

**Pwyllgor Hinsawdd, Cittaslow  
ac Ecoleg.**

**Climate, Cittaslow and Ecology  
Committee.**

**Agenda  
31.01.2023.**

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| <p><b>1. Cyhoeddiadau'r Cadeirydd.</b></p>  | <p><b>Chairs announcements.</b></p>   |
| <p><b>2. Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb.</b><br/>I dderbyn, ystyried a derbyn ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb.</p>   | <p><b>Apologies for absence.</b><br/>To receive, consider and accept apologies for absence.</p>   |
| <p><b>3. Datganiadau o Fuddiant.</b><br/>I dderbyn unrhyw ddatganiadau o fuddiant ar eitemau ar yr agenda.</p>  | <p><b>Declaration of Interest.</b><br/>To receive any known declarations of interest in items on the agenda.</p>  |
| <p><b>4. Cofnodion.</b><br/>I awdurdodi'r Cadeirydd i arwyddo cofnodion yr cyfarfod blaenorol y Pwyllgor fel cofnod cywir.</p>  | <p><b>Minutes.</b><br/>To authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee as a correct record.</p>   |
| <p><b>5. Adroddiadau Clerc y Dref.</b><br/>I derbyn ac ystyried adroddiadau a gwneud unrhyw benderfyniadau angenrheidiol arno. Mae adroddiadau yn ddogfennau gwaith ac felly nid ydynt wedi'u cyfieithu.</p> <p><b>a)</b> Cynllun gweithredu argyfwng hinsawdd ac ecolegol</p> <p><b>b)</b> Ansawdd dŵr Afon Dyfrdwy.</p>   | <p><b>Town Clerks reports.</b><br/>To receive and consider reports and to make any necessary decisions thereon. Reports are working documents and are therefore not translated.</p> <p>Climate and ecological emergency action plan.</p> <p>River Dee water quality.</p>  |
| <p><b>6. Adroddiadau i'r Pwllgor.</b><br/>I dderbyn adroddiadau a gyflwynwyd i'r Cyngor Tref a phenderfynu pa gamau, os o gwbl, i'w cymryd. Mae adroddiadau yn ddogfennau gwaith ac felly nid ydynt wedi'u cyfieithu.</p> <p><b>a)</b> Cyng Ferron, Bwrdd Cittaslow UK. (Diweddariad ar lafar)</p> <p><b>b)</b> Cyng Susanthan, Rhandiroedd. (Diweddariad ar lafar)</p> | <p><b>Reports to Committee.</b><br/>To receive reports submitted to the Town Council and determine what action, if any, to be taken. Reports are working documents and are therefore not translated.</p> <p>Cllr Ferron, Cittaslow UK Board. (Verbal update)</p> <p>Cllr Susanthan, Allotments. (Verbal update)</p> |
| <p><b>7. Gohebiaeth.</b><br/>I ystyried gohebiaeth a dderbyniwyd ac i wneud unrhyw benderfyniadau angenrheidiol arno. (Gellir derbyn gohebiaeth ar ôl i'r agenda gael ei chyhoeddi a gellir ei hystyried yn y cyfarfod hwn).</p>  | <p><b>Correspondence.</b><br/>To consider correspondence received and to make any necessary decisions thereon. (Correspondence can be received after the agenda has been published and may be considered at this meeting).</p>  |

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Town Clerk.  
**SUBJECT:** Climate and ecological emergency action plan.  
**REPORT FOR:** Decision.

**1. Summary.**

- 1.1 To consider progress on Llangollen Town Council's climate and ecological emergency action plan.

**2. Background.**

- 2.1 The Town Council has declared a climate and ecological emergency pledging to work towards making Llangollen carbon neutral by 2030. In pursuant to this the Town Council resolved to establish a Community Climate Change Committee to develop an action plan, as a matter of urgency, based on an ongoing climate and ecological risk assessment was prepared in order to regularly report back to Members.

