

Subject:	Renewable Energy Committee – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 7
File No:	CLR/07/8/101/1/13	
Document Ref:	D18/89309	
Venue:	Meeting Room, Level 1A, 1 Pope Street, Ryde	
Date:	Wednesday, 14 th March	
Time:	6.45pm	Started at: 6.50pm Closed at: 8.30pm
Chair:	Councillor Penny Pedersen	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
Staff Convenor:	Kylie McMahon	
Circulation:		

Committee Role: To consider matters and inform Council and Council officers of community views and likely impact regarding opportunities for further uptake of renewable energy technologies, services and other energy efficient initiatives across the City of Ryde, and regionally.

Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
✓		Councillor Penny Pedersen	Chairperson - Councillor Delegate	City of Ryde
✓		Councillor Christopher Gordon	Deputy Chairperson – Councillor Delegate	City of Ryde
✓		Councillor Edwina Clifton	Delegate	City of Ryde
		Pamela Reeves	Community Representative	
✓		Jill Hartley	Community Representative	
✓		Adrian Kong	Community Representative	
✓		Joanne Taranto	Community Representative	
✓		Graham Town	Community Representative	
✓		Nicholas Tse	Community Representative	
✓		Anna Eugenia Binnie	Community Representative	
✓		Hope Ashiabor	Community Representative	

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
✓		Sam Cappelli	Manager – Environment, Health and Building	City of Ryde
✓		Kylie McMahon	Senior Coordinator - Environment	City of Ryde
✓		Jenai McKibbin	Senior Sustainability Coordinator – Transport Environment	City of Ryde
✓		Rafael Chemke	Senior Sustainability Transport and Environment Coordinator	City of Ryde
✓		Katie Helm	Sustainability Program Coordinator	City of Ryde
✓		Linda Smith	EA to the Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde

Details

Action

1.	<p>Welcome by the Chair</p> <p>Clr Pedersen opened the meeting by welcoming all present and by recognising the traditional owners of the land and her fellow Councillors.</p> <p>Clr Pedersen thanked the people who nominated and have joined this committee for their passion and diversity of interests.</p>	Noted.
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Details	Action
<p>Confirmed this Committee is an advisory committee, not a decision making committee. However, decisions of this committee will inform Council policy and procedures, capital and non-capital programs.</p>	
<p>2. Apologies</p>	<p>No apologies</p>
<p>3. Chairperson Introduction</p> <p>Clr Pedersen provided her vision statement which included comments relating to her long time advocacy and activism for renewable energy.</p> <p>She advised she was pleased that Council has joined the Cities Power Partnership.</p> <p>She wants to see new ideas raised and also to revisit old ones.</p> <p>The activity and efforts to date of the staff in the area of climate change and renewable energy was also noted.</p> <p>Each member of the group introduced themselves as follows:</p> <p>Clr Edwina Clifton – Councillor and member of the Greens. Long-time interest in renewable energy Adrian Kong – Long term resident and involved in renewable energy in his workplace. Graham Town – Electrical engineer – interested in sustainable energy as part of his day job. He has a particular interest in electric vehicles. Nicholas Tse – wants to implement renewable energy in the local area Hope Ashiabor – a law tax professor – energy policy and taxes are a major interest. Has worked with OECD in Paris. Anna Binnie – long-time resident – has put renewable energy features in her home. Joanne Taranto – Involved with community work to stop waste and limit consumption Jill Hartley – passionate about issues include solar panels. Would like to see them on each house. Noted report to Council previously by Tom McCosker Pamela Reeves – concerned about climate change and wants to see renewable energy adopted. Has solar power and recognises its benefits. Clr Christopher Gordon - Councillor and member of the Greens. Long-time interest in renewable energy.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted. 2. Chairpersons vision statement to be circulated with minutes
<p>4. Terms of Reference</p> <p>There was a suggestion that the Terms of Reference be expanded to include 'sustainable built infrastructure'– not just renewable energy.</p> <p>There was discussion regarding the interest to broaden the scope of the committee to include consideration of initiatives regionally, state wide and nationally.</p> <p>Opportunities for alternative energy efficiency initiatives are considered within the scope of this committee.</p> <p>Staff to suggest amendments to wording to clarify the scope of the committee.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Terms of Reference were adopted.
<p>5. City of Ryde – Renewable Projects Status</p> <p>It was noted at the start of this discussion that this committee would focus on renewable energy and broader energy efficiency initiatives under its remit. Other sustainability initiatives would be covered by the Bushland and Environment Advisory Committee.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted

