Bathavon Climate & Nature Emergency Group

1. Structure

The structure will be initially be a Steering Group, to help co-ordinate all matters, and probably 5 Working Groups.

Utilising the Chew Valley approach of having 4 sub-groups, it is likely that BCNG will have the same 4 sub-groups with potentially two additional sub-groups:

- Nature Protection (Natural Environment)
- Renewable Energy
- Home Energy
- Sustainable Transport
- Food
- Communications

These sub-groups will be reviewed at the first steering group meeting.

2. Purpose

The purpose of the BCNG is to achieve successful projects through the local communities working together.

There are differences between communities represented by the Parish Councils, and this approach will help overcome these differences.

3. Approach

The suggested approach is for a communication to be sent to each Parish Council to nominate 2 people and their areas of interest, selecting their preferred topic area and action projects within that area. It would also be useful to obtain comments, possible actions projects, across all topic areas.

Representatives do not need to be Parish Councillors, they can be members of the community, representing the community and reporting back to the Parish Council.

This will provide the basis for each sub-group to be initially formed.

The overall approach needs to be joined up and avoid a 'silo approach'.

The Bathavon Forum needs to agree the initial membership of the Steering Group.

It is proposed to hold an initial Steering Group meeting where:

- An overall approach is agreed
- Agree how to obtain community input
- Agree an approach to defining the Action Projects
- Agree a roadmap for moving forwards

This will then begin to define how each topic area can proceed.

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The BCNG Steering Group will need to meet independently of the Bathavon Forum, and work within this group will be on-going alongside the Bathavon Forum, reporting back at each Forum meeting.

4. Addendum

We need to be mindful that the Climate & Nature Emergency is unprecedented and there is no previous experience to learn from not templates to use.

This approach can only be of benefit if it is community driven, provides support for Parish Councils and B&NES and is flexible to operate effectively (results driven, not process driven).