



Minutes of Meeting of the Environmental Committee held on 22 January 2024 at 6.30 pm Hybrid Meeting at the Ostreme Centre & via Teams

Councillors Present Helen Nelson (Chair), Sara Keeton, Rebecca Fogarty, Carrie Townsend Jones, and Emelie Cox.

Co-opted member present: Eddie Hall

Officers Present: Kerry-Leigh Grabham – Clerk and Ian Hughes – Committee Support Officer (CSO)

Prior to the meeting commencing The Chair, Cllr. Nelson introduced Martin Russell the MCC Grounds person to all committee members.

EN2401-01 Apologies: Cllrs. Martin O’Neil and Michael Parkin

The Chair, Cllr Nelson invited Cllr Fogarty to comment on the involvement of Plastic Free Mumbles. Cllr Fogarty’s response has been recorded under action updates, **EN2401-04** refers.

EN2401-02 Declarations of Interest: None

EN2401-03 Minutes of the previous Meeting of the Committee

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2023 as a true record.

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 11th December 2023 as a true record which was proposed by Cllr. Nelson and seconded Cllr. Townsend Jones.

**EN2401-04 Actions from previous meeting update**

The CSO updated the committee on all outstanding actions having previously circulated the full list of 'actions' to committee members.

RESOLVED: Outstanding actions updated and shown as complete where appropriate; details recorded in 'action' report, together with newly created actions.

EN2401-05 Budget Monitoring Report to 30/11/2023 - Paul Beynon, RFO
Reports attached.

Financial reports prepared by RFO Paul Beynon had previously been provided to councillors, the Clerk in the absence of the RFO offered to take questions in relation to these reports.

The use of Amazon as opposed to using local traders such as Cash Hardware was discussed.

ACTION: The Clerk to liaise with RFO over future purchases being made local to Mumbles where possible.

AGREED: The Chair, Cllr Nelson to discuss future monitoring reports and budgets with The Clerk on Friday 25th January 2024.

RESOLVED to approve the budget monitoring report to 30th November 2023

EN2401-06 Update Environment Officer - Monthly Report on current projects and overview:

Environmental reports prepared by Lydia Graham, the Environmental Officer had previously been provided to councillors. The Chair, Cllr Nelson in the absence of Lydia offered to take questions in relation to these reports.

Cllr Nelson stated that no date had been arranged for The Litter Picking Hub in Mumbles and The Committee focused on the following key points and developments: -



1. **Gardeners Question Time:** The venue and date of Gardeners Question Time to be confirmed, a number of councillors volunteered to assist with arrangements which have been detailed below as actions.

ACTION; Cllr Fogarty to provide Cllr Nelson with contact details of Jonathan Coombs.

ACTION; Cllr Sara Keeton to provide Cllr Nelson with contact details of Mr Trick

ACTION; Cllr Cox to assist with IT issues such as a background interactive screen during the event.

ACTION; Cllr Townsend Jones to contact Oystermouth Radio and liaise over their participation.

AGREED: Those attending to provide potential questions in advance to panel.

2. **Mumbles Buzz and Bloom.** The Committee stressed the need for the event to reflect the 'wild' or natural side of the environment. A number of judges have been approached with a date and venue to be confirmed.

ACTION; Cllr Nelson to recirculate a list of categories and suitable judges.

3. **Mumbles Green Heros,** A provisional date of 22nd February 2024 has been agreed for the event with the main theme relating to reducing waste. There will be a number of speakers including Chris Howells. Other aspects of reducing waste to be discussed include replacing one-use green bags with reusable containers and a wider range of re-cycling thin plastic. New commercial obligations connected with re-cycling will also be discussed.

4. **Wildflower Turf Planting;** Cllr Sara Keeton outlined how MCC's gardener, Martin Russell had prepared options for turf planting in The Mayals Area.

AGREED: Following the recent delegation of powers to The Clerk and RFO at January's Full Council Meeting; it was agreed that a budget of up to £2,100 should be used for turf planting in The Mayals Ward. Any underspent to be used at the discretion of Martin Russell up to a maximum of £2,100 on associated projects such as plug planting.



EN2401-07 **OVW Innovation Climate Change Toolkit**

Cllr Townsend Jones highlighted key points from the OVW Innovation Climate Change Toolkit Document that had been previously circulated to members. This included the need for simple steps to be taken in order to make a cumulative difference. In addition, how this toolkit could be linked with other projects including The Big Leap Forward was also discussed.

ACTION: Cllrs Townsend Jones and Cox together with The Clerk to discuss how MCC can implement the proposals contained within the toolkit. To be discussed at March Meeting.

ACTION: Lydia Graham to provide an update on The Big leap Forward at the March Meeting

Meeting concluded at 8.09pm

Next Meeting 26th February 2024



DRAFT



EN2312-06

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