



Minutes

Name of Meeting Environment and Sustainability Forum

Date and Time 28th June 2022 at 1700

Venue Microsoft Teams

Attendees	Name	
	Colin Rowland (chair)	Tony Gillingham
Holly Jones	Sarah	
Abi Reynolds	Cameron Palin	
Lester Slade	Tom Murphy	
Ian Ward	Chris Quirk	
Mathew Northard	Venetia Verey	
John Hobart	Rob Sauven	
Suzie Ellis	Daniel James	
Stevie L	Claire Critchison	
Jonathan Bacon	Katie C	
Jenny Hicks	Nora Clinton	
Germaine	Penny Action	
Steve Davis	Robert Packham	
Helena Hewston		
Apologies	Chris Ashman	Andrew Garrett
	Fiona Ryan	Sam Smith
	Debbie Andre	Ian Stephens
	Julie Jones-Evans	Stuart George
	Brian Taylor	David Newton
	David Wallis	Vince Ward

1. Welcome and House Keeping

1.1 CR welcomed everyone. HJ advised we will be looking at Air Quality and Housing Hub updates. Unfortunately, ECO4 may have to be moved to next meeting due to Vince sending his apologies.

1.2 CR asked if any comments on previous meeting minutes from forum held on the 24.05.22. No comments raised; minutes agreed.

2. Air Quality

<p>2.1 Mathew Northard to take us through the Air Quality presentation which was displayed on screen.</p>	
<p>Q. Stevie L: £100k per machine to monitor area. Can we have signage to fine motorist for idling, fixed penalty notices? Some areas are hotspots for idling but not monitored</p>	
<p>A. Law to FPN only applicable in air quality management area and where council adopts legislation. Currently no powers to do this on the island. If there were areas of AQM we would seek permission, but this is not an option currently. Education/persuasion are options at the minute – notices sent to taxi drivers, have worked with coach companies etc to reduce idling.</p>	
<p>Q. Stevie L: Diffusion tubes predict exceedance of daily limits – what happens if they exceed?</p>	
<p>A. Referred to slide showing table 1.1, 200mcg not to be exceeded more than 18 times annually. If you send tube off at end of month and it gives high figure for month (80mcg or more) it is likely 200mcg has been exceeded over annual mean. We then declare Air Quality Management Areas and there is a process to work through between council and other agencies e.g., transport companies to bring air quality back to below level.</p>	
<p>Q. Stevie L: Education – if FPNs can't be issued what can be done around schools? No signage – seems that only option is asking people not to idle. There are days when pollution is at a dangerous level, particularly for younger children</p>	
<p>A. MN advised we can look onto this – are there any particular schools? Stevie L advised Wroxall Primary but other schools as well. MN will speak with managers and discuss next step and seek to implement campaign with schools and highways. Will provide an update at next meeting.</p>	
<p>Q. Venetia Verey: Arreton: applications for heavy industry in area. Are air quality emissions for plant and heavy equipment considered? How are you approaching average air quality for the area when no current data is collected? Looks like SE England average is used – is this appropriate for Island? Hare & Hounds and Hare & Magpie junctions are of concern.</p>	
<p>A. There are predictions from DEFRA about levels for every km square in the country and they use those in the absence of any local authority data, will also use the data from nearest site. MN asked which application? Venetia Verey – UKOG which has been and gone and recent one St Georges new plant. Is there a proper record for all industry happening in Arreton? MN - we use tools to review and assess (risk assessment – from doc in presentation). For planning apps we often require air quality impact assessment. DEFRA background map figures usually used in any application. Aim to avoid significant increase in air quality issues in area. Need to restrict sites through planning permission via certain measures e.g., mobile excavators would need specific engines to ensure air quality management.</p>	
<p>3. <u>Housing Hub Update</u></p>	

