

Climate Change TAFF
Notes of Meeting, Friday 1 November 2019, 1330
Exmouth Town Council Meeting Room

Attendees

TD	Tim Dumper	Councillor/Chair	Exmouth Town Council
BB	Brian Bailey	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
AC	Andrew Colman	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
FC	Frank Cullis	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
OD	Olly Davey	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
PM	Paul Millar	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
MR	Michael Rosser	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
AT	Andrew Toye	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
CC	Catherine Causley	Events Coordinator	Transition Exmouth
CJ	Carol Jay	Secretary	Transition Exmouth
LB	Lisa Bowman	Town Clerk	Exmouth Town Council
NS	Natasha Smart	Note-taker	Exmouth Town Council

Welcome and Apologies

SG	Steve Gazzard	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
DP	David Poor	Councillor	Exmouth Town Council
NN	Nicky Nichols	Chair	Transition Exmouth

1. TD welcomed those present to the meeting and clarified apologies.

Notes of the last meeting

2. The notes of the last meeting were approved without comment.

Matters arising: Summary of existing and planned Town Council initiatives re Climate Change

3. LB introduced the draft report to Full Council (shared with members in advance), which summarised the existing and planned Exmouth Town Council (ETC) initiatives on climate change. She explained that the report cannot provide full detail but aims to capture the essence of these initiatives. LB sought comments from TAFF members. The working party supported the report as a basis for the report to Full Council.

4. In response to a question from CC, TD explained that the Exmouth Transport Partnership (ETP) working party has supported/promoted/campaigned for many transport-related initiatives, such as improving connectivity between trains and buses, introducing bus transport direct from Brixington to Exeter, and improving bus signage. ETC financially subsidises non-profitable bus services, on which Devon County Council has maintained subsidies as a result.

5. BB raised the issue of changing bus fuel to LPG, which is less polluting than diesel and substantially cheaper, which has been achieved in towns such as Reading. TD explained that ETP continues to press Stagecoach on this, but he would use this information to continue to seek change. The TAFF noted that the issue is complicated by the fact that there are also petrol vehicles in use, so

converting all vehicles to LPG is not a simple step. TD further mentioned electric buses as an alternative low/zero carbon option.

Partnership with Transition Exmouth (TE)

6. CC explained that there are currently approximately 40 attendees signed up for TE's networking event on 7 November. The venue capacity is 80 attendees so CC confirmed that councillors were all welcome to attend. There will be a different theme (eg energy, transport, food) with a facilitator on each table, so CC suggested that councillors could be allocated to different tables according to their interests. She urged anyone who would like to attend to ensure that they register in advance.

7. LB suggested that, if any outcomes from the networking event need ETC support or might be relevant for the report to Full Council, CC should let her know asap. She also wanted to manage expectations relating to financial support, eg CIL money, because there are a lot of demands on this. Final funding decisions will be informed by the Exmouth Neighbourhood Plan and will not all necessarily be related to climate change.

Demonstrating leadership through our own actions: Update on ETC audit

8. LB explained that she has left a message with two possible companies re contracting someone to conduct an audit on ETC's current carbon footprint and is awaiting a response. CC (separately) provided details of a possible auditor. LB stated that she would email TAFF members before the next meeting if she has made progress regarding an ETC audit.

9. MR suggested that sharing how councillors contribute to reducing their individual carbon footprints is also a form of leadership in the community. In addition to setting ETC's baseline with the above audit, the meeting also discussed other initiatives. These included: ETC councillors car-sharing (PM stated that at EDDC there's an incentive to car-share in the form of additional expenses); food waste caddies introduced at the Town Hall; a community website with information on reducing carbon footprint; TE planning a series of experts talks to help educate the community; introducing pool bikes and/or electric bikes.

Update on networking events/contact with EDDC and DCC

10. LB explained that she has spoken to John Golding, who is leading on climate change at EDDC, who was unavailable for this meeting but is keen to attend in future. He had advised that one of ETC's first actions on climate change should be to audit our own carbon footprint. EDDC are currently auditing their buildings, so helpful data should soon be available to tie in with ETC's own audit.

11. TD briefly provided an update on the recent DALC climate emergency workshop he had facilitated, which was well-received.

12. Members also discussed further initiatives to consider:

- BB raised the issue of wild verges, which look a mess outside flowering season, so he had spoken to Wild Exmouth about ideas for planting to improve this. LB suggested that one of the TAFF's recommendations to Full Council could be to review ETC's grass-cutting regime;

- CJ suggested that ETC (and individuals) could easily switch to renewable energy for its utilities, which is as simple as making a telephone call. She explained that changing to a renewable energy tariff does not guarantee that the energy you receive is from renewable energy, but it supports companies to produce and invest more in renewable energy sources. LB explained that ETC has no control over the Town Hall but could check this for Gorfin Hall. MR suggested that this could also form a recommendation for Full Council, ie to ensure ETC sign up to a renewable energy tariff for Gorfin Hall. TD suggested that solar panels could be another option for Gorfin Hall.

Devon Climate Emergency Response Group call for evidence

13. LB asked if TAFF members felt that a collective ETC response, to a recent call for evidence for ideas on how Devon can reduce carbon emissions as quickly as possible, was the ideal way forward? TD suggested that a joint response would work well; he and LB agreed to discuss this separately after the meeting. MR stated that a joint response should be agreed by members first. LB agreed to collate a response and circulate it by email for endorsement.

Preparing for report to Full Council

14. LB explained that the draft report already discussed could form the basis of the report to Full Council in December. The results of ETC's audit should also be included, as well as networking aspects and any other initiatives which TE would want to partner on, as well as the TAFF's recommendations. CJ suggested that actions in the report should include both smaller, more immediate actions as well as longer-term ones. MR felt that ETC should create a working party to continue the work of the TAFF, to incorporate the Plastic Reduction WP. TD suggested putting a discussion about the TAFF's recommendations for action on the agenda for the next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

15. Thursday 28 November 2019 at 1300.

Climate Change TAFF: Actions Progress

Description of Action	By	Date Added
Discuss TAFF membership with Councillor Lynne Elson	TD	11/07
Invite representative from Exmouth Community College to future meeting to discuss climate education	TD	11/07
Invite Doug Eltham to future meeting to advise on ETC carbon footprint reduction	TD	11/07
Bring useful information/links to next meeting	ALL	11/07
Invite John Golding to discuss EDDC climate change strategy	LB	21/08
Complete the councillor's workbook and revert at next mtg	ALL	21/08
Bring ideas for reducing Exmouth carbon footprint to next mtg	ALL	21/08
Agree TAFF recommendations for Full Council report at meeting on 28/11	ALL	01/11

Completed Actions

Description of Action	By	Date Completed/ No longer relevant
Finalise draft TAFF TOR	LB	21/08
Put forward recommendation to Full Council to approve and adopt TAFF TOR	LB	21/08
OD to attend Carbon Footprinting Workshop, 23 July 2019; LB to book place	OD/LB	21/08
Get a quote for producing a publicity campaign and website	LB	21/08
Approach Transition Exmouth for clarification on whether it will continue as an active organisation and, if so, whether it would wish to become a TAFF partner	TD	09/10
Invite Deputy Town Clerk Chetna Jones to next meeting to outline plans for Schools' Conference	LB	09/10
Include expert invitee brainstorming session on next agenda	NS	09/10
Seek updates from ETC committees and working parties on existing climate change initiatives	LB	01/11
Summarise ETC initiatives as basis for Full Council report, by next mtg	LB	01/11