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COUNCIL

Minutes of a Virtual Council Meeting held at 6.00 pm on Thursday 8 October 2020.

Under Regulations made under the Coronavirus Act 2020, the meeting was held virtually. Members of the public were able to view the virtual meeting via the District Council's website at www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk or via our YouTube channel.

PRESENT

Councillor Richard FitzHerbert - In the Chair

Councillors Jacqueline Allison, Robert Archer, Jason Atkin, Richard Bright, Matthew Buckler, Sue Bull, Martin Burfoot, Sue Burfoot, Neil Buttle, David Chapman, Tom Donnelly, Steve Flitter, Helen Froggatt, Chris Furness, Clare Gamble, Alyson Hill, Susan Hobson, David Hughes, Stuart Lees, Elisa McDonagh, Tony Morley, Michele Morley, Peter O'Brien, Joyce Pawley, Mike Ratcliffe, Claire Raw, Lewis Rose OBE, Mark Salt, Andrew Shirley, Peter Slack, Andrew Statham, Alasdair Sutton, Colin Swindell, Steve Wain and Mark Wakeman.

Paul Wilson (Chief Executive), James McLaughlin (Director of Corporate & Customer Services), Tim Braund (Director of Regulatory Services), Karen Henriksen (Director of Resources), Steve Capes (Director of Regeneration and Policy), Rob Cogings (Director of Housing), Ashley Watts (Director of Community & Environmental Services), Mike Galsworthy (Estates and Facilities Manager), Mike Hase (Policy Manager), Becky Bryan (Community Development Manager), Emma Mortimer (Community Development), Samantha Grisman (Clean and Green Manager), Chris Laver (Democratic and Electoral Services Manager) and Alex Beardmore (Committee Assistant).

Steve Dunning (Independent Member)
Andy Greenall and James Patterson (Clearlead)

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Paul Cruise, Graham Elliott, Garry Purdy and Steve Wain

89/20 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In line with the Council's temporary suspension of direct public participation, all questions submitted in writing pertaining to this Council meeting, together with the Leader of the Council's responses, were available to view on the Council's website.

In summary submissions in support of the Notice of Motion at item 10 on the Agenda were received from Mr Nick Loveday, Ms Lynne Crowe, Ms Laura Saunders, Ms Deborah Fulford, Mr Steve Elliott, Ms Julie Mullan, Ms Suzanne Leckie, Mr Mike Pedler, Ms Carol Collins. Ms Sarah Tomlinson, Scharlie and Stephen Platt and Mrs Jane Varley submitted a statement in relation to the item. Representations against the motion were received from Mr Simon Haslam, Mr Peter Wildgoose, Mr Andrew Gagie, Mr Gordon Wardman, Mr and Mrs Bunting, Mr Keith Harrop, Mr Andrew Broadley, Mr Michael Dakin, Ms Alison Bassett, Simon Frost and two residents who wished to remain anonymous. (name and address supplied).

Representations were also received from Ms Sarah Batterbee, in relation to Item 18 – Covid 19: Derbyshire Dales Economic Recovery Plan; from Mr Nicholas Bishop, in relation to the Air Quality Status Report and Air Quality Management in Ashbourne and from Mr Peter Dobbs in relation to agenda item 14, Report of Investigation into Green Man Incident.

In the absence of Cllr Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council, Councillor Susan Hobson, Deputy Leader of the Council, responded to the questions from Messrs Bishop and Dobbs,

90/20 – INTERESTS

Cllrs Jason Atkin, Claire Raw and Sue Burfoot declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 23 as a Members of Derbyshire County Council

Cllr Alyson Hill declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 10 due to her employment.

Cllr. Matt Buckler declared a pecuniary interest in Agenda items 10 and 11 due to his employment.

91/20 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councillor Sue Bull joined the meeting at 6.15pm prior to consideration of this item.

