

**Notes of a Meeting of the Climate Change Working Group - 25 June 2020**

**Members Present:**

Cllr Morgan Rise (Chairman)                      Cllr Robin Perry  
Cllr Peter Barnett (Vice Chairman)              Cllr John Skipper  
Cllr Rodney Bates  
Cllr Edward Hawkins  
Cllr David Lewis

**In Attendance:** Cllr Graham Alleway and Cllr Sharon Galliford

**Officers:** Keiran Bartlett, Garry Carter and Tim Pashen

**7 Election of Chairman for the 20/21 Municipal Year**

Councillor Morgan Rise was elected as Chairman of the Working Group for the 20/21 municipal year.

It was also resolved that a Vice-Chairman of the Group be elected; and Councillor Peter Barnett was subsequently elected for the municipal year.

**8 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence received prior to the meeting.

**9 Notes of the Previous Meeting**

The notes of the meeting held on 20 January 2020 were agreed.

**10 Declarations of Interest**

It was noted for the record that Councillor Graham Alleway worked as a consultant for Quality Managements Systems, Norwich which worked with businesses to achieve ISO 14001 environment management accreditation.

**11 Update on Climate Change Study**

The Working Group received an update on the Surrey Heath Climate Change Study currently being commissioned to support the preparation of the new Local Plan.

The study, was being undertaken by Planning Consultancy firm AECOM, and aimed to explore how Climate Change objectives could be effectively addressed through the emerging Surrey Heath Local Plan, both in terms of Climate Change mitigation and adaptation. Whilst the Planning Policy Team would receive a final draft on the whole Borough area's carbon baseline in due course, the baseline carbon emissions figures for the Council and its estate were ready for Members' consideration.

Using the most-up to date data possible (from 2013), the Council's baseline carbon emissions were 4,122 Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent and fitted into three distinct scopes:

- Scope 1 – Emissions which arose as a result of the direct activities of the Council for example the use of gas boilers and fleet vehicles.
- Scope 2 – Indirect emissions associated with the energy purchased and used by Surrey Heath Borough Council. This largely featured the electricity consumed by the Council.
- Scope 3 – Indirect emissions as a result of the activities of the Council. The vast majority of this was made up of the Council's procurement spend, business travel and employee commuting.

The Working Group received a brief breakdown of these three scopes into more specific areas. Following Members' questions and comments on the breakdown of the Council's Carbon emissions the following points were noted:

- Whilst it would be useful for analysis, at present this area of study was relatively new to all Councils. As a result it was difficult to draw comparisons to other Councils. However it was acknowledged that brief indications suggested that procurement spend regularly accounted for the majority of a Council's Carbon output.
- 9.2% of the Council's Total Carbon emissions were attributed to employee commuting. The estimate was scaled up from the number of Surrey Heath Employees; average car usage and then average fuel efficiency.
- There was potential to encourage different commuting methods for staff with subsidies on cycling and the provision of electric charging points.
- Scope 1 and 2 were mostly within the Council's control; for example in respect of choice of energy supplier.
- Scope 3 covered a wide range of areas and thereby varied in respect of the Council's ability to control it. For example there was scope to choose outside printers with a lower carbon footprint, but it was perhaps unrealistic to take into consideration a businesses' Carbon emissions, when procuring consultancy services.
- A much more detailed breakdown of the Council's Procurement in relation to Carbon Emissions would be brought back to a future meeting of the Working Group. Although the figure was minimal in relation to the Council's overall Carbon emissions, the Council's Carbon sequestration value would also be brought to the next meeting of the Working Group for consideration.
- The Council had the option to proactively look at the carbon emissions of its suppliers and contractors. This was already undertaken when procuring the Joint Waste Contract; although it was perceived that there would be a wider conversation around cost vs environmental considerations.

The Working Group noted that the 4,122 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per year equated to approximately 8658 barrels of oil per year. Early estimates from the commissioned study suggested that the Borough-Wide Carbon emissions totalled at 4,111,131 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per year, which could be offset by the planting of 6,798,138 seedlings. On these estimates the Council and its activities were accountable for approximately 1% of the carbon emissions produced in the Borough.

Members noted the planting of trees, specifically those which had particular environmental benefits in respect of carbon intake, should be encouraged via the

Local Plan and the wider Development Plan. In addition members of the Working Group felt it would be useful to be able to identify the amount of existing miniature carbon sinks within the Borough in its greenspaces. As a result it was agreed that the Borough's carbon sequestration value would be brought to the next meeting of the Working Group for consideration.

