

Agenda Item 19

Amendment 2 to Motion 1

Original Motion submitted by Councillor Gerrish

“Thurrock Council therefore resolves to:

- 1.1 Declare a ‘Climate Emergency’ that requires urgent action;
- 1.2 Request that the Council’s activities become net-zero carbon by 2030;
- 1.3 Request that the Council embed this work in all areas and take responsibility for reducing, as rapidly as possible, the carbon emissions resulting from the Council’s activities;
- 1.4 Request that the relevant Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Climate Change convenes a Citizens’ Assembly on Climate Change and a Climate Change partnership group, involving Councillors, residents, young citizens, climate science and solutions experts, businesses and other relevant parties. Over the following 12 months, the Group should consider strategies and actions being developed by the Council and other partner organisations and develop a strategy in line with a target of net zero emissions by 2030. It should also recommend ways to maximise local benefits of these actions in other sectors such as employment, health, agriculture, transport and the economy;
- 1.5 Request that all reports in preparation for the 2020/21 budget cycle and investment strategy will take into account the actions the council will take to address this emergency;
- 1.6 Request that the Leader write to the UK Government asking them to provide the powers, resources and help with funding to make this possible, and ask local MPs to do likewise.”

Proposed Amendment submitted by Councillor Spillman

“Thurrock Council therefore resolves to:

- 1.1 Declare that Thurrock Council must take urgent action within the borough to tackle climate change, pollutants, bio diversity loss and other ecological damage;
- 1.2 Request that Council’s commits to its activities becoming carbon neutral by 2030; subject to a committee report on the feasibility of such a commitment;
- 1.3 Request that the Council embed this work in all areas and take responsibility for reducing, as rapidly as possible and practical, carbon emissions, bio diversity loss, pollutants and other ecological damage;
- 1.4 Request that the Council convenes a task-force on carbon emissions, bio diversity, pollutants and other ecological damage. Over the following 12 months, the task-force should consider strategies and actions being developed by the Council and other partner organisations and develop a strategy in line with a aim of net zero emissions by 2030. It should also recommend new KPIs to the cabinet and ways to maximise local benefits of these actions in other sectors such as employment, health, agriculture, transport and the economy;

- 1.5 Request that all reports in preparation for the 2020/21 budget cycle and investment strategy will continue to take into account the actions the council will take to address this work;
- 1.6 Request that the Leader write to the UK Government asking them to provide the powers, resources and help with funding to make this possible, and ask local MPs to do likewise;
- 1.7 Agree that Council strongly disapproves of many of the tactics employed by the “extinction rebellion” movement during their recent actions. Actions which have wasted police time, harmed people’s working day, caused crime, vandalised public places (including monuments dedicated to fallen soldiers), encouraged children to skip school and such. Members agree that Extinction Rebellion will not be invited to be represented within the Task-force. “