

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL
CLIMATE CHANGE STEERING GROUP

19 June 2009

Present – Cllr B Regan, Cllr J England, Cllr Wilson, Cllr Poole, Cllr Barker, G Popple, M Sherwood, M Salmon, T Allen, K Booth, N Bennett, H Graham

Apologies – C Barwell, J Luty.

1 **INTRODUCTION** – G Popple opened the meeting by giving an introduction to the very important subject of Climate Change.

2 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR -**

Resolved - That B Regan be and he is hereby appointed chairman for the meeting.

B Regan thereupon took the chair.

Resolved - That N Poole be and he is hereby appointed vice-chairman for the meeting.

3 **BACKGROUND** – T Allen briefed the meeting on the background to the establishment of the Group.

Climate Change was a major issue for the world with far reaching implications for everyone. Addressing Climate Change required both local and national initiatives – doing nothing was not an option. The government was setting stringent targets for reducing CO₂ emissions and was to introduce capping allowances and penalties. Local authorities faced a tougher task than industry, as it was not just their own emissions to consider but also those of the residents within the authority.

The role of the Climate Change Steering Group would be to monitor and deliver the Climate Change Action Plan.

4 **TERMS OF REFERENCE** – The Terms of Reference for the Group were circulated for debate. It was proposed that they be considered at say, the Group's third meeting, to establish how they were working and what amendments were required.

Resolved – That the Terms of Reference be revisited at a subsequent meeting.

5 **CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN** – The North Lincolnshire Council Climate Change Action Plan 2007 – 2012 was circulated with the agenda for the meeting. This set targets and responsibilities across the council. The traffic light coloured system showed progress to date but it was agreed the plan needed reviewing and updating and that more notes would be useful.

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The appointment of an Energy Manager for the council was anticipated to be imminent. The role's primary function would be to reduce energy consumption, and it was hoped that there would be a series of seminars for staff to attend.

Resolved – That an updated Climate Change Action Plan be submitted to the next meeting.

- 6 **CARBON REDUCTION COMMITMENTS** – T Allen gave a presentation and summarised the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) resulting from the government's Energy White Paper published in May 2007. North Lincolnshire Council qualified for participation in the CRC scheme. Four key actions would be to:-

- Purchase allowances at auction
- Monitor emissions and complete an annual report
- Surrender allowances equal to total emissions, buying/selling allowances as appropriate
- Receive a recycling payment

- 7 **LOCAL AUTHORITY CARBON MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME** – T Allen updated the group on the Carbon Trust's Local Authority Carbon Management Programme and showed a list of the key drivers:-

- Cost saving, e.g. £700k savings pa from LACM
- Community leadership / Local Area Agreement
- Local strategic / business partnership
- Regulation, e.g. NI185 or 186
- Carbon reduction commitment
- Reputation / leadership of others
- Sustainable business, being a 'low carbon council'
- Having ownership of our impact on our planet

It was suggested that Health, and Education be added to the list.

A report outlined the Change Management Process and listed five steps to guide the council through a systematic analysis of its carbon footprint. The Carbon Management Programme would be an item for inclusion on the council's Forward Plan.

- 8 **INTERIM PLANNING POLICY RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY CONSULTATION IN RELATION TO NEW BUILDINGS** – M Salmon circulated a report seeking the Group's views on the development of a policy on the code for sustainable homes and buildings.

The policy would require all new housing sites above five dwellings or greater than 1000 m² site area built within North Lincolnshire to comply with the Code for Sustainable Homes level 3 and above on a sliding scale as outlined in

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the report. The policy would also require all industrial and commercial premises greater than 1,000 m² to provide 20% of their expected energy demand from on site renewable energy.

Resolved – (a) That the Climate Change Steering Group supports the development of the policy and encourages the planning authority to undertake the necessary consultations, and (b) that a further report be submitted to Planning Committee and the Climate Change Steering Group once the consultations had been carried out and assessed.

- 9 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** – T Allen informed the meeting that there was £50m available from the government for energy saving schemes. It was suggested that the key players of the Group work together to identify where quick wins could be made.

Resolved – That T Allen explore the options.

Cllr Regan requested that the current environmental policy be revisited particularly in terms of trees.

- 10 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING** – 2 pm, 18 September 2009.