It was also recognised that AECOM should be encouraged to make their final study outcomes and recommendations as detailed as possible in relation to timelines, cost and how actions could be fed into the Local Plan.

## **12 Surrey Climate Change Strategy**

The Group considered Surrey's Climate Change Strategy, which was formulated by Surrey County Council and provided a strategy for collaborative action on Climate Change across Surrey Heath Local Authorities, with a view to recommending it to the Executive for adoption.

It was acknowledged that although Surrey County Council (SCC) had already adopted the strategy, before SHBC adoption there was potentially a need to make the strategy and any accompanying documents specific to Surrey Heath.

It was agreed for an action plan to be drafted in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman; which would sit alongside the Climate Change Strategy. The Working Group suggested various issues for consideration for inclusion in an action plan including initiatives to encourage commuting via Public Transport; the reconfiguration of parking tariffs and the use of key performance indicators. There was also a wider conversation in respect of working from home arrangements.

### **RESOLVED that**

- 1. the Working Group receive an outline of a Surrey Heath specific action plan at its next meeting;**
- 2. and the draft action plan be considered for recommendation for adoption by the Executive alongside the Surrey Climate Change Strategy.**

## **13 Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Working Group would be held in approximately a month's time.

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## Notes of a Meeting of the Climate Change Working Group - 3 September 2020

### Members Present:

Cllr Morgan Rise (Chairman)	Cllr Charlotte Morley
Cllr Peter Barnett (Vice-Chairman)	Cllr Robin Perry
Cllr Rodney Bates	Cllr John Skipper
Cllr Vivienne Chapman	
Cllr Edward Hawkins	
Cllr David Lewis	

**In Attendance:** Cllr Graham Alleway and Cllr Sharon Galliford

Officers present: Natalie Annalls, Keiran Bartlett, Emily Godwin, Mihika Kelkar, Jane Reeves, Jenny Rickard and Eddie Scott

### 14 Notes of the Previous Meeting

The notes of previous meeting were agreed on the condition of an amendment to show Councillors Peter Barnett and Sharon Galliford's attendance.

### 15 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

### 16 Workshop: Draft Climate Change Action Plan

The Working Group took part in a workshop designed to further prioritize the actions within the Council's draft Climate Change Action Plan.

Prior to the meeting Members of the Working Group completed a Climate Change Action Plan Survey created by officers in order to focus discussions and give a starting point to where Members felt that the highest priority actions lay. Members completed the survey and marked each action point as either high priority, medium priority or low priority. A separate question also sought to give an indication of Members' top 5 priority actions.

The survey was split into 6 sections and each section outlined the actions proposed for each of the 6 key areas (Energy, Buildings and Infrastructure, Transport and Air Quality, Trees and Open Space, Influence: Education and Business, including the Green Economy and General). For the purposes of the Working Group meeting some of the themes were coupled together.

#### Energy; Buildings and infrastructure

Members were reminded that there were 17 potential actions to be considered for inclusion in the Energy section of the draft Action Plan and 5 potential actions for the Buildings and Infrastructure section. It was also emphasised that reducing the carbon emissions created by the Council's electricity and gas consumption was a significant part of the draft action plan. However it was acknowledged that it was

important to consider the financial and resource feasibility aspects of changing energy suppliers.

It was noted that the actions of joining the Association for Public Service Excellence (ASPE) and the Surrey Energy Partnership, as well as working closer with the Surrey Climate Commission were potentially easy accomplishments and thereby should be prioritised and placed within the first five energy related priorities for the purposes of the draft action plan. In addition it was agreed that Members would be advised of the costs of joining ASPE at a future meeting.