**3. Llangollen Town Council operations and services.**

- 3.1 Whilst the Town Council has neither the powers nor resources to directly drive down local level emissions which are the responsibility of individuals and organisations, it does have an important role, through its networks and relationships which can be used to assist and influence key stakeholders.
- 3.2 Town and Community Councils alone cannot address all issues in a community that have an effect climate change, but they can demonstrate leadership through practical actions such as: -
- Saving energy by making council buildings as energy efficient as possible
  - Produce green energy using solar PV, at council buildings.
  - Reduce pesticide use and other harmful activities.
  - Manage land they own for nature.
  - By increase tree cover on land they own or by encouraging and supporting landowners to take part in tree planting.
  - Buy green and buying local can support the local economy and buying green can help protect the planet. Buying green electricity helps develop new renewable energy and ensures the council is not supporting dirty energy financially.
  - Ensure money is invested wisely cross the UK, local authorities are investing tens of millions of pounds each into fossil fuel companies, despite having declared a climate emergency through their investments. Although investments will be tiny in comparison, councils should still ensure any council funds are invested safely in low-risk sustainable banks or investment funds.
  - Using powers wisely by ensure Members know the climate change or nature implications of decisions before they make them and this should extend to demanding that the planning authority provides you with this kind of information when consulting you.

- Through lobbying as decisions on infrastructure projects are largely made by local authorities, local partnerships, or by national government. The Town Councils should use their voice, when possible, to oppose high-carbon developments and promote sustainable alternatives.

3.3 As part of this process the Town Council itself has to look at how its operations and policies will contribute to carbon neutrality by 2030 and therefore on the 20 April 2021 an action plan was adopted.

3.6 The plan, detailed as Annex A, identifies actions that the Town council needs to undertake to successfully achieve its net carbon zero goal by 2030. These actions are categorised as follows.

- Achieved
- In progress
- Further action required.

3.7 This is a not an exhaustive list; other things may be implemented that do not feature in response to new opportunities. Future change should seek to enhance existing facilities where possible, and to make best use of existing Town Council and community assets to drive improvements. In developing the action plan Members should be cognisant that there are modest solutions that can be achieved relatively quickly and at little or no cost. However, some issues will be more complex and will have significant financial implications.

#### **4. Recommendation.**

4.1 It is recommended that the Town Council considers and refines the action plan.

#### **5. Reasons for recommendation.**

5.1 To ensure good governance of Town Council affairs in line with the declared climate and ecological emergency.

## LLANGOLLEN TOWN COUNCIL'S CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN.

Status	
Achieved	Green
In progress	Yellow
Further action required	Red

SHORT TERM ACTIONS	PURPOSE	LEAD	TARGET DATE	STATUS	EVALUATION
Review office workings and operations to ensure reduction, re-use and recycling.	Lower the carbon footprint.	TC/FO	Ongoing.	Green	Continuing
Continue to ensure that any Town Council organised events use locally sourced food, wherever possible and avoid single use tableware.	Influence behavioural changes/support Plastic Free Llangollen/reduce food miles.	FO	Ongoing.	Green	Events organised by the Town Council use local caterers with a commitment to using locally sourced food.
Use environmentally sustainable cleaning and hygiene products.	Use of non-toxic, and biodegradable ingredients that do not negatively impact the environment.	TC/FO	Ongoing.	Green	Enviro Range products being substitute when current stocks of cleaning, and hygiene products are used up.
Responses to planning applications.	To develop carbon neutral properties /eliminating waste through the design of the buildings.	LTC	Ongoing.	Green	Continuing
Statutory consultations.	Ensure development plans identify sites for zero-carbon (e.g., Passivhaus standard) and nature friendly/homes should also be fitted with renewable energy and located	LTC	Ongoing.	Green	Continuing

