

**ENABLE STEERING GROUP MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY 17th DECEMBER 2008
BROOKSBY MELTON COLLEGE, BROOKSBY CAMPUS**

Attended	Apologies
Ruth Camamile, Chair Sue Quinlan, Environment Agency, Vice Chair Peter Williams, Leicestershire County Council Tony Lockley, Leicestershire County Council Donna Worship, Leicestershire County Council Rachel Sweetland, Leicestershire County Council Jane Neachell, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Wendy Jones, North West Leicestershire District Council Ben Dodd, Groundwork Leicester and Leicestershire Tony Marmont, Beacon Energy Louisa Nadolny, Blaby District Council	Hetal Patel, Leicestershire County Council Bob Scott, Leicestershire Constabulary Paul Bodenham, English Heritage Lois Child, University of Loughborough Anna Hocken, Blaby District Council

Action

1. Apologies

See above

2. Matters Arising

Tony Marmont advised that the Frisby Turbine is now operating and has sent Hetal Patel a copy of the Green Builders Guide

3. Leicestershire Together

Sustainable Community Strategy, LAA2 and RIEP update

PW advised about funding bids

- NI 185 – sought £155,000 and received £120,000
- NI 188 – sought £40,000 over 15 month period – 17, 000 08/09 and 25,000 09/10

2010/11 funding subject to LAA1 – details of spend to be discussed at CLIMA Meeting 8th January 2009 but potentially for 185 to cover cost of a partnership Energy Officer and Energy Saving projects and 188 to prepare the production of a Leicestershire Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.

DW gave presentation to Leicestershire Together Conference on 5th December re Climate Change and Leicestershire projects and workshop run with Rural Community Council. Also promoted the Leicestershire Together Declaration on Climate Change.

Action: DW to contact Danny Myers re inviting District SD/Env Officers in the future

DW

Recently reported NI 185 progress to GOEM as Amber as Melton not carried out baseline study yet. Originally decided not to do due to fire but should still have time to gather data for 3 month period. – Target is 4% reduction in emissions per year but with challenges such as new swimming pool in Charnwood and some weekly refuse collections.

BD asked about ENABLE support to District Councils for awareness campaigns and PW advised RIEP funding bidded for energy efficiency projects and community projects which include street lighting wattage dimming (street lighting accounts for 18% Leicestershire County Council CO2 emissions) and extend Big Switch Off and Climate Friendly Communities projects.

– Again details to be discussed at CLIMA meeting

DW is the County representative at regional RIEP meetings and advised currently want to support members on climate change awareness and fund innovative projects from local authorities as well as provide training and events.

Action: DW to circulate minutes from last meeting for information

DW

WJ asked about financial incentives for reducing business miles as grey fleet is a high proportion of LA CO2 emissions. DW advised at County Council level changing business mileage claims so becomes disincentive to do more business mileages and suggested looking at Colchester Green Travel Plan and advised the Energy Saving Trust can also help producing Green Travel Plans.

Feedback from Leicestershire Together Board

SQ recently met with Nicole Rickard to discuss ENABLE and the cleaner/greener board. advised there is currently a cleaner/greener board review – currently all LA Waste Officers and no Sustainable Development Officers. Meeting are also irregular. A number of questions have been asked about ENABLE such as should it be the environmental representative instead of cleaner/greener board and lead on NI 185/186/188 and Green Infrastructure and cleaner/greener focus more on traffic and waste. Also asked what ENABLE has achieved and SQ has struggled to identify ENABLE role. Environment Agency would like to join cleaner/greener group to improve environmental representation on the board. SQ sees ENABLE role as reporting on monitoring data and giving greater focus on Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement.

DW advised need to produce and circulate a plan for future action for the steering group including innovative partnership projects and find out more about current projects partners are working on

Action RS/DW to arrange meeting about ENABLE steering group review and action.

