

Basingstoke Transition Network
Meeting on Tuesday 11th February 2020, 6.45 pm, Belvedere House, Basing View,
Basingstoke RG21 4HG

Present: Martin Biermann (MB), Martin Heath (MH), Bob Clifford (BC), Malcolm MacInnes (MM), Rob Score (RS), Sheila Peacock (SP).

1. **Minutes of last meeting** – Fix spelling of Colin Grenville's name; otherwise OK.

2. **Matters arising not covered elsewhere**

- Item 5 of Matters Arising – CafeSci – used Makerspace and will use it again for Colin Grenville's talk, "How to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050" on 24th February, but after that it can no longer use Makerspace.
- Item 6 of Matters Arising – SP wrote to Cllr. Eachus and Mark Lambert at Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC) and received a reply promising that BTN will be invited to a meeting of local action groups in the spring. MH attended a meeting of parish councils called by Hampshire County Council.
- 3(b) In addition to publicising the points about the Future Homes Standard, SP raised the removal of local authorities' power to set higher insulation standards at the Manydown Overview Committee on 6th Feb and portfolio holder Cllr. Izett promised to check whether BDBC had sent a response.
- 3(c) MH wrote to Cllr. Ruffell calling for a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to address the climate emergency, but has had no reply. He will write again, and also raise it during his two-minute speech to the full Council on 27th Feb. **Action – MH.**

3. **Full Council meeting on 27th February at 6.30 pm**

Action points: SP – send out Mailchimp and put call out on Facebook;

MH – put call out on BCAC Facebook and mail list;

MH – apply to speak and ask about SPD;

SP – apply to speak and ask about community energy projects;

All - apply to speak and submit a variety of questions (deadline 20th Feb).

4. **HCAN, Southampton, Sat 29th Feb** – SP and MM intend to attend;

5. **Bishop's reception, Winchester** – MH and BC intend to go – SP to send reply to Bishop's agent; and to ask Paul Dennison if he would like to attend on behalf of BCAC.

6. **WinACC planning meeting on Sat 8/2/20** – MM reported that the aim of the meeting was to prepare WinACC's priorities based on an analysis of a zero-carbon Winchester. A sheet of priorities was given out - **Action – MM** to circulate this to us. MM made a point that WinACC should restructure itself as a resource centre with professional expertise on hand. It has experts available on some fields related to zero-carbon living but needs to fill gaps.

7. **MM's priorities for action**

We decided that all but four of the priorities could be taken on board locally, and MH added two more. We are already acting on some of them, or have ideas for action.

Priorities best addressed by BCAC:

- Implement a ban on vehicle engine idling;
- Stop/ban the "school run";

- Introduce electric public transport vehicles.

Priorities that require changes in planning policy, probably via a SPD, and certainly by improvements in the Local Plan in 2025 (but that is too late):

- Overturn all wind turbine bans (particularly in the current Local Plan) and accelerate production and deployment;
- Migrate gas boilers to heat pumps;
- Effective housing insulation programmes (subsidised by Council);
- Solar panels on all suitable domestic housing;
- Plant and conserve, or have landowners do so, huge numbers of trees, and use timber from them in “permanent” structures (houses) to lock in the CO2.

Priorities that require Council action outside the planning section:

- Invest in renewables rather than the fossil fuel providers in the current portfolio;
- Provide incentives for community energy schemes, e.g. BES Co-op’s proposed scheme for providing solar energy to the railway network (other examples are in Brighton, Maidenhead and Reading).

Items addressable only by national legislation:

- Frequent Flyers levy;
- Lab meat provision;
- Phase out livestock farming and introduce permaculture;
- Ban fracking – SP suggested that this might be rephrased as “ban unconventional hydrocarbon extraction” since hydrofracturing is required to extract deep geothermal energy.

8. BTN Climate Manifesto

Action – All – look at the priorities from WinACC and apply these to the current BTN climate manifesto, aiming to produce a revised version.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

Next meeting – Tuesday 3rd March, 6.45 pm, Belvedere House.