

# BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL



**Town Hall  
Bideford  
Devon  
EX39 2HS**

Telephone:  
Bideford (01237) 428938

Paul Swan  
Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

To: Members of the Decarbonisation and Environment Committee

You are hereby summoned to attend a Meeting of the **Decarbonisation and Environment Committee** of the above-named Council to be held in the Council Chamber, on **Thursday 3 October 2024 at 6.30 pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business.

In accordance with The Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 members of the public are welcome to attend. There is a legal right to film/record/photograph/report public meetings.

Paul Swan  
Clerk to the Council

## AGENDA

1. To Elect a Deputy Chairman.
2. To receive apologies and reasons for absence.
3. To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda and note any requests for dispensation received by the Clerk prior to the meeting. Enc.
4. Public participation session of 15 minutes duration on items on the agenda.
5. To approve the minutes of the Meeting held on 22 August 2024 as a correct record (approved and adopted at the Town Council Meeting on 19 September 2024). Enc.
6. Review and recommend to full council to restore the decarbonisation budget to 2% of the precept for 25/26.

**DECARBONISATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**Councillors:**

Mr J McKenzie  
Mr J Gordon

Mr J Craigie  
Ms R Clarke

Mrs J Gubb

**Date of the next meeting – Thursday 7 November 2024**



## **Declaration of Interests at meetings**

- Where a matter relates to an interest in list A, the member shall not participate in a discussion or vote on the matter. He /she only need declare it if it is not already noted on the register of interests.
- Where the matter is in list A, but is a sensitive interest, the member shall not participate in a discussion or vote; the member shall disclose that there is an interest but not the nature of it.
- Where a matter relates to an interest on list B the member shall not vote and may only speak as a member of the public.
- A member only has to declare an interest in list B if it is not already on the register of interests.
- If the interest is in list B and is sensitive in nature and not already registered then the member shall disclose the interest but not the nature of it.
- Where a matter relates to the financial interest of a friend, relative or close associate (other than in list A) the member shall disclose the interest and not vote. He or she may speak but only as a member of the public.

### **List A:**

- 1 **Employment, office, trade or vocation** – carried on for profit by member or spouse or civil partner.
- 2 **Sponsorship** – any payments for the previous 12 months, other than by the Council, to assist in Council duties
- 3 **Contracts** – any current contracts between the Council and the member or his/ her spouse or civil partner or a company the member is a director or partner of.
4. **Land** – any beneficial interest in land within the area of the Council by member, spouse or civil partner.
- 5 **Licenses** - any license, alone or with others, by spouse, civil partner or member to occupy land in area of Council.
- 6 **Corporate Tenancies** - any tenancy where the Council is the landlord and the member, spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest in the tenant.
7. **Securities** – a beneficial interest is held in a body that has land or business in the area of the Council by the member, spouse or civil partner that either exceeds £25,000 or the total share capital is in excess of one hundredth of the of the total shares issued.

### **List B:**

Any interests which relate to or is likely to affect:

1. Any body where the member has general control or management and was appointed by the Council.
2. Any body that the member is in a position of control or management and either:
  - (a) exercises functions of a public nature;
  - (b) is for charitable purposes; or
  - (c) has the purpose of influencing public opinion or policy (including political parties and trade unions)
3. Any gifts or hospitality that the member has received by virtue of his or her office in excess of £50.



## BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Decarbonisation and Environment Committee Meeting

held in the Council Chamber,

on Thursday 22 August 2024 at 6.30 pm

**PRESENT:** East Ward: Councillor J McKenzie  
Councillor J Gubb

North Ward: Councillor J Gordon (Chairman)  
Councillor K Hind

South Ward Councillor R Clarke

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr P Swan (Town Clerk)

#### 9. **ELECTION OF A DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Clarke was proposed by Councillor McKenzie and seconded by Councillor Gubb.

**RESOLVED: That Councillor Clarke is appointed as Deputy Chairman of the Committee for the coming year.**

(Vote: For: 5, Against: 0, Abstention 0)

#### 10. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor J Craigie

#### 11. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

#### 12. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD**

No members of the public present.

#### 13. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2<sup>th</sup> July 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record.

Proposed by Councillor Gubb and seconded by Councillor Hind.

(Vote: For: 5, Against: 0, Abstention 0)

14. **WILD SEEDING**

To discuss and resolve upon making a recommendation to full council to allocate some spaces to wild seeding.

Councillor Gordon explained the benefits of not cutting areas which will reduce Co2 emissions from rotting grass and increases in bio-diversity.

It was proposed by Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Gubb and

**RESOLVED: That the rewilding of the proposed site be actioned where possible.**

(Vote – For 5, Against: 0, Abstention 0).

15. **CARBON AUDIT**

To discuss and resolve upon making a recommendation to full council to inquire into having a carbon audit carried out on BTC operations.

Councillor Clarke explained she could not support the audit as the cost was too prohibitive and funding this year was not available and we were already doing as much as possible operationally with the purchase of the electric tools.

Councillor Hinds suggested reviewing Torridge District Councils recent audit and select the relevant items applicable to the Town Council.

It was proposed by Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor McKenzie and

**RESOLVED: That the audit was not procured but the creation of an internal action plan would be undertaken by Councillor Gordon.**

(Vote – For 5, Against: 0, Abstention 0).

16. **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting will be held on 3 October 2024.

The Chairman thanked the Members for their attendance and support. He concluded the Meeting at 18:47.

Signature of Town Mayor:..... Date:.....

Signature of Chairman:..... Date:.....