

Gosport Climate Change Partnership Steering Group meeting minutes

1st December 2021

Attendees

AG	Andy Grant	St Vincent College	
AS	Anne Stephenson	Gosport & Fareham Friends of the Earth	
BC	Barbara Cooke	Abri	
GC	Glenn Chatwood	HMS Sultan	Part
JS	Jane Staffieri	Gosport Fairtrade Action	
MS	Megan Streb	Sustrans	
TM	Tom Morgan	Gosport and Fareham Multi-Academy Trust	Chair
TP	Tim Pratt	Gosport Borough Council	Non-voting member
ZH	Councillor Zoe Huggins	Gosport Borough Council	
ZS	Zoe Smith	Co-op Group	

Apologies

Andy Ames Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
Louis Crowe Loud & Proud

1. Welcome & apologies

Apologies were received as noted above.

Decisions: none

Actions: none

2. Minutes of last meeting

No comments or queries were raised.

Decisions:

- The minutes for the meeting of 30/9/21 were accepted as correct.

Actions: none

3. New Partnership members and requests to join Steering Group

TP advised that Cycle Gosport, Friends of Leesland Park, Give Gain Grow, Gosport Allotment Holders and Gardeners Association, Gosport Cricket Club, the Gosport Globe, Gosport Scouts, Incredible Edible Gosport and Vector Aerospace had joined the Partnership subject to ratification at this meeting, and all new members were approved.

AG advised that a St Vincent sixth form student is keen to get involved; TM advised that there are some year 11 students from the GFMAT Environment Committee. The best way for students to be involved in the Partnership was discussed. It was agreed that ideally at least one should join Steering Group meetings and suggested that the students could meet separately and nominate someone to represent them on the Steering Group. TM and AG will discuss further and agree the approach.

Recruitment of additional Partnership members was discussed, including the need for more members from the business sector. GBC will continue to publicise the Partnership but all Steering Group members are encouraged to help with promotion as well. Face to face contact was highlighted as an effective recruitment method. BC has proposed some text describing the Partnership and benefits of membership that can be used to ensure we are presenting a consistent message.

Wider issues around developing a brand, strapline, logo, website and other marketing collateral were discussed. There are several points that would need to be considered and it was agreed this should be added as a separate agenda item in the next Steering Group meeting.

Decisions:

- Cycle Gosport, Friends of Leesland Park, Give Gain Grow, Gosport Allotment Holders and Gardeners Association, Gosport Cricket Club, the Gosport Globe, Gosport Scouts, Incredible Edible Gosport and Vector Aerospace have joined the Partnership.

Actions:

- TP will share text for everyone to use to help promote the Partnership to potential member organisations.
- TM and AG will discuss and decide the process for students to be involved in the Partnership.

4. Any updates from members

BC has been considering marketing of the Partnership and has suggested a strapline of “OneBoroughOnePlanet” that could be used. Wider issues around developing a brand, logo, website and other marketing collateral were then discussed. There are several points that need to be considered and it was agreed this should be added as a separate agenda item in the next Steering Group meeting.

Decisions: None

Actions:

- TM and TP will add an agenda item for the next Steering Group meeting to cover marketing of the Partnership.

5. Vision statement

BC proposed an alternative vision statement (also incorporating a mission statement) to the one agreed at the previous meeting. The mission statement part was agreed to be valuable and approved. There was then some discussion around the vision statement part as it was felt important to include target numbers for emissions reductions, although a concern about the measurability of these targets was raised.

A final version merging the targets for emission reductions with the proposed alternative vision and mission statements was then proposed, voted on and adopted.

Decisions:

- The Partnership's vision and mission statements are as follows.

OurVision

Gosport will be a thriving, low carbon town with a high quality of life available to all. By 2035, Gosport will have reduced emissions by 78% compared to 1990 levels, on the path to becoming carbon neutral and climate resilient by 2050.

OurMission

To support Partnership members and promote sustainability throughout the Borough by providing collaborative, bold, innovative and inspirational leadership and by empowering communities, sharing learning and celebrating successes as we move towards our shared goals.

We will do this by:

- enabling collaboration, information and skills sharing and collective action;
- showcasing best practice, learning from others and celebrating our successes;
- engaging with policy makers, businesses and community to encourage shared goals and monitor progress.

Actions: None

6. Working groups – initial actions

ZH confirmed that other GBC elected Members or Members of HCC could be invited through her to take part in working group discussions on particular items for which this would be useful.

