

Minutes of Climate Change and Energy Strategic Policy Committee meeting held via Zoom Monday 21st August 2023

In Attendance: SPC Chairperson Cllr. Liam Reilly, Cllr. Marianne Butler, Cllr. Paula Butterly, Eugene Conlon

Officials: Joe Mc Guinness Director of Service, Rory Sheehan Climate Action Coordinator, Claire Hughes Senior Executive Engineer, Denise Meegan Assistant Staff Officer

Apologies: David Hanratty, Cllr. James Byrne, John Carroll

1. Minutes Adopted

The minutes of the meeting of 29th May 2023 were adopted.

Proposed by Cllr. Liam Reilly

Seconded by Cllr. Marianne Butler

2. Matters Arising

Nothing raised

3. Community Gardens & Allotments

There was a discussion between the members on issues arising in relation to community gardens and allotments - Acquisition of properties, funding, Public Liability Insurance, toilets & car parking spaces on site, possibility of church grounds being used.

Cllr. Liam Reilly queried if groups can apply to Leader for funding?

Eugene Conlon pointed out that Charitable/Not for Profit groups can apply for funding under the Community Climate Action Fund, so would Churches fall into this category?

Rory Sheehan said he would refer to Fiona Lennon, Community Climate Action Officer, regarding the funding under the scheme.

Rory Sheehan to check the National Strategy on Community Gardens & Allotments and update at the next meeting.

Joe McGuinness suggested that the Executive would draft an Issues Paper on this topic as there seems to be a huge appetite for it, and the members all agreed on this.

4. Review of SPC Workplan

Engagement with Agricultural Sector is one of the objectives of the plan.

Joe McGuinness advised the members he recently met with Meabh O'Hagan, Teagasc and she would be happy to present at one of our meetings.

The members agreed that she would present at our next meeting of 25th September 2023.

Joe McGuinness outlined another objective of workplan is to develop a policy for young citizens around Climate Action.

Cllr. Marianne Butler suggested having a young person on next SPC committee in 2024.

Eugene Conlon spoke about Kildare County Council who is holding an Action/Information day on Climate Change in October. An update on this event will be provided by E. Conlon at the November meeting.

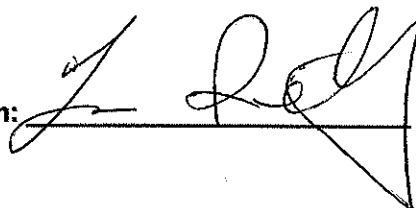
That concluded the business of the meeting.

Next meeting to take place at 4pm on 25th September 2023 via Zoom.

The minutes confirmed at a meeting of SPC held on:

25 September 2023

SPC Chairperson:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Kelly', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.