

**QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC FOR COUNCIL UNDER RULE 10 OF THE  
COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES – COUNCIL 11 OCTOBER 2023**

**1. Question by Paul and Melanie Fisher to Councillor Leyland, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Corporate Affairs.**

We would like to ask if this council has ever considered making a Climate Emergency Declaration (CED) and, if not, would you consider doing so?

There are well over 600 examples of councils in the country having already done this that include county, district and town councils. Some local examples would be Boston Borough Council, Newark and Sherwood District Council, both North and South Kesteven District Councils, Lincoln City Council and both Horncastle and Louth Town Councils.

We strongly feel that it would be disappointing to be left behind in issuing a CED.

- A.** *The Council considered making a climate emergency declaration in 2019 however determined not to do so in favour of adopting direct action instead. The Council is committed to an ambitious target to reach net zero by 2040, 10 years in advance of the Governments net zero target of 2050, with a 45% reduction in carbon emissions by 2027. In the last few years the Council has approved an Environment Policy and a Climate Change Strategy, the latter of which has been adopted by Boston Borough Council and South Holland District Council to increase our influence and action on climate change across our sub region.*

*We recognize that the objectives of our ambitious Climate Change Strategy cannot be delivered by the Council alone hence we have established the South and East Lincolnshire Climate Action Network, a consortium of businesses, public sector and third sector organizations working together with our communities to effect action. SELCAN has just celebrated its first year since establishment.*

*The Council is also leading nationally delivering an £11 million programme of home energy efficiency improvement measures to 900 properties across our Partnership area, typically reducing carbon emissions by 2.5 tonnes and tackling fuel poverty by saving on average £600 per property per year.*

*We are also leading by example, tackling carbon emissions from our own Council operations and assets, and have an agreed carbon reduction plan and capital investment programme that's seeks to reduce the Councils carbon footprint and overall revenue costs.*

**2. Question by Lynne Cooney to Councillor Marsh, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, Leisure and Culture, and Carbon Reduction**

In respect of the closure of Charles street pond under the dubious reason of "safety", can ELDC confirm that the decision was from all parties to walk

***The wording of the question(s) above is replicated directly from the original written question submitted***

## APPENDIX 1

away from the project that they undertook in 2018, and commit to a sincere, transparent pledge to explore working in partnership with LTC/other organisations, regarding the park and pond, agreeing to face to face talks & acknowledging that the public have a right to open green spaces and factual information that wasn't provided in a redacted copy of deeds regarding the park?

- A.** *I thank Ms Cooney for her question; East Lindsey District Council is committed to engaging with interested parties to secure a long term sustainable future of Charles Street and officers will shortly be inviting expressions of interest from suitably constituted groups and organisations who may be interested in leasing some of the community space at the Recreation Area.*

*In terms of Deeds relating to the site, they are a matter of public record and are available from HM Land Registry. However, any information provided under the Freedom of Information Act could well be redacted in line with the prescriptions of that Act.*

### **3. Question by Alison Beet to Councillor Foster, Portfolio Holder for Operational Services**

#### Viking CCS pipeline

My question is, what disaster and emergency planning is ELDC carrying out in relation to this project?

- A.** *Thank you for your question.*

*The Viking CCS pipeline is still at a very early stage in its consenting process. Whilst it is anticipated this will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) in the coming months; it will be a considerable period of time before the Examination and ultimate decision is reached.*

*Matters pertaining to safety will be a relevant consideration throughout the consenting process, and I anticipate that the developer will provide information to the Planning Inspectorate in this regard.*

*In the event that the pipeline is consented, and subsequently constructed, it will be at that stage that the operator will likely work with the Council and other agencies such as the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum; Health & Safety Executive and the key emergency response organisations to ensure that appropriate plans are in place to prevent any issues, or to ensure an appropriate response in the event of an emergency.*

Ends.