



Minutes

Name of Meeting		Environment and Sustainability Forum
Date and Time		30 th September 2021, 17:00-18:30
Venue		Microsoft Teams
Attendees	Name	Role/Organisation
	Sarah Talbot	
	Holly Jones	Climate Change Project Officer
	David Adams	
	Debbie Andre	Cabinet Member
	Chris Ashman	Director of Regeneration
	Jonathan Bacon	Cabinet Member
	Brian Taylor	AgeUK (IW) Older Person Steering Group (OPSG) / Whippingham Parish Council
	Robert Brooker	Waste & Recycling Contract Manager
	Claire Critchison	Vice Chairman of Council
	Suzie Ellis	IWC Councillor for Central Rural
	Bethany Fox	Trainee Project Manager
	Carol Flux	
	Jennine Gardiner	Rights Of Way Assistant
	Stuart George	
	Helena Hewston	
	Chris Jarman	Cabinet Member
	Jcmedland	
	Julie	
	Dina Jung	
Lester Slade		
Marianne Sullivan		
Lee Matthews	Strategic Mgr Recreation & Public Spaces	
Rebecca Hardie	Parish Councillor for Nettlestone and Seaview	
Rob Sauven		
Venetia Verey		
Vince Wedlock-Ward	Future Isle of Wight	
Dave Wallis	Island Roads	
17:00	ND	Welcome and housekeeping Apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Newton • Alex Minns • Natasha Dix • Tony Gillingham • Sue Betts MS Teams and housekeeping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No amendments to last month's minutes
17:05	HJ/RS	Intro to Mission Zero Hub <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides attached • Introducing Rob Sauven

17:20		Q&A
	BT	Can we have the slides?
	HJ	These will be sent alongside minutes
	MS	What will be done about climate education across the Island?
	HJ	Need to assess this as different groups will have different needs, e.g. those focused on housing will have different priorities than those focused on energy. Unlikely to be a one size fits all approach.
	BT	When was the last time an open event was run on the Island to help educate people about climate change?
	HJ	We have run the forum on an almost monthly basis since last December and it was running regularly prior to Covid. Cabinet and council have also discussed the climate strategy publicly 2-3 times in the past year. However, no large public events have run in past 12 months, largely owing to Covid restrictions
	RS	We can't leave this type of engagement entirely up to the council – we need wider engagement from different groups to help educate and inform.
	JB	I am currently looking to set up a steering group for the Biosphere across the Island. It sounds like it may work similarly to what you've described for the Mission Zero Hub. Perhaps we can tie this in?
	HJ	I think we expect this to work somewhat similarly so yes these should tie in with each other very well.
	MS	In Bembridge we've previously had the BEN group and see climate change as the most important issue to tackle for the future. We need to ensure cohesion as we can't have everyone acting separately. Town & Parish Councils tend to work slowly, and we need to speed this up so people don't get discouraged.
HJ	Very good point – hopefully by bringing people together through one central hub we will be able to ensure that we are all working collaboratively and supporting the four pillars described in the slides.	
17:20		Breakout groups
18:00		Feedback from groups
		Group 1
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-groups need to take a holistic view and ensure that they are including all demographics • We think the list of sub-groups looks OK • Sub-groups need to ensure all views are taken into account – but still focus on their specific issue • Hub message needs to be unified and coordinated to avoid individuals or groups aiming to focus on their specific agendas • Need young people involved to access wider audiences
	HJ	Could take an approach similar to the UN Sustainable Development Goals – there are 17 global goals, each of which has their own list of aims and targets
		Group 2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-groups need to feed up to a board • Grant funding: Sub-groups should come up with actions then seek other groups that need similar funding so we can aim to access larger pots of money rather than smaller scattered grants – this should be coordinated centrally • Could consider a grant/bid coordinator role? • Branding needed – this should be inclusive and start immediately to outline the message of the Hub • Sub-groups can then spread this message using branding to increase engagement 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unsure who should take ownership of Sub-groups • Really good opportunity to harness all knowledge across the Island
		Group 3
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have excellent resources across the Island and a strong sense of community • Hub sessions need to be accessible to all across the island • How can this be delivered – are there buildings we can use for hubs/pop up events? • Pop-ups should be in different towns and not Newport-centric • Need to consider communications/advertising of these hubs and the programme as a whole • Could use noticeboards and/or social media channels to reach a wider audience • Current communications around climate change are not good enough
HJ		Will send out a poll to the E&S forum mailing list about comms preferences – we can start considering ways to build out from there
		Group 4
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-groups look fine, but food and agriculture should be combined with biodiversity and rewilding to ensure the two are not clashing • Each sub-group should have at least one person under 20 • Could try approaching any existing schools/college forums? • Churches could potentially also be involved • Meetings should ideally aim for groups of 8 or less to keep things flowing • There should be a small action group in each sub-group to meet up regularly, but feedback should always be sought from a wider audience • A lot of groups already exist across the Island – hubs should combine these • Does one group have full ownership of any strategy, e.g. transport? Probably not, so we need to communicate with all groups involved • Town & Parish Councils could also be asked to have one representative in each sub-group • We could aim to link with Portsmouth and Southampton universities for research and to calculate baselines • Groups may want to seek experts independently then use their knowledge to make policy suggestions to the council
	HJ	We have recently had a master’s student complete her dissertation with us, based on the circular economy – supporting more projects like this could work well
	RS	<p>Key themes summarised:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A thorough communication plan is essential alongside branding (e.g. leverage from the Biosphere designation) 2. Sub-steering groups need to work holistically to overcome the ‘silos’ that often occur in complex systems. 3. Sub-steering groups need to work cohesively to ensure common messaging. 4. Grant funding will be a key element of progressing many actions. 5. Young people need to have a central place throughout the Mission Zero Hub.
18:20		Q&A
	BT	In terms of communicating, why hasn’t the council purchased the Isle Cut Carbon domain name?

	HJ	Council policy has always been to keep all digital communications centralised through the council website. We expect to have an online hub/site/microsite for the Mission Zero Hub but don't know what the domain name will be yet.
	MS	The Draft Planning Strategy doesn't add up – information in different chapters works against other chapters. We need to ensure all parties are working together. A previous student of mine is now working in Norway in wind energy and he has commented on the lack of this being installed in England.
	HJ	Some areas of the UK/England are doing better than others in terms of wind, e.g. large offshore wind farms off the coast of East Anglia and Scotland. I would be interested in finding out more about this.
	MS	Will provide contact details
	VV	Air quality and other baselines used in the recent UKOG application don't make sense. How can they state biodiversity net gain when they don't have a true baseline to work from? Information available around the Island's baselines are out of date and we need better data.
	HJ	I know that BEIS do provide some baselines and I believe UKOG will have worked from these in some areas. I cannot answer this right now as I don't have the information but will take it away to research and answer fully in next month's forum.
	RH	You mentioned a student has completed a circular economy project. Are the Ellen MacArthur Foundation involved with the forum at all?
	HJ	Yes – they gave a talk at a forum earlier this year and are on the mailing list to receive forum invitations, although they don't always attend.
	MS	We need better data to work from in general. We can use this to improve what we are doing.
18:35		Pre-submitted questions
		None submitted
18:35		AOB
		None raised
Date of next Environment & Sustainability Forum: Tuesday 23rd November, 17:00-18:30		
Topic: COP26 outcomes		