

Minutes of the 35th Open Meeting of the Environment & Natural Resources Committee held on Thursday 18th June 2020 @ 10:40am in the Council Chamber.

Present:	Hon. Russell K Yon	-	Chairman
	Hon. Dr. Corinda Essex	-	Deputy Chairperson
	Hon. Cruyff G Buckley	-	Member
	Hon. Cyril K Leo	-	Member
	Mr Derek Henry	-	Director of I & T
	Mr Nicky Lawrence	-	Secretary
Invited:	Miss Nicole Shamier	-	Chief Economist – Item 3
	Miss Marcella Mittens	-	Work Experience Student - Item 3
Apology:	Hon. Gavin G Ellick	-	Member
	Mr Darren Duncan	-	Director of ENRP

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone present and proceeded with the Open Agenda of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

35.1 Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest at this meeting.

35.2 Matters arising from minutes of 14th May 2020.

Dark Skies Legislation (Control of Artificial Light at Night Ordinance).

The Chairman reported that a joint meeting with the Economic Development Committee (EDC) is no longer required as it has been decided to place the Dark Skies Legislation under the Environmental Protection Ordinance (EPO).

The Director of Environment, Natural Resources & Planning Directorate (ENRP) is working with the Legal Draughtsperson in drafting the relevant legislation. There will be a separate meeting to discuss this legislation and any recommendations will be taken Elected Members.

Action: Chairman/Director of ENRP

Introduction to Marine Enforcement Officer.

It was reported that the Marine Enforcement Officer has met with Elected Members at an Informal Legislative Council meeting.

Proposed Work Scheme.

The Chairman reported that he is anticipating that some funding will be available to set up a scheme whereby job seekers can register their interest should the work scheme be re-instated.

Action: Chairman

Proposal for a Cycling Proficiency Course.

The Chairman of ENRC said he has spoken with the Chief Inspector of Police who will take this initiative forward with the Chief of Police. Their recommendations will be brought back to Committee.

Amendments to the 1985 Regulations are required to remove the ban on cycling on specified roads.

Action: Chief Inspector of Police

SHG & SHNT Marine Centre Collaboration.

The Director of ENRP is not available for an update on this item.

35.3 Water Resources Strategy.

The Chief Economist presented a draft Water Resources Strategy. This document was the result of a motion tabled in Formal Legislative Council by Dr Essex and public concerns about the island's water infrastructure.

The draft Strategy sets out St Helena Government's (SHG) intentions in relation to water resource planning and management. The purpose of this Strategy is to contribute to the achievement of this vision, by ensuring that there is sufficient quantity, quality and affordability of water to enable people to live, work, raise children, visit and do business on St Helena at standards described in the respective supporting policy documents.

Further work will be undertaken to develop a Water Resources Management Plan for the Island.

Following much discussion the Committee approved the draft document which will now be taken out to public consultation.

Action: Chief Economist

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 11:50am.

The next Open meeting of the Environment & Natural Resources Committee will be held on **Thursday 16th July 2020 @ 10:00am in the Council Chamber.**

Confirmed... *Ben* Date... *10 July 2020*