



Ashington Town Council
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To: **ALL MEMBERS OF CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP**

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP**, in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, 65 Station Road, Ashington, NE63 8RX, on Thursday 10th March 2022 at 2:00pm.**

The agenda for the meeting is set out below, along with associated papers. If you have any questions about any of the items on the agenda, please contact the office.

The meeting is open to the press and public. Our Risk Assessment requires that anyone wishing to attend the meeting, reads the risk assessment and meeting guidelines in advance. These are available on request, or via the Town Council website.

Stephen Humphrey
Assets and Facilities Manager

3rd March 2022

AGENDA

1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIR

Welcome by Cllr Jim Lang.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

4. DISPENSATIONS

To receive and consider any dispensations.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with Standing Order 94, the Chair to receive any items put forward by members of the public and to put questions to or draw relevant matters to the attention of the meeting. This is for a period of 15 minutes overall and is limited to 3 minutes per person.

Please email/telephone the Clerk with questions on items on the agenda no later than 5.00pm on Wednesday 9th March 2022.

6. NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL CLIMATE CHANGE CHAMPIONS

To receive verbal update on activities.

7. CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN

To review the draft Climate Change Action Plan, and to agree the priorities to be brought forward as proposals in the current year, those activities/projects that require further research, and those for future consideration; add estimated costs where possible (enc)ⁱ

8. WOODHORN LANE/SEATON VALE (*placed on the agenda by Cllr Pauline Thompson*)

To agree a recommendation to be made to Council in respect of the 'scrubland' on Woodhorn Lane/Seaton Vale, adjacent to Ashington Association Football Club (enc)ⁱⁱ

9. WILDFLOWER PLANTING

In accordance with the Climate Change Action Plan, to consider an area suitable for a wildflower planting pilot and agree to make a recommendation to the Council.

10. ANNUAL COMPETITION FOR ASHINGTON SCHOOLS

In accordance with the Climate Change Action Plan, to discuss a possible Carbon Literacy/Climate Conscious competition that could be presented for launch in schools.

11. KEEP BRITIAN TIDY/GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN CAMPAIGN: 25th March – 10th April 2022

To agree to propose that Ashington Town Council host/support litter picking events as part of the 2022 campaign.

12. BEE KEEPING (*placed on the agenda by Cllr Jim Lang*)

To agree to investigate allotment sites that may be suitable for bee keeping, and to agree to add this to the Climate Change Action Plan.

13. WATER BUTT SCHEME (*placed on the agenda by Cllr Jim Lang*)

To discuss a scheme to support the increased use of water butts to collect rainwater for re-use on allotment sites, and to agree to add this to the Climate Change Action Plan.

14. NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL PENSION SCHEME (*placed on the agenda by Cllr Michelle Brannigan*)

To agree to recommend that Ashington Town Council commits to calling on Northumberland County Council's Pension Fund to divest from fossil fuels by requesting its representative(s) on the Pension Fund Committee to call for the development and adoption of responsible investment policies (enc)ⁱⁱⁱ

15. WORKING AT HOME POLICY (*placed on the agenda by Cllr Michelle Brannigan*)

To agree to recommend that Ashington Town Council Personnel Committee consider the introduction of a 'Working from Home' policy to reduce the need for officers to travel to and from work (enc)^{iv}

16. GROUNDWORK – GREEN RECOVERY CHALLENGE FUND PROJECT

To receive information on Groundwork's Green Recovery Challenge Fund Project on the River Wansbeck.

17. DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

TBA

ⁱ Draft Climate Change Action Plan

ⁱⁱ Proposal from Cllr Thompson – Woodhorn Lane 'scrubland'

ⁱⁱⁱ Proposal from Cllr Brannigan – NCC Pension Fund

^{iv} Proposal from Cllr Brannigan – ATC Homeworking Policy