As a result of the Members' survey and arising amendments from the Working Group's discussions the following 10 options were ranked accordingly on consideration of the Energy section of the draft action plan:

1. Ensure low cost technologies such as LED lighting are rolled out across the council estate, including parks and open spaces, to reduce energy use (100% high priority).
  - 1- 5.a. Investigate the potential benefits of joining the Surrey Energy Partnership and liaising with Surrey Climate Commission. (62.5% HP, 25% MP, 12.5% LP).
  - 1-5.b. Examine how APSE can help SHBC and develop municipal energy strategy (37.5% HP, 62.5% MP).
2. Developing an energy strategy for the Council do deliver actions relating to energy (75% HP, 25% MP).
3. Identify external energy efficiency grant funding.(75% HP, 12.5% MP, 12.5% LP).
4. Promote the introduction of renewable and low carbon energy. (75% HP, 12.5% MP, 12.5% LP).
5. Work with businesses and citizens across Surrey Heath by providing information and advice on low-cost technologies to reduce energy consumption in (75% HP, 12.5% MP, 12.5% LP).
6. Explore viability of renewable energy, including solar PV on Council buildings, and identify buildings that are suitable for renewable energy e.g. car parks. (62.5% HP, 37.5% MP).
7. Examine how the New Green Homes Grant to give up to £5,000 in vouchers for insulation and double-glazing can be promoted by the Council. (62.5% HP, 37.5% MP).
8. Change to a 100% green energy provider for Council owned and operated buildings. (62.5% HP, 25% MP, 12.5% LP).

Members commented that it was worthwhile investigating if the Council's current energy supplier had a green option or product. It was also recognised that it would be difficult to transition the Council's energy supply to be 100% green, due to the organisation's building's reliance on gas.

It was recognised that the top three ranking actions were possible direct actions well within the Council's control. It was acknowledged that the differentiation

between the direct and indirect (mainly around partnership working) action was a useful one and it was agreed to add the attributes of direct and indirect to the actions within the draft action plan.

Members agreed the following priority actions in respect of Buildings and Infrastructure as per the results of the Members' survey:

1. Ensure low cost technologies such as LED lighting are rolled out across the council estate, including parks and open spaces, to reduce energy use (100% high priority).
2. Examine the potential to 'green' Council buildings. (37.5% HP, 37.5% MP, 25% LP).
3. Investigate and cost opportunities to reuse water, for example incorporating rainwater harvesting, as part of Council building projects. (35% HP, 75% MP).
4. Promote the 'greening' of buildings in the Borough. (25% HP, 50% MP, 25% LP).

There was an appetite to move towards a ban on single use plastics. It was acknowledged that a complete ban may not be possible and may impact some services more than others, such as the Meals at Home service. The Working Group asked for officers to scope the feasibility of the potential policy and report back to the Working Group at a future meeting.

Whilst it was underlined that the highest Carbon emitting properties lay in the existing housing stock, it was agreed that the Council should review the carbon impact of proposals at the application stage of the planning process. However it was underlined that this would not become a reason for refusing applications.

In addition it was acknowledged that encouragement of schemes which included rainwater harvesting and water reuse was in the process of being included in the Local Plan.

#### Transport and air quality; trees and open space

The Working Group agreed a need to encourage the use of electric and hydrogen vehicles within the Council and in the wider community. It was noted that the Council should be acquiring electric and hydrogen vehicles when replacing existing fleet vehicles as a minimum. In addition it was agreed that the Council should be providing EV Charging points in its own car parks and encouraging local supermarkets and petrol stations to do the same.

It was recognised that tree-planting, rewilding and projects which entailed a net gain in biodiversity were of significant opportunity with large funding pots attached to them (e.g. through the new requirement for biodiversity net gain on planning applications). In addition there was scope to build upon the Council existing work to rewild roadside verges. However it was acknowledged that such opportunities needed to be balanced by careful planning and an acknowledgement that trees

and housing didn't always positively mix. It was noted that we needed the right trees in the right locations, taking into account the Borough's biodiversity assets.

Members also recognised the preparation of the new Local Plan included consideration of health impact reports and extreme events risk assessments in respect of considering adaptation of buildings in light of Climate Change. The need for the Local Plan to include requirements for battery storage capabilities in new-build properties was also emphasised.

On discussing the results of the Members' Survey it was recognised that there was a natural interconnectedness between the promotion of use of electric vehicles and the partnership working actions.

It was agreed that the following 5 options were the highest priority when considering the Transport and air quality part of the draft action plan:

1. Investigate the potential to increase EV charging points within Council car parks. (75% HP, 12.5% MP, 12.5% LP).
2. Continue to implement and develop agile working practices to reduce employee journeys, as well as business miles. (62.5% HP, 37.5% MP).
3. Examine the potential to undertake a tree density assessment of the Borough, giving a clear understanding of tree cover in the Borough. (62.5% HP, 25% MP, 12.5% LP).
4. Begin to develop a framework for biodiversity net gain (50% HP, 50% MP).
5. Examine the opportunities to improve green infrastructure networks in the Borough . (50% HP, 50% MP).