It was moved by Councillor Richard FitzHerbert, seconded by Councillor Andrew Shirley and

RESOLVED

That the following Minutes of the Derbyshire Dales District Council be approved as a correct record:

Council – 27 August 2020
Extraordinary Council Meeting – 2 September 2020
Extraordinary Council Meeting – 3 September 2020

Voting

In Favour	34
Against	0
Abstentions	1

92/20 - LEADERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Susan Hobson, Deputy Leader of the Council, read out the following statement in the absence of Councillor Garry Purdy

“An issue that has been raised is the continuing pressure that our Officers and staff are being put under, especially due to the current pandemic. Whilst it may appear to some that we have resumed business as usual, this is far from the case. Due to the increase in Covid cases both nationally and locally the Corporate Leadership Team has had to delay the return of staff to the Town Hall and the majority have had to continue to work from home. This poses its own unique challenges. Our staff continue to be involved in Covid-19 recovery initiatives, including Business Support, supporting the implementation of the test and trace programme with Public Health colleagues at the County Council and the implementation of new schemes of financial support for our residents. Just one example of the type of pressures faced is the requirement to establish a whole new system of test and trace support payments for residents, on lower incomes, who have lost income as a result of self isolating. This system has had to be developed and implemented in two weeks. Whilst we have met this time scale it has had an impact on Officers' ability to respond to other enquiries. Officers will always seek to prioritise enquiries from Members. However, during such challenging times it would be appreciated if Members could assist by limiting the volume of email correspondence and their demands on Officers for information which is not high priority. Officers simply do not have the capacity to deal with such inquiries at the present time. Please could I ask you to remember that our Officers already have significant responsibilities and workloads. They are professional people with a great deal of expertise and we are very fortunate to have them at Derbyshire Dales DC.

93/20 - CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Due to the current Covid-19 situation, the Chairman of the District of Derbyshire Dales had no updates.

94/20 – COMMITTEES

It was moved by Councillor Jason Atkin, seconded by Councillor Andrew Shirley and

RESOLVED That the non-exempt minutes of the Committees listed in the Minute
(unanimously) Book for the period 27 August to 8 September 2020 be received.

95/20 - QUESTIONS (RULE OF PROCEDURE 15)

Question from Councillor Mike Ratcliffe to Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:

“Given the very public recorded Intensity of members' speeches and their expressed commitment towards the positive or negative outcome of the temporary and permanent Gypsy & Travellers site decision on the 2nd September 2020, will the Leader of the Council consider the appointment of an independent planning adjudication panel on the forthcoming planning application to provide clear, transparent, democratic decision making and avoid any accusations of partisan self interest on the part of this Council?”

In Councillor Purdy's absence Councillor Hobson provided the following.

It is not for the Leader of the Council to determine the discharge of the authority's planning functions. The Council's Scheme of Delegation refers such matters to the Planning Committee to determine. There is no provision for a planning application to be determined by anyone outside of the Local Planning Authority and I do not propose that any matter should be removed from democratically elected district councillors representing the Derbyshire Dales.

All Members of the Council have in recent weeks received training on planning and ethics, where the Monitoring Officer set out in very clear terms the way in decisions should be made by Members serving on the Planning Committee. Irrespective of the matter before the committee, where a Member has pre-determined a matter either in favour of or against a site they should not participate in that decision making process and declare their interest. I would take this opportunity to remind Members that failure to do so would be considered to be a breach of the Member Code of Conduct.

Response from Cllr Ratcliffe

Cllr Ratcliffe referred to a large number of complaints received in relation to the procedure at the meeting on 2 September and stated his belief that it would be better politically and pragmatically to devolve any planning decision on the traveller site to an independent body.

Response from Cllr Hobson

Cllr Hobson reiterated her original response and reported that any complaints received would be dealt with in accordance with the District Council's procedure.

Question from Councillor Steve Flitter to Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:

- 1) *Within the councils Communications and Marketing Strategy it clearly states that the key focus is to support and enhance the activities of the Derbyshire Dales District Council through effective communications, promoting its reputation as a modern forward thinking local authority. The strategy also recognises that communications work best when it is a two way process stating we need to listen as well as talk. Communication with residents is also noted as a key driver and how we treat our customers should be consistent in tone and unified in approach.*
- 2)
 - a) *Does the leader of this council believe that the residents of Tansley were treated in a proper manner, with respect, and fairness by not allowing them the opportunity to consult on the proposed site for travellers on Knabb Hall Lane?*
 - b) *Will the leader bring a full and detailed costing and proposed funding of the development needed for the site including provision of services, landscaping, drainage and highway safety to council with full consultation before submitting a planning application?*

In Councillor Purdy's absence Councillor Hobson provided a verbal response.

