



**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
TEAMS CALL HELD ON TUESDAY 25 APRIL 2023**

Attendees Bruce Penson (Chair), Tracey Haskins, Chris Lacey, Dave Peet, Salvatore Diliberto, Rupert Devereux		
Apologies and absent Cllr Peter Graves, Lara Beattie, Pru Shackley, Martin Horswood, Jeremy Yates, Sarah Brown		
Item	Topic	Action
1	Minutes of the previous meeting. Minutes from the meeting 14 th March 2023 approved	
2	Council update The majority of the items were already covered during the 14 th March 2023 meeting. <u>New Climate Change Strategy</u> The draft new Climate Change Strategy for Woking borough was considered by the Council's Executive Committee on 23 March 2023 and approved for public consultation. WBC Planning colleagues have also updated the Council's Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) guidance for developers on Climate Change. Consultation on both will start mid-May. <u>Planet Woking newsletters</u> The council would welcome everyone's feedback as a part of these consultations. If you already receive Planet Woking newsletters you will be notified via this in May. If you're not already signed up to receive PW e-newsletters, you can do so via the PW website, see https://planetwoking.co.uk/ It is believed the LoCASE funding has now closed. UPDATE: new applications are not being processed and are being placed on a waiting list: https://locase.co.uk/	Committee members to sign up

3	<p>WEAct update</p> <p>Update from Rupert Devereux</p> <p>12-18th June – great big green week 6 events already including music on the Saturday.</p> <p>Climate action group activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with schools – recently attended Surrey Schools Climate Day. • Going into schools to talk about climate change. • Want to engage with business more and talk about The Jump and helping demystify scope 1 and 2 emissions and clarify scope 3 emissions. • Reaching out to top 10 local firms. • Recently toured the Poole Road Energy Centre – hope to decarbonise in the future with ground / air source heat pumps. Looking at using waste heat from computer servers to heat water. • Offering to take volunteers from local firms for various small projects. • Have a shop front in Woking. • WEAct Carbon calculator 	
4	<p>Electric cars / charge points</p> <p>Salv mentioned financial incentives to move to electric.</p> <p>Are there are policies around charging points for business car parks? Some chargers are currently free to use – such as Brewery Rd car park but the council may have to start charging in future.</p> <p>Rupert mentioned that some points have reliability issues. But also that charges for some points include parking fees.</p> <p>Companies can purchase EV chargers for employee's homes. Would be sold back at a very low price at a later date.</p> <p>Woking Borough Council have covered EVs in the past through Planet Woking website in the past, see for example:</p> <p>https://planetwoking.co.uk/get-involved/electric-vehicles-faqs/ https://planetwoking.co.uk/get-involved/electric-vehicle-charging-points-in-woking-town-centre-car-parks/</p>	

	https://planetwoking.co.uk/get-involved/could-your-next-vehicle-be-an-ev/	
6	<p>Resources for website</p> <p>Suggestions relating to environment and sustainability for the resources page of the Chambers website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WEAct Carbon calculator • There are lots of go green resources on the Woking Works website we might also want to reference. • Greener business resources on the Planet Woking website • Any resources that Menzies might have with regards to financial benefits of electric cars to business owners. 	
7	<p>Any Other Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave noted that enthusiasm for environmental sustainability has dropped back in recent times. In particular, car sharing has dropped – Menzies are using financial policies to enforce. • From the minutes of the biz dev committee: Brookwood cemetery volunteer day -16th June is being held during Green Week. Some have asked if half a day's work can be done rather than a full day. Brookwood to revert. • Rupert mentioned the Skidmore report on climate change – big opportunity for the next couple for decades. • Also expecting this to become a supply chain requirement. Salv noted that they are already seeing this. He will try to bring some insights to the next committee meeting. • There are pages on greener business on the Planet Woking website: https://planetwoking.co.uk/get-involved/greener-business/ • Martin Horswood may be leaving the Environment Committee to join the Business Development Committee. • Bruce asked committee members to look out for anyone interested in joining the Environment Committee – ideally we would like one or two new members. 	
	<p>Dates for next environmental committee meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6th June 2023 • 18th July 2023 • 29th August 2023 	