It was agreed that the following 8 options were of the highest priority when considering the Trees and Open Space part of the draft action plan:

1. Stop using herbicides, pesticides (eg Glyphosate) on verges. (62.5% HP, 37.5% MP).
2. Encourage reduced mowing to allow wildflower planting and growth, as well as review the machinery used to undertake works (62.5% HP, 37.5% MP).
3. Examine the potential to undertake a tree density assessment of the Borough, giving a clear understanding of tree cover in the Borough. (62.5% HP, 25% MP, 12.5% LP).
4. Begin to develop a framework for biodiversity net gain (50% HP, 50% MP).
5. Examine the opportunities to improve green infrastructure networks in the Borough . (50% HP, 50% MP).



**6.** Facilitate a tree planting and green infrastructure strategy (specific to climate change), taking account of the Borough's biodiversity assets. (50% HP, 37.5% MP, 12.5% LP).

**7.** Investigate the potential to 'rewild' the Borough (50% HP, 37.5% MP, 12.5% LP).

**8.** Examine the opportunity to make best use of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) in the Borough in relation to climate change. (50% HP, 25% MP, 25% LP).

#### Influence – Education and business, including the green economy; General

The actions based on influencing, partnership working, and instigating culture change was discussed by the Working Group. It was suggested that whilst the Council typically targeted improvement in engaging with hard to reach groups However in respect of Climate change it was suggested that efforts should be focussed on working with schools and educational institutions in order to change mentalities towards the issue from below.

It was agreed that in respect of the draft action plan the following actions under the heading of influencing would be prioritised as below, as per the results of the Members' survey:

- 1.** Work with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEPs), e.g. to identify funding sources that residents can access (75% HP, 25% MP).
- 2.** Make climate change a priority for decision making, both in terms of procurement processes and officer reports (75% HP, 12.5% MP, 12.5% LP).
- 3.** Consider the potential to support or advertise local reuse websites/apps to promote waste reduction in the Borough (62.5% HP, 37.55% MP).
- 4.** Establish a programme of funding for charities or other local initiatives who redistribute surplus food to those in need. (62.5% HP, 37.5% MP).
- 5.** Increase and diversify our communications and engagement on climate change. (62.5% HP, 25.5% MP, 12.5% LP).
- 6.** Direct resources towards community engagement and behavioural change, with particular emphasis on easy to reach groups. (62.5% HP, 25% MP, 12.5% LP).
- 7.** Facilitate local events promoting sustainable practices, making best use of the Council's assets (e.g. using vacant units in the SQ etc. (50% HP, 37.5% MP, 12.5% LP).
- 8.** Investigate the potential for pop-up units in the Town Centre for local sustainable businesses, for example in vacant units (50% HP, 37.5% MP, 12.5% LP).

**9.** Educate, train and encourage internal procurers and commissioners to review their consumption of goods and services, reduce usage and adopt more environmentally friendly products and procedures (50% HP, 37.5% MP, 12.5% LP).

**10.** Working in partnership with local businesses and organisations to deliver carbon reductions throughout the Borough, focusing on key employment areas (50% HP, 25% MP, 25% LP).

The importance of the creation of a substantial monitoring framework to measure and exemplify progress was emphasised to the Working Group. In addition Members' highlighted the importance of both Councillor and Officer training on Climate change in order to promote a culture shift and a united front on the issue. In addition the Group were advised that Climate Change Champions were already being identified amongst officers.

The Working Group agreed that the following actions under the 'general' heading would be prioritised as below, as per the results of the Members' survey:

- 1.** Embed carbon reduction objectives into all decision-making processes in the Council. (87.5% HP, 12.5% LP).
- 2.** Assess the potential for grant funding, including for an update to the baseline carbon emissions and carbon offsetting. (75% HP, 12.5% MP, 12.5% LP).
- 3.** Consider how internal budgets are used effectively to value and support work on carbon reduction. (75% HP, 12.5% MP, 12.5% LP).
- 4.** Create a monitoring framework for the Action Plan to monitor progress. (75% HP, 12.5% MP, 12.5% LP).
- 5.** Carry out departmental Climate change risk assessments. (75% HP, 12.5% MP, 12.5% LP).
- 6.** Identify Climate Change Champions across the Council's service areas. (62.5% HP, 25% MP, 12.5% LP).
- 7.** Update carbon emissions baseline to 2019, potentially making use of grant funding from One Carbon World and free advice from the SCATTER tool. (62.5% HP, 25% MP, 12.5% LP).
- 8.** Identify appropriate ways to support and incentivise internal carbon reduction/offsetting projects. (62.5% HP, 25% MP, 12.5% LP).
- 9.** Evaluate the need to develop a Surrey Heath Resilience Plan and how this could be facilitated. (62.5% HP, 25% MP, 12.5% LP).
- 10.** Facilitate staff/Councillor awareness training. (50% HP, 37.5% MP, 12.5% LP).