RESPONSE:

Question 1a – the purpose of the Council meeting on 2 September was to identify a preferred site to take forward for detailed consideration as to its potential as a Traveller site. It was not a meeting of the Planning Committee and no binding decision has been made that the site will definitely become a Traveller site. It is now necessary for a planning application to be made for this use and that process will involve considerable opportunity for public consultation, including the residents of Tansley. This is the proper time and process for that consultation so I do not agree that the residents have been treated unfairly.

Question 1b – before the site can be developed it will be necessary for the costs of development to be agreed as part of the Council’s capital programme. However, the costs of development are not a material planning consideration, so I cannot commit to undertaking the work on costing before a planning application is submitted.

Supplementary Question from Cllr Flitter

Question 1a – How did Cllr Hobson propose to instil confidence in the hearts of residents and to this Council operating under a “One Council” theme

Question 1b - Councillors expected to make balanced and logical decisions and reports expected to contain all relevant information. Accommodation of the travelling community has been unsuccessfully discussed by the Council for two decades so how could Councillor Hobson account for this opportunistic decision being made in haste.

Response from Cllr Hobson

Question 1a - Councillor Hobson agreed that the identification of a site had been a long process but reiterated her earlier answer that the decision as not taken by the planning committee and no binding decision had been made that the site would definitely be taken forward. The process would begin with the submission of a planning application.

Question 1b – Cllr Hobson restated her original response to this question.

Question from Councillor Steve Flitter to Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:

- 2) *Within the Corporate Plan the first Priority listed is People and the comments “providing you with a high quality customer experience” and the leader comments that “People are of course at the heart of everything we do”*

Will the leader publicly apologise to the residents of Tansley for totally ignoring the wishes and rights of local residents and taxpayers in order to secure a site for travellers without full consultation?

In Councillor Purdy’s absence Councillor Hobson provided a verbal response.

Response from Cllr Hobson.

As previously stated, the proper time and place for public consultation is through the planning process. That process will take place once an application is submitted and the people of

Tansley will have every opportunity to put their views forward. Therefore there is no need to apologise to them or to anyone else, in respect of the last Council meeting.

Supplementary Question from Cllr Flitter

Did Cllr Hobson believe that our communities had been served well by the Knabhall Lane decision at the Council meeting on 2 September 2020 that had caused controversy throughout his Ward?

Response from Cllr Hobson

Cllr Hobson believed that Officers and Members behaved properly and correctly as that meeting and Council would move forward with the planning process.

Question from Councillor Clare Gamble to Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:

“Please can the leader inform the council of all measures taken since 03.09.20 to educate the public to not use portable BBQs on public land. To include all educational material written and all meetings in the council's diary with other agencies to facilitate this education. What actions have been taken to consider the implementation of PSPOs, as per the motion passed on 03.09.20.?”

In Councillor Purdy's absence Councillor Hobson provided a verbal response.

Response from Cllr Hobson

Following the Council meeting on 3rd September, discussions were undertaken between District Council and Peak District National Park officers. At these discussions, it became apparent that the PDNPA did not want to adopt an authoritarian stance with regard to signage, but would welcome our support in reinforcing the educational messages that they are already promoting, through the platform “*Peak District Proud*”. Assurance has been given that the District Council will be willing to do that through its website and any promotional material that it sends out as general tourism marketing in the coming year.

On the subject of signage, educational material is already in place in some of our car parks, having been placed there by partners with our consent, earlier this year. We'll be obtaining our own supply of that existing material, together with any updated versions, to deploy ourselves, and officers will post them in other car parks that we own near vulnerable sites from the beginning of 2021, similarly refreshing those that are currently in place. A sample of that existing material, which has been produced by Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service, has already been circulated to Members.

