

Norfolk Climate Change Partnership: EV Charging Task & Finish Group Minutes

Date & Time: 29.10.2021 at 14:00

Location: Microsoft Teams

Present:

Dave Robson - Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Henry Saunders - Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Ged Greaves - Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Greg Pearson - Breckland District Council

Alison Old - Broadland and South Norfolk District Council

Kirsty Burns - Broadland and South Norfolk District Council

Harry Mach - Broads Authority

Miranda Lee - Great Yarmouth Borough Council

Nicholas Fountain - Great Yarmouth Borough Council

Alexander Cliff - Norfolk County Council

John Jones - Norfolk County Council

Laura Waters - Norfolk County Council

Annie Sommazzi - North Norfolk District Council

Rachel Sowerby - Norwich City Council

Apologies:

Rob Wiseman – Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Michel Bolabato - Breckland District Council

Stephen Scowen – Breckland Council

David Disney – Broadland and South Norfolk District Council

Kate Blakemore - Great Yarmouth Borough Council

Ellen Goodwin - New Anglia LEP

David Cummings – Norfolk County Council

Dominic Allen – Norfolk County Council

Jeremy Wiggan – Norfolk County Council

Martin Horlock - Norfolk County Council

Trevor Wiggett - Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework Member Forum

Robert Young – North Norfolk District Council

Richard Willson - Norwich City Council

1. Welcome & Introductions.

H.S. welcomed the group, then officers in attendance introduced themselves, their authorities, and their roles.

2. Purpose of the T&F Group

H.S. outlined the brief of the group.

3. Overview / Update on NCC Ev Strategy

J.J. updated the group on the progress of the NCC Ev Strategy. A report is going to Cabinet on 8th Nov 2021. This will update on progress with environment policy that includes step change measures and features the EV strategy. It also introduces carbon accounting changes. The Ev strategy will be accessible to public from Monday 1st November.

A.C. summarised the proposed strategy and its 6 priorities:

- Accelerate charge point deployment.
- Review fleet.
- Collaborative working
- Update parking and design standards
- Explore wider measures
- Promotional and awareness raising.

4. Co-ordinated Norfolk Approach

a. How do we ensure a joined-up approach?

b. What is the role of county?

c. What are the roles of Norfolk's district councils?

d. How do we build upon the County Ev Strategy?

A.C. highlighted that NCC committed to establishing a forum, with today's meeting is a good starting point.

L.W. mentioned the LEP work with Transport East and another sub-regional transport body. There are benefits in mapping activities and infrastructure to connect and align with other related partnerships, groups, etc.

H.M. noted that the NCC report did not cover 11kw chargers and missed out the Broads Authority despite power demand and requirements of 4,000 boating fleet.

A.C. highlighted that a high-level strategy would be needed to explore target setting as there is not a common one that fits all approach.

M.L. queries whether we have a collective appetite to push innovation e.g., wireless charging pads? Understand the infrastructure mix across Norfolk?

H.S. highlight that this would be a suitable action to further explore infrastructure mix and innovation opportunities as the group develops.

G.P. mentioned that we need to recognise that EV may not be feasible solution for all transport users in a rural county e.g. HGV where hydrogen may be more viable. Also need to recognise power network constraints in parts of Norfolk.

D.R. raised the question, how does the group want to move forward? Should all respective parties take a pre agreed brief / report for engagement with cabinets and decision makers, for broad agreement on an approach in Norfolk?

J.J. highlighted that they are developing an outline brief for all partners to sign up to, in order to help facilitate and encourage roll out, similar in a way to the broadband roll out. Heavy lifting will be made by private sector, but some areas will not be commercially viable and market failure may occur, with the private sector largely interested in opportunities for fast chargers.

Action: J.J. to circulate a draft brief for engaged parties to co-design / make suggestions, after NCC Cabinet approval of strategy on 9 Nov 2021.

Action: H.S. to organise a follow up meeting in late November.

G.G. suggested the potential for wider engagement of other public sector partners e.g. hospitals?

A.C. suggested that National Highways, Network Rail could also be involved.

J.J. highlighted the potential procurement power of NCCP and other partners regarding car leasing, car loans, salary sacrifice schemes, EV car pool vehicles, etc.

N.F. highlighted infrastructure requirements and viability within planning system. Look forward to future changes in building regulations.

A.C. made the group aware of an OZEV consultation that ends on the 22nd Nov 2021, as this may put an obligation upon local authorities regarding charge point provision.

Action: A.C will circulate link to the OZEV consultation.

e. Future key issues to consider:

a. Charging locations

b. Charger type

c. Funding

d. Infrastructure demands

5. Next Steps

H.S. to organise the next meeting in late November 2021.

J.J. to circulate the draft brief.

ALL to consider the draft brief prior to the November meeting.

A.C. to circulate the OZEV consultation link.

6. AOB.

None.