

**HEREFORD CITY COUNCIL**  
**CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY COMMITTEE 7 June 2022**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Present:** Councillors Diana Toynbee (Chair) and Councillors Powell, Owens, Milln, Hornsey and Oliver

**Attending:** Steve Kerry Town Clerk

**CBD2022/23.1 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

The Chair called for nominations and Councillor Owens proposed, and Councillor Hornsey seconded Councillor Powell to be Chair. Councillor Milln proposed, and Councillor Toynbee seconded that Councillor Toynbee be Chair. On being put to the vote it was, by 4 votes to 2

**RESOLVED That Councillor Powell be elected as Chair of the Committee for the municipal year.**

Councillor Oliver proposed and Councillor Toynbee seconded that Councillor Toynbee be Vice Chair of the Committee. Councillor Hornsey proposed and Councillor Powell seconded that Councillor Owens be Vice Chair of the Committee. On being put to the vote the matter was tied, on the Chair's casting vote it was

**RESOLVED THAT Councillor Owens be Vice Chair of the Committee for the municipal year.**

**CBD2022/23.2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

**CBD2022/23.3 SUBSTITUTIONS**

None.

**CBD2022/23.4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**CBD2022/23.5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

It was proposed by Councillor Owens, seconded by Councillor Oliver and unanimously

**RESOLVED That the minutes of the meetings of 1 February 2022 and 5 April 2022 be accepted as an accurate record and signed accordingly by the Chair.**

**CBD2022/23.6 COMMUNITY AWARDS**

The Clerk introduced the report and apologised that other work pressures, notably the unexpected ongoing questions around the Hereford Zipper Stronger Towns Fund proposals had prevented this from proceeding as planned. Members discussed a number of options including having a single award at the River Carnival to one very clearly deserving group and using that as a platform to launch a wider programme later in the year. The option of seeking to engage with primary schools in the remainder of the school year and making a decision in September, and the option of trying to involve secondary schools now, despite exam pressures were also considered.

There was general agreement that the Yazor Brook project was an outstanding example of a bio-diversity project which had been sustained over some years and had delivered a very positive impact on habitat. It would be a very suitable recipient of the City Council's first green community award.

After considering the options for progressing the awards it was proposed by Councillor Hornsey, seconded by Councillor Oliver and unanimously

#### **RESOLVED**

**That the Hereford City Branch of the Wildlife Trust receives a £500 green community award at the River Carnival in recognition of their outstanding work on the Yazor Brook project.**

**That the schools' awards in three sectors (primary, secondary and special) be formally announced at the River Carnival and each member be asked to liaise with schools in their wards to produce information about projects to be considered.**

**That the Committee considers the proposed awards at its meeting in November and that the awards be presented in December.**

#### **CBD2022/23.7 FUTURE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

Members identified a number of areas of possible future activity of the Committee.

The Shrewsbury Cup, which is a refillable cup to be taken from one venue to another, often attracting a discount in coffee shops to reduce waste. When it is eventually disposed of, the cup is either fully degradable or recyclable. The Clerk will contact his opposite number in Shrewsbury and see what more can be learnt about this.

After a brief discussion about Hereford in Bloom judging day, it was felt it would be useful to have a meeting with the HiB committee and the member who liaises with them (Councillor Boulter) to talk about diversity and good environmental management in the City displays.

Food share projects. It was noted that there are quite a few of these but they are not joined up and not always easy to find. The Clerk will discuss with Ben and Connor having a page on the website where people can provide and access information about this and also contact Amy Pitt at Herefordshire to see who the Talk Community can pick up on this issue.

Citizen Scientist Project. It was noted that several local people are engaged in water sampling in support of this initiative to have a cleaner and more naturally active river. There is also a group of people looking at invasive species, one of the worst of which is balsam which is taking over some of the riverbanks. The first action would be for these groups or individuals to contact Dave Tristram if they had either funding needs or needed assistance in establishing themselves as constituted groups.

Better lighting on the footways through King George V Park, which must be solar powered both for the environment and to remove the need for extensive waterproof cabling. The Clerk will contact Spencer Grogan at Herefordshire Council to see if this can be progressed.

Encouragement for tree planting – and possible donation of trees to schools or community groups where they could be planted away from the highway.

The role of the new City Council funded Environmental Protection Officer in enforcing environmental standards. The Clerk explained that this would cover things like littering, gum

dropping, dog fouling, obstructing the footways and fly tipping, but more serious pollution concerns would be addressed by Environmental Health Officers.

Hedgehog Street, an initiative to provide safe routes for hedgehogs which need to cover a wide area to find sufficient food and need do so away from traffic.

Cataloguing the City's green spaces and assessing them for bio-diversity value and testing how many residents had easy access to them. Noted that this would need to be considered in detail as it could potentially be extremely expensive to do, but there might well be ways to use existing satellite imagery and the local knowledge of members to cut the time and costs of the project.

**CBD2022/23.8 ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

All the topics listed above could become items if the necessary background work can be done in time. Specifically, members wished to discuss the following:

Shrewsbury Cup

Hereford in Bloom

King George V lighting

Trees for schools/community groups

Other matters would be proceeded with by officers and a general update report provided.

**CBD2022/23.9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday 20 September 2022 at 6pm**

Signed .....

Date .....