

**ENABLE Steering Group Meeting  
Minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> December 2003, 2:30 pm  
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council**

<b>In Attendance</b> Cllr. Ernie White, Chair Mags Bainbridge, LRWT Chris Clarke, Soar Valley Protection Society Sarah Cromie, Charnwood BC Ruth Fenney, Women's Institutes James Freeborough, Environment Agency Karl Letten, Hinckley and Bosworth BC Tony Lockley, Leicestershire CC Tony Marmont, Beacon Energy Ltd Rachel Sweetland, Leicestershire CC Peter Williams, Leicestershire CC Donna Worship, Leicestershire CC	<b>Apologies</b> John Adams, Environment Agency Duncan Bell, Hinckley and Bosworth BC Lois Child, Loughborough University Stewart Conway, SME Energy Advice Centre Martin Cregg, Oadby and Wigston BC Danny Goodwin, North West Leics DC Katie Hemsley, Melton Borough Council Roger Hockney, Leicestershire CC Alastair Leake, Allerton Research Trust Andy Lingham, UK Coal Mining Ltd Derek Lott, Leicestershire CC David Nicholls, Environ Paul Tame, National Farmers Union Richard Thompson, Leicestershire CC Alan Tuppen, Leicestershire CC
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**1. Apologies**

Apologies received are listed above.

**2. Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2003 were approved as written.

**3. Matters Arising**

Dr John Adams, Environment Agency who was elected as Vice Chairman at the last meeting will be stepping down due to secondment duties in a new position. His replacement, Erica Marshall has agreed to take over his role as Vice Chairman. Peter Williams and Ernie White agreed to invite her to County Hall for a chat to discuss duties. **Action: DW to arrange meeting with Erica Marshall. JF to provide information on Erica Marshall's background and CV.**

**4. Feedback from Leicestershire Local Strategic Partnership**

The logo and name for the new partnership was agreed as Leicestershire Together. The logo was shown to the group. A newsletter will be sent out in Spring 2004 and a contribution from ENABLE has been requested. Donna Worship will write articles on the ENABLE Launch and State of the Environment Report. A letter has been sent to all members of the LLSP Board inviting them to comment on ENABLE's Strategic Overview of the Leicestershire Environment.

A letter from John Prescott was sent to all LSPs asking them to consider how they can locally implement the objectives of the Living Places: Cleaner, Safer Greener white paper which focuses on Neighbourhood Renewal. This includes improvement of the local physical environment which is of direct relevance to ENABLE and the decision of the LSP Board will be notified to the group when the

minutes are received. **Action: DW to circulate the LLSP Board's decision on receipt of the minutes.**

## **5. Feedback from ENABLE Launch Event 5<sup>th</sup> December**

The Consultation Draft of the Strategic Overview Report has been sent to all members of ENABLE with the deadline for comments of 16<sup>th</sup> January 2004.

Mr White congratulated DW on the success of the event and asked about feedback from the workshops. DW advised Rachel Sweetland has typed up each workshop discussions and will send to all of the delegates who attended the Launch and steering group members. DW also advised some realistic ideas arose from the workshops and hopes the top priorities will be carried forward. **Action: DW/RS to send the workshop write-ups to all delegates and Steering Group.**

After all consultation feedback has been received it will be necessary to produce a 'glossier' version of the report and proceed with action planning from the recommendations. Ruth Fenney offered her help with comments on workshop outcomes. **Action: Action planning group to be formed after the close of the consultation, all to provide their name to DW if they would like to be involved.**

## **6. Sustainability Appraisal of Community Strategy**

ENABLE has been asked to lead on a sustainability appraisal of the Community Strategy as part of the annual review due in 2004. DW pointed out that it was important to emphasise to the LLSP that although ENABLE could provide environmental expertise to a sustainability appraisal it would be important to include other members of the Board such as the Health sector, Learning partnership, community safety etc.

Donna Worship reported that she had received some papers from Katie Hemsley, Melton B.C who attended a consultation day organised by the East Midlands Regional Assembly recently on project and policy appraisal. An Integrated Regional Appraisal and Assessment Toolkit project outline and report was handed out (enclosed with these minutes). This new regional toolkit could provide the framework for appraisal of the Community Strategy. ENABLE has asked EMRA if an appraisal of the Leicestershire Community Strategy could become a pilot project early 2004.

It was agreed the best approach would be to hold a day where all partners will be invited to come along to learn about issues highlighted in the community strategy by other partners and to complete an appraisal as a group.

