

Lyme Regis One Planet Working Group

Draft Minutes

Members present:

Sue Atkinson
Rikey Austin
Belinda Bawden
Jake Causley
Peter Coe
Jenny Short
Mick Upton & Sasha
Simon West
Tracey West
Adrian Wood

Apologies:

Judy Haines
Leon Howe
Michael Haines
Vicki Dixon
John Wright

1. Previous meeting minutes

These were accepted as true and accurate.

2. SDGs

It was agreed that we would discuss two of the SDGs at each meeting until January, randomly placed into the following order:

- August: 7, 8
- September: 3, 15
- October: 4, 13
- November: 10, 16
- December: 1, 17
- January: 5, 11
- February: 2, 6
- March: 9, 12
- April: 14

SDGs 7 and 8 were discussed - the main ideas and action points are below.

Jake agreed to research SDG 15 for the next meeting.

SDG 7 - Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy.

- Outdoor solar charging point for phones Tracey to research
- Lobbying (Dorset Council & central government) to change planning regulations to allow solar panels on listed buildings, to add to Peter Coe's previous request for double-glazing not to require planning permission. Peter/Belinda
- New builds should have legal requirements for better energy sustainability.
- A community energy scheme was investigated by Turn Lyme Green in the past.
- Car parks could have solar roofs, which would also offer shade and rain protection for cars as well charging points for electric vehicles. An example is in Nottingham.
- The Town Mill could generate more electricity. It's the last working mill of 12 on the River Lym. Peter and Sue, as Trustees of the Town Mill will ask the Trust to revisit the idea.
- Charging points - how many and where are they?
Charmouth Road car park & the Alexandra Hotel. Belinda reported the LRTC had been asked by Dorset Council to identify suitable locations for more.
- Community or shared solar panels - where is information available on this?
Belinda will contact Ian Crabbe of Evergreen Renewable Energy.
- Lyme could, theoretically from its location, benefit from wind, solar and water-powered energy. Tracey will contact a friend who was involved with the rejected Navitus Bay wind farm project to find out more.
- Publicise 'Carbon Neutral Lyme Regis' energy switching service - Jake suggested going round businesses with a laptop to help demonstrate this. Simon would put the poster in the OPWG area and suggesting logging any approaches made to businesses.
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- Public engagement with leaflets, bulletins on the touch screen near Jubilee Pavilion.

SDG 8 - Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all

- The Chamber of Trade in Lyme is close to being formed. Could it help compile a list of businesses who pay the Living Wage? Tracey to talk to Chris Tipping
- Produce a map showing Lyme's 'Green Scene' to include an accreditation scheme.
- Demonstrate best practice e.g. paying unions subscriptions for employers.
- Collate data on employment, inequality in Lyme; town council wages, gender pay gap etc. Belinda to ask LRDT/DC
- Encourage people to offset their CO2 when going on a flight.
- Find a location to invite the 'Green Weigh' mobile van back for a regular pitch. Belinda to check if town council would allow the space the Colyton Butcher used to get established in their car park. The cinema car park was also suggested.
- Use fewer things. Recycle more by putting items out at a set time every week e.g. in Barcelona people put unwanted items outside their house for others to take. Jake said Turn Lyme Green considered it. Mick thought disposal on the streets was better than a communal space but collection of unwanted items could create a problem for the council's waste service. Rikey said local Facebook pages show free things available.
Belinda to suggest idea to the town council for discussion.
- Rikey is organising a 'Library of Things' but needs premises and people to man it. Belinda wondered whether Lyme Regis Development Trust's 'Community Shed' workshop might be a suitable place. Belinda to ask LRDT.
- Sasha said we should ration our money. Universal income was discussed - experiments in Finland and Canada were stopped by governments but proved beneficial for social well-being and creativity. Simon pointed out technology and AI will replace many jobs in future so universal income schemes should happen eventually.

Summary of discussions and actions on SDGs 7 and 8

- Possibility of renewable energy schemes in Lyme - e.g. Town Mill
- Town Council data and initiatives
- A Green survey for the town with a cash prize
- Pull together the expertise in Lyme and invite specialists to meetings

3. Progress report

a. Social media and website

The OPWG website and Facebook page are done.

b. Defining scope

Vicki Dixon created a chart of a grid showing timescales for different levels of action which could provide a useful planning tool. Belinda said the town council would be using a similar time-based framework to plan when initiatives could be undertaken.

c. Public presence on the seafront

Belinda organised a OPWG street stall on Marine Parade alongside 'Meet the Councillors' and Foodbank tables on Thursday 8th August during Regatta and Carnival Week. The banner and leaflets attracted attention, as well as Plastic Free Lyme tables displays and the town council's beach wheelchairs.

Simon, Tracey and Vicki canvassed visitors to collect data on journey distances and methods to estimate CO2 impact for possible off-setting options, recording over 160 answers.

Members were encouraged to take the leaflets and invite friends to join the group. Belinda will take some to the Tourist Information Centre.

Adrian described how his business Advantage Digital Print off-sets every sheet of paper it produces and supports the Dorset Refill scheme.

4. Financial update

Simon reported he had selected Nat West as the only bank offering a free account without complex requirements. We will be requesting funds from the town council.

5. Ideas & suggestions

Belinda thought we should bring ideas to the meetings for discussion and agreement whether community groups or individuals felt able to take any of them on as actions.

For example, her daughter had suggested:

1. A hire scheme for plastic beach goods, surf boards, float toys and crab-catching kits
2. A bin on the seafront to leave unwanted plastic goods to be re-used by others

Belinda wondered whether Plastic Free Lyme/Turn Lyme Green might work on this and will discuss it with Jake.

A visitor had suggested turning the beach-front cafe into a community cafe.

Simon suggested creating a 'Repository of Ideas' on the public page.

6. Any other business

Traffic Survey

Simon reported he and Belinda had met the deputy town clerk to find out whether the town council's recent Hydrock survey provided the data needed for the CO2 off-setting project. It only has vehicle registration locations which will not be accurate enough but previous visitor surveys and the data gathered at the street stall the week before might add to it to be a helpful start. Simon will contact Dorset Council to see whether there is a possibility they could undertake a survey.

Lyme 'Green Scheme'

Rikey suggested a scheme with a badge of accreditation. Belinda said it could link to existing schemes and form a much greater part of the marketing of Lyme Regis.

Links to other groups

Tracey thought the OPWG website could provide links to other community and environmental groups.

Next street stall

Friday 23rd August evening during Folk Festival was suggested if the organisers agreed.

Belinda would check.

Next meetings to be:

19th September

17th October

14th November (2nd Thursday)

12th December (2nd Thursday) - to agree progress report to submit to the LRTC Strategy & Finance Committee on Wednesday 18th December.

Donations received:

£15.00

Meeting started: 19:00

Meeting ended: 20:50