BC gave an update on possible initial actions for the Food working group. Her intended approach is initially to find examples across a range of organisations of positive actions already happening and use these to stimulate conversations. The aim would be to encourage organisations to think about what they can do next and what support they might need. ZH highlighted that a Sustainable, Wellness, Eating and Living subgroup of the Gosport Food Partnership has been established, which needs to link with the Climate Change Partnership's Food Working Group. BC is involved in both partnerships and so will ensure that this happens.

MS gave an update on possible initial actions for the Transport and Planning working group, covering three strands of work. The first strand would be to collect baseline data. This could make use of any staff travel survey data collected by Partnership member organisations. Sustrans also has some school travel data from work done with Hampshire but it would be useful to collect data from all schools across the Borough if possible. This baseline data will then inform the next actions. ZH advised that data from the School Streets pilot at Alverstoke Primary school is available from HCC. The second strand would be to use the Partnership as an engagement tool to get wider feedback on potential infrastructure improvements, especially from those who don't already walk or cycle. The third strand would be to explore ways in which the Partnership can support development of the Local Plan following the regulation 18 consultation.

TP shared ideas for actions that the Transport and Planning working group could take had been received from Cycle Gosport. These include: linking in with Active Gosport; applying to the Levelling Up Fund, for example to fund measures identified in the LCWIP; identify infrastructure improvements additional to those in the LCWIP; and liaising with schools, colleges and large employers, including exploring the possibility of trialling joint initiatives.

AS highlighted the need to address public transport as well as active travel and this was agreed to be important.

TM gave an update on the Youth Action working group. Following a successful tree planting activity on 30th November, TM hoped to build on this with every GFMAT year 7 student having the opportunity to plant a tree. TM is also working with the Earth Museum on developing a carbon footprinting app designed for use by young people, which encourages them to take actions to reduce their personal carbon footprint. ZH asked whether licences would be available for use beyond GFMAT; TM will look into this. TM also reported that the Brune Park community garden is progressing very positively and GFMAT aim to replicate this at Bay House as well.

AG reported this St Vincent are applying for funding under the Skills Development Fund, covering three areas including clean growth and decarbonisation, with the intention of using it to improve energy efficiency and implement decarbonisation measures. The St Vincent Student Council is working on ways that the college can reduce energy and resource use as a priority activity for this academic year, and is also looking to link with and support the Gosport and Fareham Wombles.

ZH advised that GBC are consideration a Green Day in March 2022 and potentially activities tying in with Green Week in September 2022, which could provide an opportunity for activities or challenges for young people. TM suggested challenges around sustainable travel to school.

GC gave an update on the Energy Efficiency working group. He has facilitated evaluations of Gosport Cricket Club and Brune Park school to identify suitable measures that could be implemented, and is expecting to carry out a similar exercise at Lord Wilson school (in Fareham). BC highlighted that organisations can struggle with issues such as being offered conflicting alternatives by contractors and not having the expertise to decide which approach is best. There are also barriers such as lease conditions or planning permission requirements. BC suggested that the Partnership could provide expert advice to help with these issues. GC advised that it might be challenging to provide generic advice since every building has different opportunities and constraints.

ZH suggested that GBC elected Members should be made aware of the working groups' activities so that Board chairs in particular can engage with the Partnership on any consultations or policy questions that are being discussed. TP agreed to facilitate this.

Decisions: None

Actions:

- TM will investigate options for licences for the youth carbon footprinting app, and report back on the feasibility of the Partnership promoting the app to all schools in Gosport.
- TP will provide information about the Partnership's working groups to GBC elected Members.

7. Any other business

AS asked for an update on the Greening Campaign groups in Gosport. TP advised that five groups had signed up to the campaign, of which one is nearing the end of phase 1 of the campaign (having had a public meeting, held a launch event, distributed and counted the challenge cards). Two others have held their public meeting and are planning their launch event, which the other groups are working towards their public meeting.

Loan funding is available from the Solent LEP for private sector businesses, social enterprises and further education colleges to implement capital projects that contribute to reaching net zero. There is also grant funding available from HCC for community organisations to implement energy efficiency measures. Members are encouraged to pass information about these on to eligible organisations that might be interested:

<https://solentlep.org.uk/funding-hub/solent-building-back-greener-loan-fund/>

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/grants/grants-list/parish-town-council-investment-fund>

Decisions: None

Actions: None

8. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be at 3:30pm on one of the 26th January, 22nd February or 9th February.

Decisions: None

Actions:

- TP to circulate poll to establish preferred meeting date.