The process of consultation on Public Spaces Protection Orders, for both the renewal of existing Orders and any new proposed additions, will commence from early November and carry on through until February 2021, after which a full report will be presented to the Council's Community and Environment Committee, for consideration.

Two separate articles appear in the autumn edition of Dales Matters, which will be distributed to every one of the 34,000+ homes in the district w/c 19 October.

This is all in addition to our social media campaigns during the summer months at the height of the problems which reached half a million people.

Supplementary Question from Cllr Gamble

Cllr Gamble asked whether any else, beyond signage, was planned in terms of education – specifically for visitors who may not receive the leaflet to be published.

Response from Cllr Hobson

Quite a lot of visitors do use the District Council website for general information. Officers are working with officers of the PDNPA as a united approach was desirable. The Council was looking at renewal of existing PSPO's and that item would come to Community and Environment Committee in the Spring.

Question from Councillor Peter Slack to Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:

"In the last few weeks I have received vast amount of emails from wide range of residents of the Derbyshire Dales in regards to the Extraordinary meeting on September 2nd to discuss four sites for Gypsy - Traveller site.

The complaints where about the lack of democracy, openness and the Conservatives' Leadership rail-roading the selection of Knabhall Lane as Gypsy Traveller site.

The complainants go on to say at the very start, after the Officer had finish their report, the Chair invited to the Council Leader to speak and instantly afterwards the Leader moved to approve Knabhall Lane and instantly the Deputy Leader seconded to approve Knabhall Lane; this was before any other Councillors could speak and put forward views for debate.

So I would suggest in future meetings, in fairness, democratic and open debate, all Councillor Views should put forward and considered before it is moved and seconded. Yes this is not in the Constitution but it's good practice, so that all councillors can digest all views before it is moved?"

In Councillor Purdy's absence Councillor Hobson provided a verbal response.

Response from Cllr Hobson

Thank you for your question, Councillor Slack. You have answered your question by reference to the Constitution, and specifically the Rules of Procedure which govern our debates and how we make decisions in Council meetings.

What you consider to be good practice is a matter of opinion, rather than confirmed good practice. The rules of debate allow the proposal of motions at any point and the requirements of the Constitution were met, which is a requirement when making important decisions which may be subject to challenge.

Supplementary Question from Cllr Slack

Did Cllr Hobson agree that by moving a motion immediately her party put its own Members under pressure before they had listened to the debate and the views of others?

Response from Cllr Hobson

Cllr Hobson stated that all actions were within the Constitution.

96/20 – PROPOSAL OF A NOTICE OF MOTION (RULE OF PROCEDURE 16)

Councillor Elisa McDonagh left the meeting during discussion of this item. Councillors Buckler and Hill left the meeting during consideration of this item as they had declared pecuniary interests.

The following motion was moved by Councillor Claire Raw and seconded by Cllr Clare Gamble

This motion is being raised in response to the Government decision to commence and extension to the culling of Badgers. The Cull is likely to take place in several areas in Derbyshire Dales.

As many members are aware a successful vaccination programme has been established in Derbyshire and the area has avoided the need for a cull.

The views of the farming community on the effectiveness of the cull vary. Badger culling is a very emotive issue. Bovine TB in Cattle causes' extreme distress for farming family's in Derbyshire. At an NFU meeting last year members spoke about the experiences they had and talked openly about the issue. Some Dale's farmers had taken part in the vaccination programme and found this to be beneficial.

The Green Independent Group supports the evidence below that culling Badgers is not an effective method of managing Bovine TB.

The evidence to support the culling of Badgers to eradicate Bovine Tb is questionable. For example, Last year in the occurrence of bTB increased in Gloucestershire after culling was introduced.

Culling trials have shown that the shooting of wild badgers could reduce bTB by 12 to 23% in comparison a veterinary field study reported that vaccination programmes can reduce incidents of bTB by 74%

In considering this motion we are also mindful that the introduction of culling will enable the use of fire arm in the area. This is of concern particularly during a pandemic when the risk to people's mental health and rational thinking is heightened.

This motion acknowledges and fully respects the law. Its aim is to work within the law to protect the enjoyment of the wildlife and livestock in the Derbyshire Dales for future generations.

