



# Harrogate District Climate Change Coalition

## BOARD MEETING NOTES Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021, 5.00pm, Online

[Provisional notes subject to approval at the Board meeting of Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2021]

### Board members in attendance:

Neil Coles (Chair)	Leeds University
Kirsty Hallett	Zero Carbon Harrogate
Phil Ireland	Harrogate Borough Council
Victoria Oldham	Harrogate Borough Council
Jemima Parker	Zero Carbon Harrogate
Wallace Sampson	Harrogate District Public Service Leadership Board representative
Danny Wild	Harrogate College
Christine Willoughby	Harrogate Borough Council

### Also attending:

Chris Arnott	FM Management Solutions
Jonathan Dunk	Harrogate Borough Council Staff
Eloise Wingrove	Harrogate Borough Council Staff (taking notes)
Myfanwy Wolf	Energy Consultant
Patrick Corr	
Frank Stanisauskis	

### 1. Apologies received:

John Ward-Campbell  
Christopher Emin

### 2. Introductions

### 3. Meeting notes from 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021

Previous minutes approved (Neil Moved, Phil Seconded)

### 4. Establishing the Community Interest Company

The Board discussed the proposed list of directors and their roles and responsibilities. In particular, how directors are to be selected was discussed and the need for the relationship of the CIC with the wider community to be considered and circulated was noted.

The Board voted to move forward with proposed list of directors and their roles and responsibilities noting that there are still some vacancies to be filled going forward.

### 5. Harrogate District Climate Action Festival (Café)

PI provided an update on the 15<sup>th</sup> October event. A site meeting with Darren is required to work out what is needed and where. Lots of support for the festival has been received and the Board is optimistic for great success. One major sponsor is already on board and there is expectation to gain more. The Board thanked Jade, HBC, Kirsty and everyone else who has contributed in the preparation for the event. The Board also thanked Danny and Holly for their work towards the event planned on 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

### ACTIONS:

CA to work with NC and PI to identify and secure suitable Directors for vacant positions and to progress setting up of the CIC.

JD/JW-C to confirm whether there will be a fee for HCC venue hire

## 6. Climate Change Surveys

PC presented the findings from the residents' climate change survey (sample size 742) and business climate change survey (sample size 58) carried out by HBC and HDCCC in March 2021.

### Residents' Survey key findings

Residents were concerned about climate change and were concerned their sense of urgency is not equal to those with more influence. Many were enthusiastic and, had made or were willing to make, personal changes to reduce carbon emissions but want more information giving practical and financial support.

Residents want to feel part of a wider collective effort. They want others to play their part; many saying the biggest part to play is by central government and large businesses, and to a lesser extent Harrogate Borough Council and individuals.

The Board acknowledged a need to determine where the responsibilities lie to provide support and information for residents.

### Business Survey key findings

The results came mostly from managing directors of SMEs from a wide range of sectors and were very similar to the views of the residents.

The businesses were very concerned about the impacts of climate change and feel a need for immediate action, but do not know what their carbon footprint is and don't know what business skills and knowledge they require to thrive in a greener economy. Many believe that if they made changes, they could be more appealing to customers and save costs, but some want support to reduce their carbon footprint.

The businesses believed the greatest influence lies with central government and large scale industry, with lesser influence held by smaller businesses, Harrogate Borough Council and individuals. Businesses want to feel part of a collective effort with whole district initiatives.

### Board discussion on using the results and next steps

The Board acknowledged that although the survey findings are being acted upon and Harrogate Borough Council and some local businesses have had carbon reduction strategies for some years, most residents have little knowledge of their efforts. There is also confusion from the public over who is responsible for statutory duties. For example, between HBC and NYCC.

KH welcomed content and enquiries from the Board via email, which the Communications Team can disseminate and communicate out.

The Board supported the idea of the Communications Team coming up with five simple key points for reducing carbon emissions, supported by guidance, which can be easily circulated and provided at festival events.

## 7. 2021 Action Plan: sub-group leads verbal updates

- Energy (Myfanwy Wolf)

Communication has been produced on low carbon investments and they are in the process of producing guidance on SMEs carbon footprint reduction, including 10 standard actions, which should be ready prior to launch of the CAFé event.

They are making progress towards launching a purchasing scheme e.g., for renewable energies, with a target to launch by 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

The carbon management pilot with a local business may need to be postponed to 2022 due to resourcing.

- Land Use (Neil Coles)

They are hoping to have presentations at the events on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> October. There is an ongoing discussion with White Rose Forest, AONB and across the Harrogate

All to email content and enquiries to [email@hdccc.info](mailto:email@hdccc.info)

CA to put together five key points for circulation.

KH to put together a press release of key agenda items

District to raise awareness concerning woodlands and replanting and awareness of current projects such as the Great Northern Forest initiative, Skell Valley Project, Nidderdale, Harrogate Borough Council tree planting and the Long Lands Commons project.

There is exploration of a green streets campaign and how it could be implemented in the District.

There is hope of encouraging attendance of Zero Carbon Ambassadors representing young farmers to present some case studies at the festival to highlight the progress towards zero carbon farming. Neil highlighted a need to look into how we can promote this approach and provide advice to other land managers.

Greenstreet's part of White Rose Forest initiative has been approached to provide background at the festival on urban greening. Further discussions are being held.

- **Comms and Engagement (Chris Arnott)**

The surveys have been completed and analysed and the Comms and Engagement Group is now looking to act upon the findings.

Some members undertook carbon literacy training and are now developing a course to cascade across HDCCC that will be subject to continuing development.

They are also developing a decarbonisation award for businesses to take place after the festival towards the end of 2021.

There is recognition for a need for some ready-made communications content for use in press and other media publications. The Board and sub-groups were invited to contribute climate change and action content as a priority action.

**NC** highlighted that more input is needed from those across the wider District so it is not a Harrogate centric programme.

9. **Any Other Business**

The Board identified a need-to-know, which groups are eligible for the Local Authority Treescapes Fund and how this may be accessed by the HBC or provide support for activities within the District. J W-C is co-ordinating.

**JP** introduced how the carbon literacy project works and can be used to spread knowledge amongst businesses concerning carbon reduction and working collaboratively to maximise efforts. Accreditation is being looked into.

CA asked for clarity regarding a bank account that can be used for HDCCC transactions including CAFé sponsorship monies.

**NC** thanked the previous Board members for their contributions and all the collective effort that has gone in, to date, to get HDCCC up and running, and for their support to deliver the Climate Action Festival. .

**JD** to pick up and communicate which groups are eligible for the Local Authority Treescapes Fund

**JD** to clarify how we manage funding for HDCCC and Climate Action Festival

**JP** to provide communications to raise awareness of carbon literacy course

10. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August 17:00-19:00