RS

Green Infrastructure(GI) update

TL advised all District Council planners are currently integrating green infrastructure requirements into core strategies as part of the growth point agenda up to 2020. The 6Cs Strategic GI Board has nearly finished an appraisal system for awarding funding for Strategic GI projects within the area. The area will receive £1.2 million for 08/09 and £1.7 million for 09/10.

Stepping Stones Project is taking a lead on projects in Leicestershire. JN advised HBBC have a GI strategy and are wanting advice for implementing projects. BD suggested contacting Groundwork re linking in with green burials and TL advised now linking into the LAA via childhood obesity strategy.

Promotion of Leicestershire Together Declaration

HP advised Rural Community Council, Leicestershire and Rutland Federation of Women's Institutes and Police authority have currently signed up and asked again for all ENABLE SG members and Leicestershire Together Board member organisations to sign. The declaration is already on the ENABLE website and will be added to the Leicestershire Together website.

Action: All SG members to get declaration signed by Chief Executives

Action: HP/RS to arrange for LT board members to sign

**All
HP/RS**

4. Climate Friendly Communities

WJ concerned about Ibstock group as not many at initial meeting, not as established as could be.

Also raised issue about Climate Friendly Communities integrating more into established Leicestershire projects such as the Big Switch Off.

Suggestion made to develop a Climate Friendly Communities Membership Pack with ideas for projects, signpost to other useful websites/organisations and Rural Community Council.

PW advised about Neville Stork putting forward a motion about Leicestershire becoming a Transition County. This is still being considered.

5. The Big Switch Off

The Big Switch Off achieved a 10 mw saving electricity across the County on Friday 17th October between 4 – 6pm. The biggest savings were between 4 – 5pm most noticeable from City, County and District councils.

Leicestershire County Council reduced electricity consumption at County Hall by 13%
North West Leicestershire District Council – reduced by 64% at Council Offices
Leicester City Council – reduced by 10% at eight main buildings

The school competition winner was Latimer Primary School in Anstey who reduced electricity consumption by 64% compared to the week before and received a prize of a renewable energy education kit – wind turbine, solar panel and solar hot water heating.

Next year there are plans for a week long campaign some time in October, hopefully to coincide with Energy Saving Week focussing much more on schools, businesses, community groups and universities and colleges. The Big Switch Off Steering Group is already meeting to plan for 2009.

6. LCLIP

DW advised about the three phases of the scheme:-

Phase 1 with Leicestershire County Council

Phase 2 with District Councils

Phase 3 for Leicestershire Together Partners.

Two Climate Research Officers will be working on Phase 3 of the project across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Matt Owen has already made contact with the

Local Resilience Forum.

7. Anaerobic Digestion update

PW advised that only one project is being pursued:-

The Community Leicestershire Anaerobic Digestion (CLAD) project being lead by E A Lovatt & Sons in partnership with a leading retail company is waiting for board approval and thinking about applying for outline planning approval for the plant. The highlights of the potential project are -

- 53,000 tonnes of farming + Food waste as feedstock
- Diverts 28,000 tonnes food waste from landfill
- 1.5MW renewable electricity generation, enough to power 2365 houses
- 47,000 tonnes of nutrients as by-product
- Reduce 20,000 tonnes CO2 emission
- Potential of inclusion of kerbside food waste
- Capital cost of £9.97m with payback in 5.2 years

8. Updates from Steering Group members

BD – Green Doctor has carried out a one off inspection with the NWLDC Footprints Family and produced a report for the family identifying potential energy savings in their home. Also NWLDC now in Eco Schools programme so working with 6 new schools in North West Leicestershire.

9. Any other Business

TM noted that Local Authorities are understaffed in terms of Environment/Energy/Climate Change Officers and suggested press all LA's for two Environment Officers.

BD advised that Groundwork East Midlands have produced a DVD on renewable energy

WJ proposed linking Eco Schools more closely with Climate Friendly Communities

Add an agenda item about opencast mining for next meeting due to Ravenstone being on the Panorama Programme.

Proposed dates for next four meetings to be emailed early January 2009.

Action: RS

RS