## **17 Next Steps**

The Working Group were advised that the next steps would include the proposed actions being taken by officers to a corporate officer level. A feasibility assessment to evaluate the resource and financial implications of the action plan would also need to be conducted.

It was advised that the next meeting of the group was likely to be in late November.

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## **Notes of a Meeting of the Equality Working Group - 13 August 2020**

### **Members Present:**

Cllr Josephine Hawkins  
(Chairman)  
Cllr Dan Adams  
Cllr Rodney Bates  
Cllr Sharon Galliford  
Cllr Robin Perry

Cllr Morgan Rise  
Cllr Valerie White  
Cllr Helen Whitcroft

**Officers:** Jayne Boitoult, Louise Livingston and Julie Simmonds

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received by Councillor Charlotte Morley.

### **2 Notes of the Previous Meeting**

The notes of the meeting held on March 2020 were agreed by the Working Group. It was acknowledged, that the resource implications of the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic meant many of the recorded actions had not been implemented.

However it was reported that the Hate Crime Policy had now been added as an addendum to the Council's safeguarding policy. In addition the receipt of a presentation from the Surrey Heath Faith Forum would be considered for inclusion in the Working Group's work Plan.

### **3 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.

### **4 Equality Strategy**

The Working Group considered the creation of a two year work plan to sit alongside the Council's Equality Strategy. It was acknowledged that any work plan would include the organisation of a series of all-Councillor Equalities training sessions.

It was acknowledged that there was significant value in all Councillors attending equality training sessions, although Councillors' time commitments often made attending training sessions difficult. Whilst there was some merit in making Equalities training sessions mandatory for Councillors in order to ensure attendance, there was also an emphasised need to make training sessions attractive and engaging in order for Members to extract the most value. It was emphasised that in previous years this included personal-experience led training sessions; rather than 'tick-box' led sessions; and such sessions were better at tackling unconscious biases.

In addition, it was suggested that online and recorded training sessions and the potential integration of staff and Councillor training sessions, would make sessions more accessible to Councillors.

The Working Group agreed the inclusion of two different components of the proposed programme of all Member training sessions. The first component of the training sessions would focus on the obligations the Council had to comply with the Equality Act 2010 and the second component of the programme would look to provide more engaging sessions including specific sessions on Gypsy and Traveller Training and LGBT+ awareness. It was acknowledged that the training sessions on the protected characteristics, as per the Equality Act, would be led by the relevant representing organisations. It was also acknowledged that Voluntary Support North Surrey worked with a wide range of minority groups from across the Borough, and that would be a useful source of information in respect of minority groups' access to services.

As well as the training of Councillors on a micro-level, it was agreed that the Council's communication channels were ideal to promote awareness of Equality issues within the Borough. It was agreed that a social media campaign on equalities issues, could act as a starting point to change the culture around the Gypsy and Traveller Community and other protected groups within the Borough. It was also acknowledged that there was a wider role for Members and Councillors in tackling Equality issues in the Community, including Councillors acting as Community-leaders. It was also agreed that Borough-wide initiatives and fostering a wider cultural change should take priority over local events surrounding individual memorials.

It was noted that Members should email the Executive Head of Transformation or the Council's Community Partnerships officer if they had comments on the draft Equality Strategy included in the agenda pack which would be further reviewed at a future meeting.

There was also discussion in respect of allowing room for any necessary dialogue around staff equalities issues. It was agreed that including equality based questions in future staff surveys would be a suitable way to pick up any notable equality-related themes.

