

## **Minutes of Meeting of the Environmental Committee held on 27 January 2025 at 6.30 pm Hybrid Meeting Ostreme Centre and via Teams**

**Councillors Present:** Carrie Townsend Jones (Chair), Phil Keeton (Vice Chair), Sara Keeton and Rebecca Fogarty

**Co-opted Members Present:** Eddie Hall

**Officers Present:** Robert Hernandez – Environmental Officer and Ian Hughes – CSO

**Members of the Public Present:** Dan Staniaszek

**EN2501-01 Apologies:** None

**EN2501-02 Declarations of Interest:** None

**EN2501-03 Dan Staniaszek providing a presentation on Big Carbon Leap (6.15 to 6.45pm)**

Dan Staniaszek outlined his previously circulated PowerPoint Presentation to Councillors. Dan outlined the carbon footprint of MCC within the context of the Big Climate Leap Programme. The footprint follows internationally agreed guidelines laid down by The Greenhouse Gas Protocol. The footprint breaks down into three broad categories (Scopes) which Dan detailed in depth in relation to MCC following an extensive examination of the Council's workings.

A lengthy discussion ensued covering all aspects of the report including how major projects such as The Mumbles Skatepark and the Underhill Development whilst necessary may skew an accurate picture of MCC's carbon footprint.

Dan Staniaszek concluded his presentation and left the meeting at 6.47pm.

Following Dan's departure, the committee continued to discuss the presentation and highlighted the need for the impact of Officers and Councillors working from home to be included in future findings.

**ACTION:** As part of the Carbon Footprint Report 23-24, **The Clerk** in consultation with **Robert Hernandez** to facilitate recordings of relevant data such as the use of energy/fuel by Councillors and Officers when working from home or travelling between appointments in connection with MCC Business. This aspect of the carbon footprint was not included within current report.

#### EN501-04 **Minutes of Previous Meeting of the Committee**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2024 as a true record.

**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2024 as a true record.

#### EN2501-05 **Actions arising from Previous Meetings**

The CSO updated the committee on all outstanding actions having previously circulated the full list of 'actions' to committee members. Discussions took place on a number of outstanding and proposed new actions.

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

#### EN2501-06 **Budget Monitoring Reports to 30/11/2024 - Paul Beynon, RFO**

Reports attached.

Financial reports prepared by RFO, Paul Beynon had previously been provided to Committee members.

No queries were raised with RFO or CSO prior to the meeting. A discussion took place on the need to commence preparations, including posters being distributed for Mumbles Buzz and Bloom in March, for which a budget already exists.

**ACTION:** CSO to create a February agenda item in relation to Mumbles Buzz and Bloom.

**RESOLVED:** to approve the budget monitoring report to 30 November 2024.

#### EN2501-07 **Environment Officer - Monthly Report on current projects and overview:**

Summary of previous months activity and next steps for January. Report attached.

Robert Hernando, The Environmental and Sustainability Engagement Officer had previously provided his monthly report to committee members. He outlined key aspects of the report including the Litter Picking Hub being launched on 02.01.2025.

No update regarding the Website available, but Jubilee Gardens Project progressing well and this is expected to be completed by March 2025. Voluntary sessions outlined however an excellent tree-pruning session was tarnished by people not attending despite the event being oversubscribed. Options to ensure attendance by those registering to attend being considered.

**EN2501-08 Bee Friendly Streets Project**

Robert Hernandez outlined that he and Cllr Phil Keeton had already discussed this agenda item and that a plan will be available for the February Committee Meeting.

**EN2501-09 Climate Emergency Action (Plastic Free Mumbles & Flood Awareness)**

The Chair, Cllr Townsend Jones outlined how she and others had met with Jane Richmond of SCC and that plans were progressing, (previously discusses under action number 93 of agenda item [EN2501-05.](#))

Eddie Hall outlined a water testing initiative.

**RESOLVED:** Water quality testing project to be an agenda item at February's meeting.

**EN2501-10 MCC Website – SA1 and Social Media**

Robert Hernandez outlined that attempts to discuss issues of the environmental aspect of MCC's Website with SA1 had proved unsuccessful.

**RESOLVED:** To discuss at February's Meeting the options of whether to have a separate environmental website or include the environment as a dedicated section within the existing MCC Website. This will be an early agenda item at February's Meeting with a discussion of what should be included within either the separate website or the dedicated environmental section.

**EN2501-11 Litter Free Zones and Monthly Litter Pick Dates**

Robert Hernandez outlined that litter picks should be moved from Sunday Mornings; consideration being given to carrying out such picks at alternative times including after school. In addition, the introduction of the Litter Picking Hubs has also impacted on weekend picks.

**RESOLVED:** Litter picking times to be discussed as an agenda item at February's Committee Meeting.

**EN2501-12 Fly-tipping Action Wales - Toolkit sharing update**

Robert Hernandez outlined fly-tipping is primarily an issue for SCC and that no 'toolkit' is available for sharing.

**RESOLVED:** Any fly-tipping concerns to be reported directly to SCC.

**EN2501-13 Mumbles Skatepark Update**

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

**EN2501-14 Engaging with Young People**

At 7.38pm both Cllrs Sara Keeton and Phil Keeton left the meeting. Due to the meeting no longer being quorate the meeting concluded,

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

**EN2501-15 Mumbles Green Heroes**

A discussion took place in relation to holding future events before the end of March 2024 such as a further recycling visit.

**ACTION:** Robert Hernandez to propose a suitable visit prior to the end of March 2025.

**Meeting ended at 7.38pm.**

**Next Meeting 24 February 2025**