Therefore the council resolves to:

- 1) Ban the culling of badgers on all land owned by Derbyshire Dales District Council

2) Support the protection of Derbyshire Wildlife and seek support from DWT to install clear signage designating protected areas on our land and information to the public on the Council's website about where to report any unlawful killing of badgers

3) To acknowledge and thank the volunteers in Derbyshire Dales to protect Livestock through the vaccination programme.

Following a lengthy debate it was:

RESOLVED

- 1) That the culling of badgers on all land owned by Derbyshire Dales District Council be banned.
- 2) That the District Council support the protection of Derbyshire Wildlife and seek support from DWT to install clear signage designating protected areas on Council land and information to the public on the Council's website about where to report any unlawful killing of badgers.
- 3) That the Council acknowledge and thank the volunteers in Derbyshire Dales working to protect Livestock through the vaccination programme.

In accordance with Rule of Procedure 19d a recorded vote was requested by Councillors Mike Ratcliffe and Richard FitzHerbert

Voting

In Favour – Councillors Allison, Archer, Bull, M. Burfoot, S. Burfoot, Buttle, Flitter, Froggatt, Furness, Gamble, Hughes, O'Brien, Pawley, Ratcliffe, Raw and Slack (16)
Against – Councillors Bright, Donnelly, FitzHerbert, Lees, A. Morley, M. Morley, Salt, Shirley and Statham (9)
Abstention – Councillors Atkin, Chapman, Hobson, Rose, Sutton, Swindell and Wakeman (7)

The Chairman declared the motion CARRIED.

There was a short adjournment following this item

97/20 – MOTION TO DEFER

It was moved by Councillor Susan Hobson, seconded by Councillor Tony Morley and

RESOLVED

That, in view of the amount of business still outstanding on the Agenda authority be delegate to the Community and Environment Committee to determine Items 20 (Derbyshire Dales Statement of Community Involvement) and 21 (Derbyshire Dales Local Development Scheme 2020-2023) and to the Governance and Resources Committee to determine items 22 (Performance Management – Key and Corporate Performance Indicators Outturn 2019/20 and 23 (Vision Derbyshire and Local Government Reform)

Voting

In favour	22
Against	3
Abstain	8

98/20 – BIODIVERSITY OF ROAD VERGES AND PUBLIC OPEN SPACE (deferred from meeting on 27 August)

Councillor Matt Buckler was absent during consideration of this item as he had previously expressed a pecuniary interest.

The Council considered a report that outlined the potential to increase biodiversity of road verges and public open spaces managed by Derbyshire Dales District Council.

The conservation charity Plantlife had been campaigning since 2013 to change the way road verges are managed, for the benefit of wildlife. In 2017 they produced guidelines to help local authorities achieve this. With over 300 local authorities having declared Climate Emergency an increasing number have taken up some or all of their recommendations.

Community and Environmental Services had received a number of requests from residents in the past few years to reduce the number of cuts we make to the road verges to allow plants to flower.

Although this project is primarily looking at native wildflowers from an ecological point of view, plants also have other environmental benefits. Recent studies (Chris Smith, Goldsmith University) have revealed that some plants can help in reducing pollution. A few have the ability to take up pollutants from the soil, particularly heavy metals or they can absorb gaseous pollutants into the leaves but many more are able to trap particulates on the fine hairs on the leaves. Some of these plants are natives or are of benefit to pollinating insects. These plants could be of interest where the planting is near housing or public open spaces particularly play areas.

Derbyshire Dales DC is contracted by Derbyshire County Council to maintain road verges to a specified standard, which varies according to the location of the verge in question. The report detailed four options for increasing biodiversity in these verges. Each option involved additional costs but it was believed that these could be minimised by developing partnerships with Town and Parish Councils and local interest groups and, in some locations through less frequent mowing.

It was noted that there was also scope to increase biodiversity in the District Council's parks and open spaces by:

- leaving areas of vegetation to grow long to allow the existing plants to flower;
- creating wildflower meadows within short mown grass and planting native plant bulbs such as blue bells under trees;
- planting trees

It was proposed that, if approved, this project should be taken forward by the formation of a working group involving Members, representatives of the Clean and Green Team and the Community Development Officer, in consultation with partners such as Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Wildlife Group and Parish and Town Councils, who had a range of views on this topic. The report set out a three year plan to progress the project.

