

A MEETING OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

to be held at the

Oldbrook Centre, Oldbrook Boulevard, Oldbrook

**Tuesday 16th April 2024
at 6.30pm**

AGENDA

Working Group Members:

Cllr B Barton
Cllr K Jones
T Jones, Community Officer
Cllr D Kendrick
Cllr K Kent
Cllr C Odunewu

Cllr M Petchey (Chair)
P Sullivan, Deputy Clerk
D Warner, Clerk to Council

AGENDA

1. To Receive

Members Present
Apologies for Absence
Declarations of Interest
Members of the Public Present

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

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The Working Group are invited to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2023.

The meeting scheduled for 2nd May 2023 was not quorate and no notes were produced.

3. Draft Climate Action Plan

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The Working Group are invited to consider the draft Climate Action Plan.

4. Date of Next Meeting

TBC

BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL

P Sullivan

**Deputy Clerk
10th April 2024**

**Minutes of the
Climate Emergency Working Group
held on Wednesday 1st February 2023
commencing at 6:30pm**

01/22 Members Present

Cllr K Kent
Cllr M Petchey
Cllr D Reynolds

In attendance

T Jones, Community Officer
P Sullivan, Deputy Clerk
D Warner, Clerk to Council

02/22 Apologies for Absence

Cllr B Barton
Cllr D Kendrick
Cllr C Odunewu

03/22 Declarations of Interest

None

04/22 Election of Chairperson

The Working Group appointed Cllr Petchey as Chairperson.

05/22 Terms of Reference

The Working Group considered the Terms of Reference for the Climate Emergency Working Group and agreed to submit to Council for ratification as presented.

06/22 Declaration of a Climate Emergency

The Working Group reviewed the wording of a draft declaration of a climate emergency and agreed, subject to minor amendments, to recommend the declaration to Council.

07/22 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 5th April 2023, 6.30pm via Teams.

DRAFT CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2024

Action	Measure	Responsibility	Update
Community Engagement			
Creation of a Climate Emergency webpage to enable discussion, idea sharing and extend public awareness	Number of visitors to website	C&C Cttee CE Working Group	A new website is being developed and a climate action page has been created
Host a public meeting	Attendees	Council/Officers	23/5/23 Annual Meeting of Electors – Climate change theme
Encourage practical action by local people through proactive communication campaigns	Engagement on socials, website, direct communication	C&C Cttee CE Working Group	Development of a Comms Strategy this year which will include scheduling relevant content across all channels (print, socials, website, noticeboards)
Energy			
Energy audit of all Council buildings, operations and vehicles	Actions implemented	Estates Cttee	
Switch to renewable/green energy tariffs	Actions implemented	Estates Cttee	
Install renewable energy on Council owned buildings		Estates Cttee Comm Hub WG	Plans for new Community Hub include solar panels and heat pumps. Apply to MKCC Carbon Offset Fund for funds to install a solar panel array and battery storage system on the roof of the Springfield Centre
Ensure any amendments to the Neighbourhood Plan include green initiatives		Planning/Council	
Economy & Waste			
Provide recycling facilities at all Council events and within Council owned buildings	Actions implemented	Estates Cttee	
Reduce paper use and aspire to be a paperless office	Actions implemented	Officers	
Work with and support local litter picking initiatives		C&C Cttee	Have equipment available for use, at the moment (Mar 24) being used on average every couple of months
Investigate possibilities of rainwater harvesting at all sites		Estates Cttee	
Eliminate the purchase of single-use plastics within Council buildings		Officers	
Waste education and promotional campaigns		C&C Cttee CE Working Group	Comms Strategy
Select investments supporting sustainable projects		F&A	

Ask grant applicants to consider the impact of their project on the environment and detail any mitigation in place	Requires addition to grant form	C&C Cttee	
Replace Council owned vehicles and green spaces equipment when petrol and diesel models come to the end of their useable life and replace with electric models. Aim for full replacement by 2030		Estates Cttee	Strategy in place, and under regular review.
Work with MKCC on increasing EV charging points on public land			EV spaces are included in plans for the Community Hub
Food & Land			
Develop a Community Flood Plan Set up a Community Flood Group			
Protect and enhance native species and habitats. Promote and support opportunities for environmental enhancement and regeneration		Estates Cttee	Swift bricks, bat boxes, hedgehog highways included in plans for Community Hub Woolstone Pond clearance
Support local food production including the provision of allotments for people to grow their own food		Estates Cttee	Both allotment sites full, waiting list for plots
Support adequate community/garden spaces for growing food in all future developments		Planning	
Source locally produced, fairtrade food/refreshments (where possible) for Council events		Officers	
Review of grass verges and hedges to identify areas to be trimmed less and later in the year to support more wildflowers and insects		Estates Cttee	Regularly reviewed, we leave hedges and grass where we can. The transformation project will make this work easier to achieve in places where it is not currently possible.
Identify areas for rewilding and/or wildflowers		Estates Cttee	We have 18 areas we are currently doing this, and new ones are under review, we are actively working to improve biodiversity in these areas with wildflower planting.
Use of pesticides		Estates Cttee	Under regular review, 50% reduction last year, alongside MKCC we are trialling different weed control and management methods.