	close to amenities and public transport to avoid car dependency.				
Continue to support water bottle re-fill scheme through local businesses.	To support Plastic Free Llangollen targets.	CCC	Ongoing.		Continuing
Considering a suitable renewable energy supplier.	Lower carbon footprint.	AMC	April 2021.		Achieved moved to Good Energy in October 2021.
When awarding contracts for goods and services, ensure that our commitment to reducing our environmental impact is considered in terms of quality criteria, alongside price.	Influence behavioural changes in contractors/lower the carbon footprint.	TC	May 2021.		Continuing local suppliers are considered before other contractors to reduce journey time and support the local economy
Establish the Community Climate Change Committee comprising Town Councillors and local residents and experts to focus on addressing the acknowledged environmental crisis, explore ideas and prioritise community wide actions.	A group to feedback via Councillor representatives to LTC on a longer-term Community Climate Change Action plan.	TC	June 2021.		One meeting arranged but there was a poor turn out. Need to review the process of engagement.
Work with the Town Team to ensure the developing place plan includes policies to encourage renewable energy and highly energy efficient homes.	To ensure the final plan address the issues of the climate and ecological emergency.	TC	June 2021.		The plan has a goal to act on the causes and impacts of climate change by supporting, empowering and championing action in the wider community.
<b>MEDIUM TERM ACTIONS</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>LEAD</b>	<b>TARGET DATE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>EVALUATION</b>
Continue to replace lighting stock with LED.	To lower energy consumption.	AMC	September 2021.		Continuing working with lighting technicians to develop a phased replacement of theatrical lighting.

Move to ethical banking services.	Move away from the financial sector that has helped drive the carbon-intensive society to institutions supporting the development of low-carbon technologies and climate-resilient activities.	LTC	September 2021.		Completed moved to Unity Bank in June 2022
Provide financial support to projects that contribute to lowering carbon footprints through the community grants programme.	Influence behavioural changes/ support community initiatives.	LTC	September 2021.		No take up of the community grants programme in 2021. Fund allocated to Llangollen Parks project in 2022/23
Hosting and promoting community events.	To influence behavioural changes of residence/better understand of environment issues/cost-effective solutions to address current consumption habits	CCC	September 2021.		Post pandemic events to be considered.
Reduced car travel.	Purpose to increase awareness of car share benefits/travel to meetings/video conferencing/home working/use of public transport.	LTC	September 2021.		Some action Town Council to encourage hybrid working. HR Committee have consider a working from home policy to reduce staff travel.
Review baseline statistics to establish carbon footprint.	To measure and facilitate change/inform the budget process.	LTC	November 2021.		Continued use of IMPACT Community carbon calculator to monitor progress.
Review management of land to ensure the Town Council, in future, maximises habitat diversity.	Ensure pollinators and other wildlife thrive.	AMC	May 2023.		New ground works contract in place

Consider water efficiency.	Reduce consumption and energy used in heating.	AMC	December 2021.		
Grey water harvesting on council land and premises.	Reduce consumption/energy used in distribution.	AMC	December 2021.		
Explore options to install water fountains on council property.	To support Plastic Free Llangollen targets.	AMC	March 2022.		
Retrofit windows in Town Hall using removal magnetic secondary glazing which could be taken down in spring and refixed in the autumn.	Listed buildings double glazing is not an option.	AMC	March 2022.		
Considering opportunities for generating electricity by solar power on the Town Hall, utilising grid-tie inverter technology.	To reduce energy consumption from bought in supplies.	AMC	March 2022.		
Encourage additional tree planting and hedgerows in areas of public open space.	Help to mitigate climate change by removing carbon dioxide from the air, storing carbon in the trees and soil, and releasing oxygen into the atmosphere.	CCC	March 2022.		Continuing Recreation ground.
<b>LONG TERM ACTIONS</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>LEAD</b>	<b>TARGET DATE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>EVALUATION</b>
Establish Llangollen in Bloom.	Improve Llangollen's habitat by imaginative planting of trees, shrubs, bulbs and floral displays/Address environmental issues and preserve wildlife.	CCC	August 2022.		
The Town Council Investigate renewable energy sources and community energy schemes.	Community renewables schemes can deliver a range of social and	LTC	August 2022.		

	economic benefits/increased autonomy, empowerment and resilience				
EV charging.	Support take-up of electric vehicles/staff/ residents/ accessible charging points.	LTC	December 2023.		