It was moved by Councillor Stuart Lees, seconded by Councillor Jason Atkin and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. To set up a Working Group made up of: Members; Officers from the Community & Environmental Services team; Members of our Clean & Green Team. The Working Group would research and develop the project.
2. To continue discussions with Derbyshire County Council on changes in the management of the rural road verges to increase their biodiversity within the District.
3. To work with Parish and Town Councils in the identification and management of wildflower urban road verges.
4. To investigate and trial changing the management of urban road verges that already have some wildlife interest to increase both the number of species and the population of wildflowers, using options 2.
5. To carry out a trial of the creation of wildflower verges using options 3 and 4.
6. To raise awareness of these verges amongst residents of Derbyshire Dales and to ask for their help in identifying verges rich in wildflowers.
7. To investigate and trial increasing the biodiversity in our parks and open spaces by either creating wildflower areas or changing the management of grassland'

The Chairman varied the order of business at this stage to consider item 15 – Public Participation at Council and Committee meetings.

99/20 – COMMUNITY PAYBACK SCHEME (Deferred from 27 August 2020)

The Council considered a report that recommended the creation of a Derbyshire Dales District Council Community Payback Scheme and sought approval for a supplementary revenue budget of £6000 to support the scheme.

Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) runs Community Payback for Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottingham and Rutland. The scheme is for offenders to undertake unpaid and supervised reparation work that benefits local communities. Each offender is risk assessed and they work a specified number of hours usually between 40 to 300 hours.

There are a number of areas within the district that the District Council are unable to maintain and complete works to a desired standard due to the lack of capacity and resources to undertake these works and the agreed core standards that take priority. The District Council can occasionally receive criticism for not completing some of these works.

The District Council is seeking for Ward Members to prioritise projects or areas within their Wards to form part of our Community Payback Scheme for the first year.

Officers will select 10 of these priority areas for the Community Payback Scheme to undertake the necessary works required over a 12 month period.

CRC also offer individual placements to offenders where they carry out their hours within a team in a Local Authority or other organisations. There is no charge to the organisation for these placements.

It was proposed to trial this option to build capacity within our day-to-day teams. The offender on placement would shadow other employees in the Clean & Green Team and assist on works such as street cleansing and grounds maintenance.

It was moved by Councillor Mark Wakeman, seconded by Councillor Alasdair Sutton and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. That the launch of a Community Payback Scheme for the District Council be agreed.
2. That a supplementary revenue budget of £6,000 for 2020/21 to be used for the scheme to improve areas within the District be approved.
3. That a trial a work placement with Community Rehabilitation Company to work within our Clean & Green Team be agreed for a 3 month period with the option to extend this period if the Clean and Green Manager is satisfied with the placement scheme.

100/20 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Council considered a report that sought approval for provisions for public attendance, for the purposes of participation, at virtual Council and Committee meetings to replace the existing provision that only facilitated participation by written submission.

Details of the proposed arrangements were set out in the report.

It was moved by Councillor Chris Furness, seconded by Councillor Helen Froggatt and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. That the introduction of public attendance for the purposes of participation at virtual Council and committee meetings be approved.
2. That authority be delegated to the Director of Corporate and Customer Services to give effect to the revised arrangements for public participation within Council Procedure Rule 14.

101/20 – MOTION TO CONTINUE

It was moved by Councillor Richard FitzHerbert, seconded by Councillor Tom Donnelly and

RESOLVED

That in accordance with Rule of Procedure 13, the meeting continue beyond 2½ hours to enable Item 13 (Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan) and Item 14 (Report of Investigation into Green Man Incident) to be considered. Items 16, 17, 18, 19 to be deferred to a future meeting.

Voting	In favour	29
	Against	0
	Abstain	5

102/20 – CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

The Council considered a report that sought approval for the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan produced by ClearLead Consulting on behalf of the Council. The Action Plan set out a clear pathway to the achievement of net zero in terms of the District Council's direct emissions.

