

Minutes of Climate Change and Energy Strategic Policy Committee

Monday 8th February 2021

In attendance: SPC Chairperson: Liam Reilly, Cllr. Marianne Butler, Cllr James Byrne, Eugene Conlon, Pat Mulligan, Liam Woods

Officials: Catherine Duff, Director of Services, David Hanratty, Senior Engineer, Pdraig O’Hora, Senior Executive Engineer, Brendan McSherry, Heritage officer, Esther Olabisi Olayiwola, Assistant Engineer, Karen Kelly, Assistant Staff Officer.

Apologies Kevin Callan, Colm Markey, Miriam Simon

1. Minutes Adopted

The minutes of the December meeting were adopted.

Proposed by Marianne Butler

Seconded by Liam Reilly

2. No matters arising

3. WORK PLAN 2021 – Liam Reilly spoke about the work plan for the next 6 months which has been agreed by the committee. He also discussed the programme for the next 3 and half years. He has asked each member to submit ideas/tasks. He will then collate the information with Catherine Duff to submit to the next SPC Meeting in May as an agenda item to agree the work plan for the next 3 and half years.

4. WORK PLAN: Developing a policy in regard to Sustainable Energy Communities for Louth update Pdraig O’Hora. Pdraig proposed some amendments to the policy. A discussion took place and it was noted that point 7 of the plan may needed simplifying. It was agreed to add in an asterix/appendix as an explanatory note.

They were also a discussion about bringing in Farming groups.

Policy to go to the CPG and Members..

5. WORK PLAN: CARO Video - update on training by David Hanratty.

Training modules to be rolled out to Councillors, staff over grade 7 and community. The community module to be rolled out through the PPN. Catherine to circulate details on training before next meeting and to also confirm which training module would be best suited to the SPC Committee. It was discussed about circulating the CARO Video as communication is key in S.E.C’s. Liam to circulate to Louth Tidy Towns together and PPN.

6. WORK PLAN: Update on Biodiversity plan -by Brendan McSherry

Brendan is charged with setting up a committee with LCC staff to oversee the Biodiversity plan. The committee is to meet by the 16th February and produce a draft plan by the 3rd March and then meet on a monthly basis. The National Biodiversity Data Centre produced a pollinator plan for sports organisations. Within that there is a plan for GAA Clubs. Brendan to share details of the biodiversity plans and the GAA plan with the members.

7. WORK PLAN: Update on Draft development plan – update by Catherine Duff

Over 800 submissions have been made and can be seen on the LCC Website. The CE Report on the submissions to be with the members no later than the 24th March. The members then have 10 weeks to consider the CE Report.

8. Consider joint meeting with Sustainability /Climate Change Forum at Newry Mourne and Down District Council.

LCC work on a joint committee with Newry Mourne and Down and it was suggested that we have a joint meeting with their forum. Both committees to do a presentations on whats be done in their jurisdiction with a view to seeing are there initiatives that we could work together on. Part of that work would be to do a virtual event with them towards the end of the year. This was agreed with the members and Catherine to organise a date with Newry Mourne and Down.

9. Update on developing a policy Involving Young citizens in Climate Change policy. It was agreed to put on hold until post covid restrictions were lifted.

10. Presentation by GENCOMM put back to September meeting. Date to be arranged.

The Minutes were confirmed at a meeting of SPC held on: - Date: 28th June 2021

SPC Chairperson: _____

SPC Chairperson LIAM REILLY