UK CEED helped to develop the toolkit so may be in a position to guide the process and provide support to the appraisal day.

TM raised the issue of EMRA having no specific objectives or principles Climate Change or carbon dioxide emissions and suggested contacting Yvette Deardon at EMRA about this. EW suggested PW write a letter to EMRA regarding Climate Change and carbon dioxide emissions to raise this up their agenda. **Action: PW to draft a letter for EW**

DW asked for volunteers to carry out the appraisal which would be carried out in early 2004. PW, TM, KL, RF and MB volunteered to help out. **Action: All, anyone wishing to take part in the appraisal to provide their name to DW.**

## 7. Publicising Quality of Life Indicators

LSP has requested proposals from ENABLE for publicity. DW handed rounded two different examples:- a report by Hertfordshire Environmental Forum and Calender including artwork by children and snippets of information on a different indicator per month by Brighton and Hove City Council.

A discussion took place about different ways of reporting, relevance of the information to the public and comparing figures around the Country.

DW requested feedback for LSP on raising awareness of QoLI and it was decided that there was a need to carefully select information before publicising and possibly publish some statistics in each newsletter and to possibly publish a calendar in 2005 but someone would have to pay for printing.

**Action: DW to draft a response from ENABLE to the LLSP on options for publicising the QoLI.**

KL suggested linking up headline indicators to priorities in the Environment Statement to publicise both at the same time.

## 8. Climate Change Strategy

PW advised that the Community Strategy states a Climate Change Strategy will be prepared with ENABLE as the lead partner. The new EMRA Promoting Sustainable Development subgroup, chaired by the Environment Agency will prepare a Regional Climate Change Strategy at the same time.

The first stage of preparation will involve looking at examples by Leicester City and Shropshire County Council who have already completed Climate Change Strategies.

A steering group will steer the development of the strategy and will set up a working group to come up with a proposal and timescale. Volunteers for this subgroup were requested with JF, TL, RF, TM and KL offering their time. **Action: All, if you would like to be involved please provide your name to DW.**

## 9. Clean Air Campaign

At the recent Air Quality Forum, North West Leicestershire DC announced their intention to hold a Clean Air Awareness Day and invited others to get involved to increase the impact across the County. Discussion took place about arranging a countywide Clean Air Action Day.

DW suggested possibly linking up with Asthma Awareness Day in May 2004 and offered to keep the group up to date with developments.

## 10. ENABLE Newsletter – articles for next edition

DW requested ideas for next edition and set a deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> February 2004. Ideas included write up on ENABLE Launch, Ford Hydrogen Cars, Fuelcell Forum. Action: TM to e-mail information/weblink to DW. Fairtrade Fortnight – activities in County, LeicestHERday, sustainable toilet block at Bosworth Country Park, BAP review and length of hedgerows in County study.

## 11. Upcoming events and campaigns

- EW praised Treefest at Brock's Hill earlier this month.

- SC advised she is planning an Environment Business Seminar in Charnwood so could feedback to group on that. Leics CC, Charnwood BC, HBBC and N.W.L.D.C are all currently involved in a partneship project funded through the Leicestershire Economic Partnership to engage business in environment schemes and complete research.

- English Nature are about to launch a study into the social value of greenspaces and biodiversity, 28<sup>th</sup> January 2004, 1 day conference at Nottingham Castle.

A managing energy in schools conference in Nottingham is planned on 26-27 January 2004, County Hall, Nottingham. More information available from [www.managenergy.net](http://www.managenergy.net)

## **12. Any other business**

JF advised EA are currently running a campaign in Nottinghamshire selling discounted compost bins and waterbutts. DW suggested he contact DC Recycling Officers re compost bins as RS advised all DC's currently operating their own discounted composter scheme. DW will forward information re waterbutts to all DC Environment/LA21 Officers. **Action: JF to provide details of the proposal for circulation to DW**

TM suggested leading by example on wood fuel projects. The National Forest are currently fuelling their offices by oil not wood and to perhaps switch over to wood boilers in schools when ready to upgrade. DW advised currently 2 wood boilers in Leicestershire schools and 3 planned in County Council properties.

## **13. Date and venue of 2004 meetings**

The venue of each meeting to be confirmed but dates are as follows:-

10<sup>th</sup> March, 2.30pm, Charnwood Borough Council **CONFIRMED**

9<sup>th</sup> June, 2.30pm

15<sup>th</sup> September, 2.30pm

8<sup>th</sup> December, 2.30pm