

Cockermouth Town Council

11 November 2019

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to a meeting of the **CLIMATE CHANGE TASK GROUP** to be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on **FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER 2019 at 10.00Am** for the purpose of the under-mentioned business.

Please let me know if you are unable to attend.

All welcome.

Yours sincerely



Sheila Brown

1. **Election of Chair**
2. **Apologies for absence**
3. **Declaration of Interest** – Members to give notice of any disclosable pecuniary interest, other registrable interest or any other interest and the nature of that interest in relation to any item on the agenda in accordance with the code of conduct.
4. **Public Participation**
 - a) To answer any questions from members of the public in accordance with the Summary of Public Rights
 - b) To receive a petition from a member of the public in accordance with the Summary of Public Rights
5. **Climate Change Emergency** – To consider the Town Council's initial response to declaring a climate change emergency and discuss which initiatives to take forward (**pages1-3**)

Press and Public Welcome



Town Hall, Market Street
Cockermouth
Cumbria CA13 9NP

Tel: 01900 821869

Fax: 01900 827166

Email:

cockermouthtowncouncil
@btconnect.com

Website:

www.cockermouth.org

Town Clerk
Sheila Brown



Joint Winners
Council of Europe Year 2000
Europe Prize

Previous Awards
Plaque of Honour, Flag of Honour
European Diploma



Twin Town
Marvejols, France



A Fairtrade Town

Climate Emergency

List of possible actions for town council

1. ACTIONS WHICH ARE QUICK, CHEAP, RELATIVELY EASY

- Cease providing plastic water bottles at TC events – **IN HAND**
- Express concerns about river pollution to MP / Environment Agency - **ACHIEVED**
- Scheme for shops / businesses to refill water bottles - **ACHIEVED**
- Tree-planting on council-owned land - **IN HAND**
- Green pages on TC website - **ACHIEVED**
- Work with others (eg Goodness and Grain, Wordsworth House etc) to provide recycling opportunities for Tetrapaks – **IN HAND**
- Work with other businesses to increase recycling facilities (eg Aldi /Lidl for clothing) – **IN HAND**
- Carry out a 'green' survey of businesses asking them to score themselves against a set of criteria (eg recycling, use of plastic packaging etc)
- Where possible councillors to walk or cycle to meetings
- Encouraging shops to use paper bags
- Volunteers to provide advice on growing vegetables (like WW2 'Dig for Victory')

2. ACTIONS WHICH MAY REQUIRE WORKING WITH OTHER AUTHORITIES AND/OR THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND WHICH MAY REQUIRE FUNDING

- Cease / restrict use of 'pesticides' on council land
- Plant wild-flower meadow areas in Memorial Gardens and/or elsewhere
- Work with Allerdale / business to provide electric vehicle charging points in town – **IN HAND**
- Work with Cumbria Woodlands to plant trees on council-owned land – **IN HAND**
- Support / encourage cycling-friendly businesses
- Support carbon offset schemes run by local travel agents (tie in to tree planting)
- Neighbourhood Plan – specs for new builds on insulation, green energy etc.
- Town Council buildings – ensure insulation up to spec and energy from green supplier, (eg Good Energy or Ecotricity)
- Floral displays in town centre to use plants which attract bees and other pollinators.
- Work with local schools to discourage engine-idling in vicinity of schools
- Encourage county council to plant wildflower verges on approaches into town
- Install drinking fountain in town centre for refilling bottles (ideal for cyclists)
- Create a bee-garden
- Plant rowan trees (or other suitable species) in between the existing Main St trees to provide for the long-term
- Bikes paths / lanes / parking places / electric bike charging points
- Planting vegetables on council land
- Acquiring land for allotments
- Encouraging shops to sell more local produce
- Returnable town maps
- Town centre litter bins with separate compartments for plastic, paper and general rubbish

3. LONGER-TERM AIM / AMBITION

- The aim of Cockermonth Town Council is for its activities to be carbon-neutral by 2030 at the latest. This will require an audit of the council's current carbon footprint and concerted efforts to reduce it. Some of the measures that will be necessary are included above, e.g. ensuring that town council buildings are fully insulated and that energy is purchased from 'green' suppliers.