## Glossary

TC	Town Clerk
FO	Facilities Officer
LTC	Llangollen Town Council
AMC	Asset Management Committee
CCC	Cittaslow and Climate Change Committee
HR	Human Resources Committee



**REPORT AUTHOR:** Town Clerk.  
**SUBJECT:** River Dee water quality.  
**REPORT FOR:** Decision.

**1. Summary.**

- 1.1 To consider a formal resolution to support an application to designate all or part of the River Dee from Carrog to where it leaves Denbighshire as bathing water.

**2. Background.**

- 2.1 Mr Peter Carol has contacted the Town Council to seek support, by way of a formal resolution, to make applications to NRW to designate all or part of the Dee from Carrog where it leaves Denbighshire as EC Bathing waters as it is used for daily bathing in various locations. He believes designation is necessary to protect the public as designation would mean there are regular water quality checks to protect and inform the public.
- 2.2 UK Designated Bathing Waters are mostly coastal, with only 16 lakes and no rivers. The Welsh Government is actually responsible for designation and de-designation in Wales under the Bathing Water Regulations 2013 and will base decisions on evidence supplied in accordance with set criteria for designation and de-designation. Where the Welsh Government considers that a designation or de-designation is required, it will approach the local authority and private operators of a facility in order to take their views into account.

**3. Designation.**

- 3.1 An application for designation requires evidence of a large numbers of bathers, 'Large numbers' is defined as a number which the competent authority, in this case the Welsh Government, considers to be large in relation to past trends. They also require evidence that there is infrastructure or facilities provided, or other measures taken to promote bathing.
- 3.2 Information that applicants have to provide with applications for designation should include:
- User survey taken at times during the bathing season (15 May to 30 September) when peak usage would be expected (weekends, bank holidays, May half-term and the school summer holiday period). Surveys to be carried out at a time of day when high numbers of users would be expected (11am to 3pm).
  - Survey covers a minimum of 20 days including evidence.
  - Breakdown of numbers of swimmers, paddlers and other beach users.
- 3.3 This will enable the Welsh Government to ensure that sites which are designated fully meet the definition of large numbers of bathers.
- 3.4 Other evidence and information which supplied with the application include a map, plan or grid references showing the extent of the proposed bathing water and information about facilities at the bathing water site specifically aimed at bathers. Examples of bathing water site facilities could include:

- access facilities to the bathing water area.
- toilets or showers.
- car parks.
- lifeguards.
- markers indicating bathing areas.
- first-aid service.
- kiosks and shops, including mobile kiosks and shops.
- changing facilities.
- water sports, although in some cases intensive water sports may preclude bathing.
- regular beach cleaning.
- promotional material (leaflets, signs or website).
- history of bathing at the site.
- references to the site being good for bathing in guidebooks.
- evidence the relevant authority or management body is actively seeking to support/promote bathing.
- Evidence of local consultation

3.5 In order to progress the designation therefore, the applicant will have to comply with the need to undertake the survey work listed above during May/September 2023. Therefore, in order to ensure that the Committee can give its full consideration to the request to support an application it would be useful if Members could have sight of the survey once completed for consideration by the Committee to further inform any decisions.

#### **4. Recommendation.**

4.1 That the Committee request the details of the survey for consideration by the Committee before recommending any formal resolution to the Town Council.

#### **5. Reasons for recommendation.**

5.1 To ensure probity in the support of national initiatives in line with Town Council priorities.