



# HADDENHAM Parish Council

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## MINUTES

### CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022, 8.31pm

Conference Room, Haddenham Village Hall and remotely via Zoom

**Present:** Cllr. Garrett, Cllr. Kidby, Cllr. O'Hanlon (Chair), Cllr. Smith, Cllr. Thawley, Cllr. Truesdale and Mr. Proctor.

**Clerk:** Ms. Gilbert

**Deputy Clerk:** Ms Marsden

**Joining remotely via Zoom:**

**Assistant Clerk:** Ms. Griffiths

**Councillors:**

**Members of the public:** 1

#### CE22 26 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Brown for his absence.

#### CE22 27 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

#### CE22 28 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

One person requested and was permitted to take part under the Home Energy agenda item. The cost of the actual heat pump is a relatively small part of the cost of switching heating systems, when the cost of changing radiators, water tanks etc is taken into consideration. The leap into the unknown is likely to be a major factor putting people off from switching to more sustainable heating methods. Home insulation is critical.

#### CE22 29 UPDATE ON WORKING GROUPS AND CONSIDER ANY RECOMMENDATIONS

(i) Electric Vehicle Adoption - Cllr. Thawley

The working group held an initial meeting on 7 Feb 2022 and agreed to investigate sources of data regarding cover of vehicle owners, vehicle usage patterns, attitudes and potential barriers and to use this to develop a two-pronged hearts and minds campaign to encourage both switching privately-owned cars to Electric Vehicles (EVs) and membership of the emerging EV Hire Club.

Publicity boards will be displayed at the Annual Parish Meeting.

3B is ready to launch the hire when there is a suitable parking space with charging in either Haddenham or Thame. It is hoped that it will be possible to have a designated space at the Village Hall car park. Cllr. Garrett requested that disabled spaces be located nearby to allow disabled users to access the electric car hire vehicle for longer trips.

It was noted it is not possible currently to submit a grant application to the Community Board for funding of two electrical car charging points in Banks Park as Community Board funding has now been allocated until the end of this financial year. Other funding options may be available through Heart of Bucks. Cllr. Garrett is potentially aware of another source of funding.

No further progress has been made on the Tesla model.

As the village expands, it will be necessary to have more EV charging points. It was noted that the new homes at the Land West of Churchway will have EV charging spaces. The Parish Council will own the visitor parking at the Grove site and could look into installing EV charging there.

(ii) The Food We Eat & The Food We Waste (FWE/FWW) – Cllr. Garrett

The FWE/FWW sub-committee has met twice since the last climate emergency meeting, including a brainstorming meeting with Rebecca Nutley from Feedback Global - a food system campaigning charity. The Waste Resources Action Programme charity (WRAP) are holding a Food Waste Action Week on 7-13th March 2022. The aim is to link in with the WRAP action week and have a stall at the Vale Harvest market on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2022 to publicise FWE/FWW and launch the village Food Waste Challenge. It would be good to offer a small incentive to those signing up to the challenge, which would require funding. Cllr. O' Hanlon advised that a budget is available to support this. Another action week will take place in September.

Cllr. O'Hanlon suggestion having a community fridge for excess food. Cllr. Garrett advised that the plan is to focus on the food challenge for now before expanding but a survey will be sent to participants following the food challenge in which respondents will be asked about whether they would be interested in further initiatives such as a community fridge. Cllr. Garret would like to invite a speaker about the Aylesbury community fridge when the time is right for future projects.

Food sharing apps may also be a useful resource.

(iii) Home Energy – Cllr. Kidby

Research has been undertaken into various options for home heating systems and energy sources. Due diligence would need to be carried out before specific energy providers could be recommended and it would need to be made clear that any recommendations were based on current information.

It has been found that water systems can be used for heating, similar to air source heating.

A presentation was made to the Village Society on 12<sup>th</sup> January on the Climate Emergency Committee and the various working groups, with more detailed information provided on the Home Energy Group. The village society has undertaken its own research and come across an energy group called Sustain, which provides a free technical survey, £250 off installations, free first-year ASHP service and 10% off their renewable home care plans.

Interest has been expressed from several home energy suppliers in attending a stand at the APM and providing further information on their respective schemes.

Insulating properties should be a priority as there is little point installing more efficient energy systems if homes are poorly insulated and leak heat.

Cllr. Smith advised that thermal cameras are popular and have been used by Zero Carbon Haddenham to thermal image houses. Parishioners are now wanting to know 'how' to improve their insulation – a lot don't know where to start.

Knowledge base is an issue to make sure we can support parishioners to make good decisions. Haddenham has lots of different building stock and insulation issues are different for different houses. It was felt that advice from industry experts is needed. Good news stories from residents who have undertaken changes will help encourage others to make changes too.

Cllr O'Hanlon will look at EPC rates of Haddenham and Zero Carbon are doing an analysis of the results of the homes that have been assessed by a thermal camera.

(iv) Land Use – Cllr. Smith

RELeaf, working with the Parish Council, has obtained funding for planting trees through Buckinghamshire Council and the treescapes grant scheme. Planting has begun.

In order to plant trees on a large scale, co-operation is needed from landowners. There are incentives available of over £8,000 per hectare planted. Little progress has been made in obtaining permission from landowners so far. It is difficult and hoped that one land owner will take the opportunity as the financial benefits could be substantial.

**CE22 30 HADDENHAM SOLAR FARM**

Cllr. O'Hanlon reported that a meeting was held with Bucks Community Energy to find out whether the idea of a solar farm within Haddenham that could provide electricity to the village was feasible. The land behind Tiggywinkles would be around the right size based on current calculations but this is likely to increase as the village expands, but technology is likely to improve also. There are lots of issues including the outcome of the Community Energy Bill. A report has been received from Bucks Community Energy and a further meeting is scheduled for March.

The idea is that Haddenham residents would have significantly lower energy bills once the solar farm was up and running although significant investment would be needed upfront.

Cllr. Truesdale provided a report on the various local solar farms that have submitted planning applications recently, the planning outcomes and the figures quotes on energy generated per hectare.

Cllr. O'Hanlon will look at different business models to see which would be suitable.

**CE22 31 CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM FOR RESIDENTS**

Cllr Kidby has been looking into dates to arrange the promotion of the working groups' initiatives. The Annual Parish Meeting (19<sup>th</sup> April) and Village Fete (11<sup>th</sup> June) could be used to publicise and gain feedback on the initiatives. A specific event will be organised later in the year, where more detailed information is provided and expert speakers invited. It was suggested that the event could be held in early October in the new Sports Pavilion, time and date to be confirmed.

**CE22 32 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

None.

**CE22 33 CORRESPONDENCE**

An update was received on the Clerks' attendance of the first meeting of the National Association of Local Council's Climate Emergency Working Group. It was hoped that minutes would have been available to share but unfortunately the minutes haven't been published yet.

**CE22 34 ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA**

None.

**CE22 35 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

25<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

**CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

The meeting closed at 22.01

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Chair

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022