

NOTES OF MEETING

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION CLIMATE PARTNERSHIP

Thursday 29th June 2023, 4.00pm

Attendees:

Chair Gideon Ben-Tovim	Nature Connected, Climate Partnership
Vice Chair Cllr Gill Wood	Wirral BC, Climate Partnership
Rachel Waggett	LCRCA, Principal Environment Officer (meeting admin)
Tim Jago	LCRCA, Senior Policy Lead, Place & Net Zero
Sean Maher	LCRCA, Environment Officer
Sarah Lovell	LCRCA, Lead Policy Officer for Culture
Luca Biagioni	North West Net Zero Hub, Local Energy Lead
Eddie Boyd	North West Net Zero Hub, Building Decarbonisation Advisor
Orit Aziz	Liverpool John Moores University
Patrick Hayes	LCRCA, Management Graduate
Archie McCluskey	LCRCA, Environment Officer
Annie Merry	Faiths for Change
Don Naylor	Friends of the Earth
Nick Thompson	CPRE – The Countryside Charity, Sefton Coastal Landscape Partnership
Cllr Liz Grey	Wirral BC
Nicky Crosby	Extinction Rebellion
Peter Owen	Energy Project Plus, Cool Wirral Partnership
Mike Wolffe	St Helens BC
Stephen Sykes	2030hub, Merseyside Environmental Trust, St Helens Climate Change Commission
Jenni Brittlebank	Environment Agency

Apologies received from:

Andrea Watts	Sefton BC
Colm Bowe	Liverpool John Moores University
Mandi Cragg	NHS Cheshire and Merseyside, Sustainability Project Lead
Victoria O’Kelly	University of Liverpool
Paul Nolan	Mersey Forest
Lucy Northey	Wirral BC

1. Welcome and introductions/ apologies for absence

GBT (Gideon Ben-Tovim) welcomed attendees and attendees introduced themselves as above.

Discussion about the potential to

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest noted.

3. Notes of last meeting for agreement

Minutes from previous meeting agreed.

