



BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Decarbonisation and Environment Committee Meeting
held in the Council Chamber,
on Tuesday 2 July 2024 at 6.30 pm**

PRESENT: East Ward: Councillor J Craigie
Councillor K Hind
Councillor J Gubb
Councillor J Gordon (Chairman)

North Ward: Councillor K Bines

South Ward Councillor R Clarke

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr P Swan (Town Clerk)

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Gordon was proposed by Councillor Bines and seconded by Councillor Clarke.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Gordon is appointed as Chairman of the Committee for the coming year.

(Vote: For: 6, Against: 0)

(Councillor Gordon assumed the Chair and thanked the Members for their vote.)

2. **ELECTION OF A DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Bines was proposed by Councillor Gubb and seconded by Councillor Clarke.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Bines is appointed as Deputy Chairman of the Committee for the coming year.

(Vote: For: 5, Against: 0, Abstention: 1)

3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor J McKenzie.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD**

1 member of the public present.

The member of the public explained their view on the importance of moving away from a meat based farming production system and the pressure this puts on the farming community. They then explained about moving towards a plant based agricultural system and the benefits of doing so in terms of the vast amounts of land this would release.

6. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 August 2023 were approved and signed as a correct record.

(Vote – For: 2, Abstention: 4)

7. **TO SUBMIT IDEAS VIA PROJECT INITIATION FORMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

The Town Clerk updated the Committee on the budget and that the 2% of precept will be restored for 2025/26.

The Chair advised that the Committee should put together an action plan and he would take the lead on this.

Councillor Bines recommended to that the Town Council consider a 25% plant based offering on all council held events.

The Committee wanted to strongly promote the uptake of a paperless system for all councillors.

8. **TO RECOMMEND TO THE STAFFING FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE UPON THE CARBON FREE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT**

It was recommended to full council that they accept and resolve upon the quotation for the carbon free maintenance equipment to be funded by the 24/25 environmental budget.

Proposed by Councillor Craigie Seconded by Councillor Hind.

9. **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting will be held on 6 August 2024.

The Committee advised that a regular 5 weekly meeting be added to the Council Schedule when issued next year.

The Chairman thanked the Members for their attendance and support. He concluded the Meeting at 19:00 pm.

Signature of Town Mayor:..... Date:.....

Signature of Chairman:..... Date:.....