At its meeting of full Council on 30 May 2019 Derbyshire Dales District Council pledged to:

- Declare a climate emergency;
- Make Derbyshire Dales District Council carbon neutral by 2030;
- Call on the UK Government to provide the powers and resources to make the 2030 target possible;
- Work with partners across the county and region to deliver this new goal through all relevant strategies;
- Report back to Council within six months with the actions the Council will take to address this emergency.

Updates were submitted to Council on 26 September 2019 and 16 January 2020. A further report was submitted to a meeting of the Council's Community and Environment Committee on 19 February 2020, which delegated authority to the Director of Regulatory Services to procure consultants to assist for the formulation of a Derbyshire Dales Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan. This work has now been undertaken and this report considers that Strategy and Action Plan.

James Patterson and Andy Greenall of ClearLead gave a presentation that demonstrated the ways in which the savings could be achieved, the timescale for that and the estimated cost of the necessary measures, all of which were also summarised in the report.

The Climate Change Working Group had considered and welcomed the ClearLead report. In doing so the group had also considered its own future and had concluded that there was still a role for the group, as detailed in the report.

The estimated cost of the identified measures was £2,773,000 and it was noted that none of this expenditure had yet been financed. However, the government was expected to announce funding scheme which may contribute to the cost.

It was moved by Councillor David Chapman, seconded by Councillor Peter O'Brien and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

- 1) That the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan be received
- 2) That the Council's carbon footprint be measured and reported on an annual basis
- 3) That the programme of works required to achieve net zero by 2030 is approved and built into the Capital Programme to be considered by Council in November 2020.

- 4) That the need to obtain funding to undertake the programme of works required to achieve net zero by 2030 is noted.
- 5) That the revised work areas for the Climate Change Working Group are noted.
- 6) That authority is delegated to the Director of Regulatory Services and the Director of Corporate and Customer Services to draw up new terms of reference for the Climate Change Working Group, in consultation with the political Group Leaders.
- 7) That the recruitment of a Climate Change Officer is approved on a 5 year fixed term contract, subject to the design and evaluation of the post, and that the cost will be built into the revenue spending proposals and medium term financial plan to be considered by Council in March 2021.

There was a short adjournment following this item.

Councillor Raw left the meeting prior to consideration of the next item.

103/20 – REPORT OF INVESTIGATION INTO THE GREEN MAN INCIDENT

On 5 June 2020 a petition was posted on the change.org website calling for the Black Head situated upon the gallows sign in Ashbourne to be removed. At approximately 21.43 hours on 8 June 2020 the Black Head was removed and taken away by Cllr Lees acting on permission given by the Council.

The Head was then retained by Cllr Lees before being placed in Derbyshire County Council archives for storage on 11th June 2020. On 11 June 2020 the Council's Emergency Committee requested an independent review of the incident to be undertaken.

The agreed remit of the independent review was to:-

- a) Establish a factual timeline of events which resulted in the removal of the Black Head, Ashbourne and its safe return to the custody of the District Council;
- b) Clarify the capacity of individuals involved and the source/authority of any permission granted.

Mr Steve Dunning the Council's Independent Member conducted the Review and was present at the meeting to present his findings which were appended, in full, to the report.

It was moved by Councillor Susan Hobson, seconded by Councillor Jason Atkin and

RESOLVED
(unanimously)

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the conclusions and recommendations of the Independent Person be accepted and adopted.
3. That the thanks of the Council be conveyed to the Independent Person for his assistance in compiling this report.

4. That the Director of Corporate and Customer Services submit a report to the Council meeting on 26 November 2020 detailing proposals to introduce general delegations to officers.

Voting	In favour	18
	Against	12
	Abstain	2

104/20 – SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

It was moved by Councillor Mark Wakeman, seconded by Councillor Jason Atkin and

RESOLVED (unanimously) That the common seal of the Council be affixed to those documents, if any, required to complete transactions undertaken by Committees or by way of delegated authority to officers since the last meeting of the Council.

MEETING CLOSED 10.20PM

CHAIRMAN