



CLIMATE CHANGE PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROPOSAL

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 67/22

10 OCTOBER 2022

The purpose of this Report is for Members to consider a proposal for a public consultation on climate change from the Town Council's Sustainability and Biodiversity Working Group.

NO. DETAILS

1) BACKGROUND

- a) The Town Council's Sustainability and Biodiversity Working Group meets monthly.
 - b) It has recently been developing a proposal for public consultation on the issues around Climate Change.
 - c) The proposal is outlined in the following two pages produced by the Working Group.
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2) RECOMMENDATION

The Town Council is recommended to consider, comment on and agree its support for it.

Sustainability and Biodiversity working group public engagement exercise 2022

Background

In the coming decades tackling climate change and biodiversity losses will be one of humanities greatest challenges.

Ventnor Town Council's Sustainability and Biodiversity working group propose to conduct a public engagement exercise on these topics with the following objectives.

- Increase the council's knowledge about local residents' concerns.
- Identify positive themes and projects in the town that can be built upon.
- Identify individuals that can contribute or lead on projects.
- Discover reservoirs of local knowledge and capacity.
- Networking to help residents meet likeminded people in their community.
- Inform public with high level overview of situation and possibilities.

The information received from this exercise will help the working group submit an action plan to the council.

Practicalities

1. The S&B group propose to host four events, one in each of the discrete areas of the town, Ventnor, Bonchurch, Lowtherville and St Lawrence.
2. The objective will be to conclude the events before the end of November.
3. The topic headings are laid out in the separate document - Sustainability and Biodiversity working group public engagement exercise 2022 - Topic headings
4. Each of the four events will have a Cllr in charge of venue organisation and the running of the evening.
5. These events will be promoted using the councils' channels – Website, email, clerks' column and Facebook, and with leaflets and posters as required.
6. Methodology: the events will be run using principles drawn from peoples' assemblies' techniques with an introduction session, small group working and reconvening to share outputs.
7. Costs: We request the provision of a £250 budget for venue hire and refreshment.

Sustainability and Biodiversity working group public engagement exercise 2022 - Topic headings

Councillors from the Ventnor Town Council have formed a group to investigate how the council could help reduce the damaging effect of climate change, world-wide factors and poor biodiversity, which are combining to threaten our way of life, our pockets and the long-term future of our bit of the planet.

Using the personal contributions of all Ventnor residents we are looking to you to tell us how you think the Town Council could help lessen some of these damaging effects

Suggested topics for your contribution:

- Understanding the carbon neutral target and our role in achieving it
- Using energy more efficiently and spending less on it
- Reducing the waste on food and living better
- Coping with the extremes of weather which we are now encountering
- Using valuable resources better. Reducing Reusing Recycling
- Improving the environment for everyone's wellbeing
- Making better use of public transport
- Reducing the use of private transport
- Working together in communities and networks