<p>3.1 Rob Sauven took us through the Housing hub updates presentation which was displayed on screen</p>	
<p>Q. Tom Murphy: is there any work regarding new builds and Modular homes also potential using our own island timber?</p>	
<p>A. Plan from Council is to produce modular homes for families in need is in progress. Like the idea of modular homes and have had conversation with Sydenham's. Would be great to use local timber – need to review current volume of timber used. Rob to catch up with Tom following ESF.</p>	
<p>Q. Penny Acton: re meeting about new homes using water/energy efficiently. Southern Water meeting recently – they don't have involvement in development, can they be included in consultation?</p>	
<p>A. Water authorities are consulted re regulations, then developers work to regulations. Maximum water uses per person currently included in design of house which needs to be followed. Swale is needed to deal with wastewater in developments of 10+ houses. Rob is pushing for all houses to have rainwater tanks – this would help in dealing with pumping out rainwater into rivers etc. to deal with wastewater</p>	
<p>Jonathan Bacon: to add – what RS is talking about; national legislation guides what has to be done but we should look at local practice. Draft island plan coming through will not set rules but will set parameters for those things to happen. Plan reviewed and new process in place. This is an opportunity to put mission zero into practice and create good practice locally</p>	
<p>Colin Rowland: Southern Water have set IW as 1 of 5 regional pathfinder authorities. Looking at ways to reduce surface water. Runoff, housing design, innovation – funded by approx. £15m. working with them and island roads and others to look at options here and conserve water better.</p>	
<p>Q. Germaine: Planning – great to have net zero housing plans/strategies but from experience of trying to do these kinds of projects there is often a brick wall with planning. Will there be a review/re-look at how to educate planning, so they understand how net zero houses function? They may not fall within usual home building guidelines</p>	
<p>A. Jonathan Bacon: Short answer yes. Planning are already aware but we need to create framework as to how to put these things into practice. Draft IPS already contains a lot about Mission Zero and this is being expanded. LGA review of planning service published this morning, telling us to look at how day to day planning operates. Good opportunity to find methodologies to put ideas and concepts into practice. Need to be part of BAU.</p>	
<p>Q. Stevie L: about framework in place – we don't have skills on island to be 'green'. Is there anything that can be done to incentivise skills? Is the council looking at options here?</p>	
<p>A. Rob S: outside the council – Medina College offers courses; these are business driven. Not sure about council actions.</p>	

Colin Rowland one of the things we need to recognise as part of a regeneration strategy is the need to upskill people in these particular areas and will be something, we will be looking at going forward.
Holly- There was funding received under the Green Home Grant Local Authority Delivery to upskill contractors but was difficult under the admin side but will add more information into the minutes.
4. <u>ECO4</u>
4.1 Apologies received from Vince Ward as not able to attend and will be moved to next ESF.
5. <u>Pre-Submitted Questions</u>
<p>Q. With the need to be more sustainable, when is Isle of Wight going to look into solar lighting on streets and public areas?</p> <p>A. Currently there are no plans to do so. However, as a part of the Dark Skies project a number of streetlights in the southwest of the Island are being change to a lower temperature. Additionally, there have been aspirations to turn the lights off in the early hours, on particular areas. We are expecting to hold further discussions on solar lights and RTI screens at bus shelters. We have some in place at present for solar lights but not RTI.</p> <p>Alastair Driver, head of the NGO Rewilding Britain, said all councils could make a significant contribution to the group’s aim to rewild 5% of Great Britain. “There’s no doubt that local authorities can directly and indirectly contribute significantly to rewilding, particularly around urban fringes where people can walk out into truly wild or wilding countryside,” he said. (19/06/2022)</p>
<p>Q. Does the Isle of Wight Council have any plans to join in with this initiative?</p> <p>A. We are not currently members of this initiative specifically but there are a number of rewilding areas/projects around the Island. Outside the council the main one that springs to mind is the Solent seagrass project. On land there are 3 cemeteries that are conservation areas. Shanklin town council is allowing natural regeneration around the Big Mead boundary. There are several areas that have been left to rewind around the Cowes Moorgreen Reservoir. There are several conservation areas in Appley Park. There is about ¼ sq km in the Lake Remote playing field along a boundary that is no longer mowed to allow trees to grow safely.</p> <p>We are discussing some further initiatives including allowing borders to regenerate in parks and open spaces, and allowing borders around existing woodland to do the same – however there is more work to be done in terms of mapping/planning before either can be confirmed as going ahead</p>

Q. We have just had the Festival – the after effect of this is nose to tail often stationary traffic along Fishbourne Lane, Wootton High Street, Eleanor’s Grove and well beyond for hours and hours. Many, that enjoy the benefits of air conditioning keep their engines running all the time. The result is significant and unpleasant air pollution for all those that live along this route. Whilst the festival is a one-off annual event, the congestion is not - sadly.

One of the six Wightlink car ferries may fly the banner of being ‘green’ by occasionally running on electric power, but the ‘benefit’ is absolutely wiped out by the congestion caused on the roads of the Island.

Does the forum have any solutions?

A. There was a medical emergency on one of the ferries that meant traffic had to be stopped from approximately 11am-12am on the Monday after the festival. As soon as festival organisers found out they stopped allowing traffic for the ferries to leave the festival parking area, but there is only so much effect this would have had with the cars that would have already left. I will open this one to the floor for suggestions.

6. AOB

6.1 Nora Clinton: TFMZ event 15th June Caffe Isola. 65 attendees talking about mission zero. Gathering info about people there, their interests, what they would like to achieve in their own work/communities and what skills they have/need. Next event Vestas Sep 21st. bigger space so hopefully more people along. Facebook group also growing.