Details

Action

	<p>Green Building Council Star Rating was discussed particularly solar panels and other energy saving features. It was noted that there are many ways in which developers can achieve a star rating and does not necessarily involve any compulsory solar install. Many commercial buildings across the City have met this target without solar.</p> <p>Kylie McMahon outlined some of the projects being undertaken by Council in the area of renewable energy as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A solar system is currently being installed at the RALC - Further energy efficiency measures are also being considered at this site following this installation - Solar panels are being considered for both Eastwood library and West Ryde Community Centre for 2018 - Council has entered into the Climate Cities partnership Program and has pledged 5 energy saving outcomes and related actions - Renewable energy is continuously being explored for all feasible Council assets and environment unit staff have been working on this - A home waste and sustainability advisory service officer has been delivering in home audits to Ryde residents since 2012 also working to promote solar uptake. Interest in this service continues to grow.. - Council is aiming to breach the gap in information and have been providing very successful workshops on solar power at Macquarie University with large attendance numbers. - Corporate environmental reporting is undertaken by the Environment Unit to identify efficiency opportunities across Ryde and build in better use of resources - An internal energy savings action plan was been undertaken several years ago and is a living document for which staff utilise to create efficiency projects in combination with data results from monitoring - Council is currently involved in a power purchasing arrangement with the Southern Sydney Region of Councils to negotiate for Council with a better deal for its energy pricing and include a renewable energy component to our power usage. This is still in negotiation for tender. - Council is working with Macquarie University a smart cities initiative project, at Macquarie Park under a Federal government grant which will be Regional solar initiatives such as NSROC Westleigh Solar Project which is still being developed to potentially combine 6 councils to invest in a solar farm. The NSROC working group is working through this with the General Managers group for NSROC. Committee to receive future update as the project develops 	
6.	Standing Items – Nil for this meeting	
7.	<p>General Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was noted that Lane Cove Council has purchased an electric vehicle (EV). Is it possible for COR to explore EV for developments occurring? - Staff will investigate electric vehicles technology for future opportunities and uptake of linking with future transport hubs will need to consider the provision of charging stations. - Can developers be asked to set aside land for future charging and battery stations in new developments? - There is a website which shows the charging sites currently available in Sydney. - It was noted that Willoughby Council had powered its VIVID exhibition through solar energy collected from the roof area of the Council. - It was noted that Council needs to do more to advise the community of what it is doing in the area of sustainable energy. - Promotion through the smarter, cleaner, greener publication etc could be improved. - It was noted that the light towers at Olympic Park display the amount of 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council staff to explore options for EV inclusion for Ryde 2. Noted – Environment Annual report developed for this purpose

Details	Action
<p>power they are saving, could something similar be done at the RALC? Council will be promoting real time generation of solar and this will be displayed at the RALC café on a tv screen for community to see.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can Council mandate that new developments (both residential and commercial) must include solar energy provision? - Staff advised that Council cannot demand such action but that community interest may achieve an increase in demand. - Can contact be made with Central Darling Shire Council re the use that Council is making of solar farms? - Can Council encourage schools to put solar panels on their roofs? There is a program that exists however due to the onerous process burdening teachers to take on this initiative and no financial future incentive for this uptake, it is an unattractive program which is winding back due to lack of interest. - Advice from staff was that Council can encourage schools to apply for state and federal grants to do this through the Schools Network program, but that Council cannot control or influence schools directly. - It may be that when schools take their students to the RALC that an education program re energy can be included and promoted. - Jenai will forward some information she has from Green Strata in relation to cost saving options available. - Discussion on a presentation from Gladesville Climate Change Action Group for commercial solar uptake for businesses in Ryde. Council staff happy to assist and potentially work with the Macquarie Park business forum pending the outcome of the proposed presentation to REAC by the group at the next meeting. - Council staff to send out a template of topic ideas for the next agenda to committee members to fill in and send back for determination for the next meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Council to contact the Darling shire 4. Staff to seek to obtain fact sheets and potentially develop as own for community education for strata residents 5. The Gladesville Climate Change Action Group to be invited to address this committee for 20 mins at the next meeting re; commercial solar opportunities. 6. Send out table to members for agenda inclusion
<p>11. Next Meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on 13th June 2018 – Pope St next to Council Chambers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted.