



Norfolk Climate Change Partnership: Portfolio Holder Group

Notes of meeting on

Wednesday, 10th April 2024 – 09:30-11:30

Location: Microsoft Teams

Item	Lead	Start	Est. time
1. Welcome & apologies for absence	Cllr Vardy (Chair)	09:30	5 mins
<p>Present: Cllr Vardy (Chair), Cllr Davis, Cllr de Whalley, Cllr Varley, Cllr Davis, Cllr Crane, Steve Blatch, Deborah Carr, Jason Cole, Kate Rawlings, Annie Sommazzi, Ged Greaves, Greg Pearson, Sandra King (notes)</p> <p>Apologies received:</p> <p>Cllr Overton-Neal, Cllr Wells, Paula Boyce, Al Collier, Jonathan Ward</p>			
2. Minutes of last meeting (paper attached)	Cllr Vardy (Chair)	09:35	10 mins
The notes were agreed.			
3. Partnership Update (presentation)	Greg Pearson (NCCP)	09:45	30 mins
<p>GP provided an update on behalf of Jonathan Ward.</p> <p>Community Energy Fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being run by Net Zero Hub. Round one concluded but still awaiting formal notification of the results. Have informally been told there are two successful applications in Norfolk but not been informed who these are yet. • Jonathan Davison from GSE NetZero Hub will report back on those that were successful and unsuccessful and to see how we can promote more schemes coming forward in the future. • Round 3 will be going live probably at the end of next month. 6 rounds in total. 			



NetZero Communities:

- Lots of engagement with the 7 chosen communities.
- A save the date placeholder sent out to formally launch the project – 21st May.
- Still awaiting formal endorsement for a couple of projects.

Climate Literacy and thermal imaging projects:

- Loan scheme for various communities.
- Looking at a targeted approach and at who we can work with and doing some analysis of community statistics.
- Picked out communities who have high level reported EPCs rating and above Norfolk average prevalence of fuel poverty. 65 LSAO areas identified, primarily rural areas with 2-3 villages in each area.
- Engagement Plan being developed – starting with literacy training from May to October before offering one of the imaging devices during the winter.

New work in development:

- Looking at area-based insetting – working with the Broads Authority and possibly Suffolk Climate Change Partnership (on a pilot basis) to test the opportunity of using the Anthesis ABI platform to secure seed funding for projects. Suggests testing for a year.
- Retrofit accelerator application – opportunity to apply for specialist consultant time who will work with us and across stakeholders in Norfolk to create a retrofit plan for the county that could then be used to secure future Government funding.
- Supporting UEA with their Norwich Climate & Energy Community Academy lottery application which is at an advanced stage. To deliver forms of training around energy. Approached by Asher to ask if we would support their bid and work with them on some of their projects.

Regional Climate Change Forum:

- GP and EV sit on the forum.
- It has been recognized that our concerns re agriculture and land use emissions are an area that needs greater focus and have been invited to take part in the Net Zero Conference.

Opergy: Net Zero Pathways Project:

- Have had problems engaging with communities so have extended the delivery time for their project from the end of March to the end of June.
- GP has asked to have sight of this information.



National consultations and review of publications:

- National call for evidence to be aware of that touch on the Partnership’s priorities – barriers to community energy projects. Will use intelligence from its previous community renewal fund study ‘Community Energy Kickstarter’. GP will circulate our response to partners prior to submitting.

A conversation took place around the reluctance to engage in the Net Zero pathway, both in our communities and across partner organisations. It was felt that the partnership was strong but there was a need for partners to more strongly articulate the Net Zero agenda/messages through our individual organisations as Norfolk Leaders have recently commented that they didn’t feel they had enough information about what we are all doing in terms of funding the partnership from July 2024.

It was felt that we need some clear measures we are focusing on to inform the areas we are driving forward in line with our three strategic priorities as well as tightening up our collaboration to as it was believed a number of partners are taking forward more localised agendas. There was also a need to become more efficient in terms of sharing information so as to avoid duplication.

It was proposed that GP shares the paper he shared with Norfolk Leaders. A condensed paper is going to the Norfolk Chief Executive’s meeting next week.

4. Portfolio Holder Discussion; to provide some space on the agenda for Portfolio Holders to share what their councils are doing, share intelligence and raise topics.	All	10:15	40 mins
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Cllr Vardy – informed the group that there is a Flooding & Drought Summit taking place at County Hall on 31st May bringing together some DCs or reps and interested parties including flooding and coastal matters. Concern was expressed that this was during the school half term holidays. Also, in liaison with Suffolk Climate Partnership to put in bid for funding for a Country Park.

Cllr de Whalley - recently undertaking a series of roadshows which he will share details of. Have funding for a Travel Plan for the borough and instigated a Habitats Fund. Looking to roll out carbon literacy training organisation wide by the end of 2024. One objective from the recent LGA Peer Review is to embed Climate Change across the organisation.

Cllr Varley - would welcome Cllr Vardy finding a more suitable date for that event and for future planning, need to take officer time into consideration. NNDC currently undertaking carbon literacy training which is going down very well. Management and Cabinet undertaken and now rolling out further. Used the slides purchased from the Carbon Literacy Project and amended to make more relevant to North Norfolk. Training being provided by the Council’s Climate Officer who is a



Our partners include:

former teacher. Some pro-active pledges coming out of the training. NNDC is undertaking another project to decarbonise its Estate. Biggest emitters are the Council's leisure centres. Next one is our Victory Leisure Centre following a grant received.

Cllr Crane - interested in receiving Carbon Literacy training information. Received a grant to put solar panels on their leisure centre at Dereham. Looking at what the younger people have to drive things forward for the older generations through a Youth Commissioner Focus Project. Received some money for the King's Coronation Orchard Fund.

Cllr Davis – reported that the heat pumps at Horizon Centre are now fully operational and the Council are now benefitting from this. Their latest carbon footprint report has been published. Running Net Zero Go training for businesses to raise awareness of how they can improve their energy efficiency as well as reducing costs. Also working with businesses on water supplies too. Carbon Literacy – worked with the project to achieve bronze accreditation with the Carbon Trust and hope to get silver. Prior Information Notice to gauge appetite for Hydrogen supply and demand.

5. AOB	Cllr Vardy (Chair)	10:55	5 mins
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Future agenda items:
 Partner support required for Steve in addressing the deficit of information amongst the Norfolk Leaders' Group, which we all need to be part of.