process. There is currently no budget line for environment projects.