

Subject:	Renewable Energy Advisory Committee – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of 3
File No:	CLR/07/8/101/1/13	
Document Ref:	D18/199934	
Venue:	Meeting Room, Level 1A, 1 Pope Street, Ryde	
Date:	Wednesday, 12 th September 2018	
Time:	6.45pm	Started at: 6.55pm Closed at: 8.15pm
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
X		Councillor Penny Pedersen	Chairperson - Councillor Delegate	City of Ryde
X		Councillor Christopher Gordon	Deputy Chairperson – Councillor Delegate	City of Ryde
X		Councillor Edwina Clifton	Delegate	City of Ryde
	x	Pamela Reeves	Community Representative	
X		Jill Hartley	Community Representative	
x		Adrian Kong	Community Representative	
	x	Joanne Taranto	Community Representative	
x		Graham Town	Community Representative	
x		Nicholas Tse	Community Representative	
x		Hope Ashiabor	Community Representative	

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
X		Sam Cappelli	Manager – Environment, Health and Building	City of Ryde
X		Kylie McMahon	Senior Coordinator - Environment	City of Ryde
X		Lorne Butt	Senior Coordinator – Sustainability	City of Ryde
X		Linda Smith	EA to the Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde

Details

Action

1.	<p>Welcome by the Chair and Apologies</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>The apologies were as noted above.</p>	Noted.
2.	<p>Discussion and adoption of previous minutes – 13th June 2018</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting dated 13th June 2018.</p>	Adopted

Details

Action

3. **Actions arising from previous minutes**

Energy ratings of buildings

Noted

It was noted that the City of Ryde has no 6 star projects but that there are many 5 star projects in Macquarie Park including Trinity, Schneider and Canon.

The new Ryde Central building is proposed be a green star development.

The DCP covering Macquarie Park requires buildings to be a minimum of 4 stars with many providing a higher star build.

Climate Action Group Summit

Noted

A letter has been prepared by Council and sent to Justin Alick seeking further information around the summit and post proposal implementation.

Development Control Plans

Noted

It was noted that it is not possible or feasible to mandate that solar provisions be included in DCPs. Staff enquired into council DCPs for energy and will further be exploring with the upcoming new LEP development for opportunities.

(Hope) asked to what extent can councils lobby for a building code change?

Council: For primarily residential development, the State Environmental Planning policy covers matters included in the BASIX rating system.

It was noted that transport is a much heavier user of energy than solar and solar should not be explored in isolation due to this. Energy efficiency of assets should be explored concurrently before solar installations and many of the green star accredited buildings have achieved accreditation without installing solar through suitable alternative measures.

Many developments can utilise a variety of green star approved measures to make up their scoring to achieve desired Green Star accreditation application even though they don't use solar or many other major energy saving measures. Green Star allows a suite of ways to achieve a score.

Council has installed solar panels on the North Ryde and Eastwood libraries and is now investigating the installation of panels on the West Ryde Community Centre in 2018/2019.

Questions were asked as to whether Council has an asset listing of its own buildings and facilities which may benefit from Solar provisions or whether there are other public areas that could benefit from solar panels. Council does and a business case feasibility of solar on each facility is considered separately for each facility.

Information is available via a new tool SunSPot to help determine viability of solar installations across Ryde.

It was suggested by some in the committee that from an educational perspective, solar panels mounted on trailers and powered by the panels could be promoted at Council ovals and events.

It was also noted that other Council carparks could perhaps house solar panels. The Committee suggested that the design of the new Eastwood Carpark should incorporate solar panels or provisions for an electric vehicle (ev) charging station if feasible could be installed. It may be possible to seek grant funding to assist with costs.

Council to investigate for any possible grants for EV and any opportunity for incorporation into the new project.

(Graham); suggested that to aid the uptake of electric vehicle in Ryde, that exploring public charge stations using a 'trickle' (slow current) charge station will lessen the burden on the grid.

Details

Action

	<p>Clr Pedersen raised the topic of the ‘Solar my School’ program and a workshop was recently presented to NSROC to explain the program to councils.</p> <p>Under this scheme, Councils can employ a staff member to help schools apply for solar panel grants or can engage consultants to do the work on a school by school basis. This program was calculated would cost approximately \$60,000 per year to assist a number of schools over a 2 year period.</p> <p>Applying for grants within schools is difficult without a teacher “champion” It was also noted that once a school installs solar power, that it loses funding from the global budget under current government assistance. This is yet to be changed to encourage more schools to go solar.</p> <p>Strathfield is trialling the above and Clr Pedersen noted that she will request an update from Strathfield Council as to the effectiveness and benefits of the program as it is rolled out.</p> <p><u>Other Initiatives</u></p> <p><u>Street-lighting</u> City of Ryde is upgrading its street lighting to LED lights through a revolving asset upgrade program.</p> <p><u>Solar Panels on Bus Shelters</u> Solar panels have also been trialled on one bus shelter in the city under a new bus shelter pilot project.</p> <p><u>Electric Vehicles</u> Council is examining this topic and also the provision of charging stations. The use of electric vehicles in Council’s fleet could also be investigated.</p> <p>There are many considerations and questions in relation to Governance if Council is to become involved with EV and long term cost, access and site implications.</p> <p>It was noted that Development Applications for large developments are also being encouraged to provide spaces for recharging for EV within sites.</p> <p>By 2025 it is considered that electric vehicles will be cost comparable with current vehicles and so planning for electrification is slowly starting to occur. Currently there are two charging stations in Macquarie Park.</p> <p>Currently the Electric Vehicle Council is lobbying for business groups to progress the agenda with councils.</p> <p>Many countries are phasing out internal combustion cars.</p> <p>Vehicle to grid technology was discussed – this allows people to put energy back into the grid. The initial concept around this was released years ago but technological setbacks around charging capacity and integration have slowed this.</p>	<p>The Environment team is currently exploring this as a future opportunity.</p> <p>Noted</p>
4.	<p>REAC Committee – Areas of Interest</p> <p><u>Cities Power Partnership Conference</u></p> <p>Cirs Pedersen and Clifton will be attending the above conference in Kiama with members of staff to hear about electric vehicle, renewable energy uptake and other sustainability initiatives.</p> <p>A verbal report back on the conference will be provided to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Cirs/Staff to provide verbal feedback regarding the conference to next meeting.</p>

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6.	<p>General Business – Matters without Notice</p> <p>It was noted that Rafael Chemke has left Council and taken up a position with Transport for NSW.</p> <p>At the next REAC meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Solar uptake report relating to installation of solar panels in Ryde, technologies and council assets is planned for next meeting. 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
7.	<p>Next Meeting: 12 December 2018</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on 12 December 2018 – Committee Room - Level 1A Pope St, Top Ryde</p>	<p>Noted</p>

Meeting closed 8.15pm