

# Matlock Bath Parish Council

Chair: Peter Baranek

Website: [www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Email: [clerk@matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk)



## **DRAFT NOTES** of a meeting of the Matlock Bath Parish Council Climate Advisory Group held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Present: Kate Gard Cooke  
Cllr Helen Keay  
Paul Richardson

**Apologies** – Sally Dixey, Peter Dargavel, Cllr Dave Mowle.

**Illuminations** – The Committee discussed some of the activities which the CLIMB group are undertaking around lobbying the District Council in relation to making the annual illuminations a ‘greener’ event which will, in turn, support the long term plan to make Matlock Bath a greener destination. Helen advised that the Parish Council does receive reports from the illuminations team but they do not always arrive and that in theory the Parish Council should be invited to meetings but again this does not always happen. When they do they will be shared at the Parish Council meetings. Helen also advised that DDDC will arrange a review meeting for the 2019 illuminations which residents are invited to attend. This may be a good opportunity to lobby DDDC to make some changes for next year and present the signatures collected during the illuminations. The Parish Council will advertise the date once it is known.

**Air Quality Report** – It was agreed that the report provided by Peter Dargavel should be passed to our District Councillors and Environmental Health to lobby for active real time sampling of NOX and particulates on North and South Parades.

**Structure of the Parish Council Advisory Group** – The Committee discussed the structure and moving forward how it would operate. It was agreed that there were some grey areas around if the group was a Committee of the Parish Council or if it was a sub group of CLIMB. Helen reported that when the Parish Council was called upon to declare a climate emergency, which they subsequently did, it was resolved by the Parish Council to set up a Parish Council Climate Advisory Group to ensure that climate related issues remain on the agenda at every meeting. Cllr Dave Mowle and Cllr Helen Keay volunteered to be the Parish Council representatives. Members of CLIMB were also invited to join to advise the Parish Council on how they could support with lobbying etc. Paul and Kate had a different understanding this needs to be discussed further.

**Meetings** – As there were a number of meetings happening at the moment it was discussed if the PCAG needed a separate meeting as many of the Parish Councillors attend the CLIMB meetings. It was felt that this meeting could be combined with the main group. It was discussed that during the CLIMB meetings there would be an ongoing agenda item regarding the Parish Council and in this slot in effect the whole meeting could act as the advisory group. During this agenda item one of the attending Parish Councillors (mainly Helen or Dave) could take the Minutes of any relevant actions/lobbying for the Parish Council to consider. This would prevent a lot of repetitive discussion happening across the two groups.

**Parish Council Newsletter** – There were some concerns raised around the editing of the article in the Summer Newsletter that resulted in some inaccurate reporting in the article. This is to be discussed with the Parish Council and Clerk as to how we can avoid this happening in the future. One suggestion was asking the Parish Council to agree that CLIMB could have a regular whole page in the Newsletter that the

Subject to approval at the next meeting

group could provide the content for and proof read any editing to make the articles fit the format before printing.

**Climate Emergency Community Fair/Event** – The Committee discussed the possibility of holding a launch event in the new year. This could take the format of a 'fair' and residents and businesses would be invited to attend. A venue would need to be found and then volunteers to help organise would be required. Helen volunteered to help organise this and would discuss at the next Parish Council meeting what help they could provide.

**Funding** – It was discussed how the Parish Council money is raised through the precept (and sometimes supplemented by grants that have been applied for) and how if the community wanted the Parish Council to raise money for climate emergency related activities then the precept would need to be raised, ie Council Tax increased. All the funds in the Parish Council bank account is budgeted for, eg bus shelter maintenance, florals, war memorial cleaning, sports area etc.

**Other Items to ask the PC to consider:**

- Would someone be prepared to do a mapping exercise to help the CLIMB group the different groups etc that operate in Matlock Bath and their remits.
- Allotments – Could this be looked at again as there is sufficient interest within the community.
- Neighbourhood plan – can we consider the feasibility of picking this up again. The group understands that whilst funding can be applied for there is still a massive time investment required.

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