<p>4. Matters arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Don Naylor (via Microsoft Teams chat) – From 25/05/2023 notes, a correction: it's some Universities, not schools, that have banned oil & gas companies from recruitment fairs. But, with schools, are we assured that anyone presenting for HyNet is covering the challenges, e.g.: all the unknowns around CCS? - (Answered in the minutes) – The minutes of the previous meeting 25.05.2023 have been altered. - Don Naylor (via Microsoft Teams chat) – From 25/05/2023 meeting: did the term 'low carbon hydrogen' get revisited? - (Answered in the minutes) – The use of the term 'Low Carbon Hydrogen' was discussed with Martin Land, Project Director of Mersey Tidal, who advised that this term is used because it is consistent with wording used by the UK Hydrogen Strategy - Don Naylor (via Microsoft Teams chat) – From 25/05/2023 meeting: alongside the positives of local nature gain, should we recognise global nature loss? There are global to local interconnections, eg soya from deforested Brazilian Cerrado that is shipped in through Liverpool (for Cargill) - (Answered in the minutes) – This might be something we could address in the future but the LCRCA is currently focussed on immediate action opportunities in areas we can directly influence. This is not something that the LCRCA is currently considering 	
<p>5. An introduction to the Imagine Bamboo initiative (Orit Aziz, Imagine Bamboo and Sarah Lovell, LCR Combined Authority)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah Lovell – This project sits within the LCR Cultural Programme - Orit Aziz – Shares slides - (links to the videos in the presentation are below): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Imagine Bamboo Summit at Birmingham 2022 Festival https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZBZnbWgt_A4 o Bridge2Bamboo R&D in Liverpool City Region 2022 https://vimeo.com/768664279/053d46c137 - Asked the Partnership a series of questions, included in the attached presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Are there synergies with what you are doing / planning? o How can this project help to support and amplify your work? o Do you want to attend / host something at the event/s e.g.: Talks, a conversation, a workshop. o Do you want to partner in an Imagine Bamboo Summit in September? o Who else (that isn't in this meeting) needs to know about this? o Young climate leaders – a bespoke programme for 1-2 young people from each borough <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annie Merry – How do we get in touch with Imagine Bamboo? - Sarah Lovell – Please get in touch with me, the email was shared in the chat - Nick Thompson – Please could you be clearer about what you wanted by September? - Orit Aziz – A more serious conversation/conference to convene stakeholders from education, construction, policy and young people. This is on the 18th September 2023. - Sarah Lovell – Seeing if there are natural synergies with projects already happening - Don Naylor – Could bamboo be used to build greenhouses? - Sarah Lovell – Yes, already in conversation with Eden Project North in Morecambe - Cllr Gill Wood – There are a number of local structural engineering companies who would likely want to have some involvement. There is a youth conference being organised with the North West Net Zero Hub. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nick Thompson - I would like to explore on behalf of the horticultural project managed by Emmaus Merseyside the possibility of growing bamboo on site and possibly building our next polytunnel out of bamboo who can I talk to? - (Answered via Microsoft Teams chat) 	
<p>6. Update on public sector buildings decarbonisation initiatives (<i>Eddie Boyd and Luca Biagioni, North West Net Zero Hub</i>)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eddie Boyd – Shares slides - Stressed the importance of collaboration <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Don Naylor – What are the funding models for district heat networks? - Mike Wolffe – Has the specification gone out for LCSF4? - Luca Biagioni – Hope to hear by tomorrow. - Mike Wolffe – Are LAs going to see sight of this before it goes public? - Luca Biagioni – Yes - Mike Wolffe – Is there a formal structure for the specification? - Eddie Boyd – Yes assistance will be given on this in a few forms. Looking to make options cost neutral for the LA involved. - Nicky Crosby – what opportunities are there to share this work with not-for-profit sector? - Eddie Boyd – Happy to share specifications and models – intend to publish these. - Annie Merry – Working with the Diocese of Liverpool on decarbonising churches as well as places on the Wirral. Much can be learned by these places, so how can we access information that will help in achieving this? - Eddie Boyd – There is a benefit to sharing solutions through the North West Net Zero Hub through workshops or other mediums. 	
<p>7. Buildings energy advisory initiatives (<i>Peter Owen, Energy Projects Plus</i>)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Peter Owen – Shares slides <p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nicky Crosby – is most of the work you are doing with private home owners? Is it even worse with the private rent sector? - Peter Owen – Yes, the private rent sector is very challenging. There is a retrofit task and finish group on the Wirral, which is very keen to make sure landlords understand their role. A lot of it is down to affordability, including with the minimum EPC rating. - Nick Thompson – What is your business model? Do you charge people? - Peter Owen – No, we apply for grants, as we are a charity. Advice is free, for EPC certificates, they charge to cover the cost. - Cllr Gill Wood – Are you seeing a shifting demographic in people seeking help? - Peter Owen – Yes, a lot more people seeking financial assistance rather than measures for improvements. - Cllr Gill Wood – What are your thoughts on how goalposts being shifted on eco grants? - Peter Owen – In the past, schemes provided replacement boilers, but now they are looking to replace them with low carbon alternatives. Comes down to money and willingness to take on the cost. Hopes that the CA are able to make strides forward on helping to overcome these barriers. - Tim Jago – On behaviour change and making retrofit aspirational – draws a parallel to EVs and the change in the past 5 years. If this comes from an aspirational standpoint 	



<p>then this would be ideal, so maybe this will happen with the retrofit market. Retrofit in a house holds value much better than an EV.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Nicky Crosby (via Microsoft Teams chat - The CA has a role a) round the public awareness and behaviour change and b) round the training gap - can it do more?- (Answered in the minutes) – Actions within the 5 Year Climate Action aim to address a) engagement, communication and behaviour change; b) work on green skills through the Green Jobs & Skills Plan through actions to ensure that development of green skills are at the heart of CA commissioning plans and to clear pathways to develop the green skills required	
<p>8. AOB</p>	
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<p>9. Next Meetings</p>	
<p>Thursday 20th July 2023 4pm – 5.30pm</p>	