**AGREED that**

- I. the following be included in the Equality Working Group's bi-annual work plan:**
  - a) The holding of 2 sets of all-Member equalities training sessions; to meet Equality Act 2010 obligations; and more specific experience led sessions.**
  - b) The addition of questions relating to inequality to the next staff survey encouraging the sharing of individual experiences.**
  - c) The receipt of presentations by the Working Group from Voluntary Support North Surrey and Surrey Heath Faith Forum.**

- I. Officers look into the potential for a Social Media Campaign tackling equalities issues.**
- II. The organisation of local events surrounding individual memorials not to be specifically supported, with the list to be circulated to members, should they wish to reconsider.**

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## Notes of a Meeting of the Surrey Heath Villages Working Group - 23 September 2020

### Members Present:

Cllr Rebecca Jennings-Evans  
(Chairman)  
Cllr Graham Alleway  
Cllr Paul Deach  
Cllr Tim FitzGerald  
Cllr Sharon Galliford

Cllr Victoria Wheeler  
Cllr Valerie White

**Substitutes:** Cllr Sarah Jane Croke (in place of Cllr David Mansfield)

**In Attendance:** Cllr Emma-Jane McGrath and Cllr Pat Tedder

**Officers:** Daniel Harrison and Eddie Scott

### 1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor David Mansfield.

### 2 Election of Chairman

**RESOLVED that Councillor Rebecca Jennings-Evans be elected Chairman for the 2020/21 municipal year.**

### 3 Notes of the Previous Meeting

The notes of the previous meeting were agreed by the Working Group.

### 4 Review of the Working Group's Terms of Reference

The 2020/21 version of the Working Group's Terms of Reference were reviewed and noted by the Group.

### 5 63A High Street, Bagshot - Update

Members were reminded that on conclusion of the last meeting of the Working Group that the Council was ready to go out to consultation on the 63A High Street, Bagshot proposal. However, this consultation process had been halted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, it was acknowledged that although it was previously planned to have a number of in person consultation events, it was likely that the consultation on the plans would now have to be conducted online. The Working Group were still overwhelmingly in support of the project.

The Working Group were informed that bulk of the consultation and public engagement on the project was ready for release and just needed Members' final approval and comments on the precise wording. As a result it was agreed that just the wording of the consultation would need to be circulated to Working Group Members via email, before it was progressed and formally started.

**RESOLVED that Members of the Working Group be sent the wording of the public consultation on 63A The High Street, Bagshot, before formal initiation.**

## **6 Community Transport Pilot - Update**

The Working Group were reminded of the proposed Community Transport Pilot which would entail broader use of the Council's Community Transport fleet in the rural areas of the Borough. It was envisaged that the pilot would explore the longer-term viability of the Council's fleet being used to facilitate trips to train stations, Camberley Town Centre and doctors surgeries to and from the Surrey Heath Villages. Members were informed that the feasibility of the pilot relied on the securing of a Community Services Partnership with Runnymede Borough Council, which would entail a larger pool of vehicles available for use.

Members highlighted the exciting potential of the pilot and its possible longer term purposes for community transport in the rural areas. It was noted that there were several potential uses which had come to prominence during the COVID-19 Pandemic including the need for a service to transport Chobham residents to the local doctors surgery, and a service to the Flu-Jab drive through clinic which had been set up at Blackbushe Airport. Longer term it was noted that the initiative could be a boost to Camberley Town Centre; providing an evening shuttle service to and from the Town Centre as well an initiative where tickets to shows at Camberley Theatre would be combined with a transport to and from the villages.

It was acknowledged and agreed that the initial pilot would best be started with a focus on serving one village. In addition it was noted there were potential funding opportunities around Community Transport from Surrey County Council and that the issue should be formally raised at Surrey Heath Local Area Committee.

**RESOLVED that the potential Community Transport Pilot be reconsidered at a future meeting post-approval of the Surrey Heath-Runnymede Community Services Partnership.**

## **7 Date of next meeting and any other business**

With another potential COVID-19 related lockdown looming, the Working Group recognised the potential for the Council and Members to step up in response to new measures and to initiate schemes to help boost morale in the villages. It was suggested that Heathscene had a role to publicise community events in the villages; and what help could be received during a lockdown.

Members were also informed in respect of various updates which affected the Surrey Heath Villages which could be discussed further at future Working Group Meetings. These topics included a potential marketing campaign focussed on the villages and work with the Council's Economic Development Team specifically on the promotion of the Surrey Heath Villages.

The Working Group noted that its next scheduled meeting was on 2 December 2020.



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