

ENABLE Steering Group meeting 15th December 2004
Queens Building, De Montfort University, Mill Lane, Leicester

Attendees Rachel Sweetland, Leicestershire County Council Ernie White, Leicestershire County Council Peter Williams, Leicestershire County Council Tony Lockley, Leicestershire County Council Kevin Bush, Environ Sadia, Melton Borough Council Richard Holmes, Leicester Energy Efficiency Advice Centre Ruth Fenney, Leicestershire and Rutland WI Richard Thompson, Leicestershire County Council	Apologies Annie White, Brooksby Melton College Dave Nicholls, Environ Danny Goodwin, North West Leicestershire District Council Stewart Conway, Leicester Energy Efficiency Advice Centre – Richard Holmes to attend in future Kathy Astbury, Leicestershire Constabulary Sarah Cromie, Charnwood Borough Council Lesley Peasant, Environmental Network
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1. Apologies

See list above

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

All minutes agreed as written

3. Feedback from Leicestershire Together Board

Local Transport Plan consultation big topic at meeting – Bypasses large feature of plan. EW suggested to board there should be greater focus on other forms of transport other than the car such as cycling, walking and greater bus use. This also ties into the health agenda with issues such as cleaner air and environment and walking and cycling for health reasons as well as environmental.

TM advised of Nottingham Univ study relating high carbon monoxide levels with aggression

RF – no information for pedestrians or on Rights of Way

Public consultation deadline for comments:- 14th January 2005

Action: RS to distribute consultation information to ENABLE Steering Group asking for comments to LTP board and copy to RS to collate ENABLE response

4. Space4Trees

Key Comments

- Little reference to climate change – many issues for trees in future, how to cope with wetter winters, flooding, summer droughts and planting in floodplains
- Concerns about rural economy and diversification
- CO2 sequestration (locking in CO2) – coppiced trees for biomass purposes e.g. woodpellets and charcoal best approach rather than mature trees as they release a lot of CO2 when burned

Action: CT to write formal response on behalf Leicestershire County Council. Deadline 17/12/04

5. Climate Change Strategy

Subgroup have met 3 times and included District Council Sustainable Development Officers as want strategy to be endorsed and used by District Councils.

Strategy completed – two parts – Characterisation Report introducing climate change and how effects Leicestershire and Mitigation/Adaptation strategies aimed at

Community/Industry/Businesses with ideas for reducing Climate Change and adapting to climate change in future. On schedule for printing March 2005

Climate Change Conference

Friday 28th January 2005, Braunstone Civic Centre. 10am-2pm

Format:- ENTEC UK Ltd consultants to introduce climate change and strategy with workshop sessions focussing on delivery at community/commercial/industrial level, publicity and promotion ideas and waste management, transport and new buildings.

Action: RS to email strategy to ENABLE SG and send hard copy to EW.

Action: RS to invite representatives from waste and transport to conference

A discussion took place on how to present Strategy to Leicestershire Together Board. It was agreed to book in Powerpoint presentation slot for 20 minutes in April

Also need to present information to Transport and Waste Management.

Nottingham Declaration

Make recommendation to Leicestershire Together Board for partnership organisations to sign declaration

A suggestion was made for organisations to sign declaration at Climate Change Conference

There is a need to modify declaration as wording relates to Local Authorities.

6. Leicestershire State of the Environment (Environmental Statement) summary document

Should be available in January. 1500 copies to be printed and distributed to ENABLE members, libraries, schools, museums, Local Authorities and members, Parish Councils, LCC Members, Health Service – GP surgeries. Possibly Leicestershire Matters

Action: EW to supply contact details for Health Service distribution and LA members

7. Newsletter

Articles to include Logo competition, Fair Trade fortnight, Leicestershire Cares, Climate Change conference, WI Food for Thought event in June, Toyota Hydrogen Prius

Action:- RF to supply article of Food for Thought, TM to supply article on Toyota Hydrogen Prius

8. Upcoming events and campaigns

TM advised of a number of publications including:-

Mayor of London's Energy Strategy – Green Light to Green Power (which includes targets for 20% reduction in CO2 levels) available from

www.london.gov.uk/mayor/strategies/energy/index.jsp

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) – The Planning Response to Climate Change including five key points for urgent action on Climate Change available from

www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_planning_032088.pdf

East Midlands Regional Assembly (EMRA) – Sustainable Design and Construction includes best practise information, sustainable construction methods and techniques, central/local government to lead by example using purchasing power available from

www.emra.gov.uk/sust_dev/documents/SusDesignConstruction_Oct04.pdf

Greater London Authority – Integrating renewable energy into new developments: Toolkit for planners, developers and consultants – includes an overview of renewable energy technology and costs and planning requirements. Available from www.london.gov.uk/mayor/environment/energy/docs/renewable_toolkit.pdf

Environment Agency – Sustainable Drainage Systems – a guide for developers now available from website along with lots of useful information on sustainable urban drainage – www.environment-agency.gov.uk visit the business/construction pages for the link.

TM advised of new Toyota hydrogen powered Prius car, not cheap - £35,000 per vehicle but very clean technology and does not release CO2. TM would like to see mayoral/official cars from Leicester City/Leicestershire County Council as this model. (see handout attached to minutes for further information).

Action: EW to contact Chief Execs re car

TM also advised of friend in Chicago, USA who manufactures spark plugs which can be fitted to any car to allow them to convert to hydrogen fuel.

Fair Trade Fortnight – 1st – 13th March 2005

RS hoping to arrange event at County Hall including cabinet tasting session and Fair Trade Tea and Coffee served in tea bars but has met with resistance from Andy Dredge, Catering Manager.

Action: Alan Morrison to speak to Andy Dredge and RS to supply information on catering supplies

ENABLE Business information and Support sub group

Plan to run two breakfast seminars end of February/March 2005 in Quorn and Hinckley. Topics to include how to write an Environmental Policy and 1st steps to environmental compliance. Want to attract more members to sub group.

Action CT to approach Environ and Environment Agency

Youth

CT attended Voxpops conference at County Hall in September and sat on panel to field environmental questions and also attended Melton Youth Conference. CT also working with Curriculum Planning Board to resource packs for secondary schools including Climate Change, Food and Energy and with Environ to target older children in Eco Schools in 'Engage and Enrage' sessions. Have put together bid for Big Lottery for Environ work.

RT advised new Environmental Advisor in Youth Services – Mike Hamilton, Tel. 01509 843752.

Sustainable Building Design Guidance

Aim to sign post information as EMRA along with other Local Authorities have written lots of guidance already.

Promote Agri-Environment schemes

CT has had successful two successful bids to Leicestershire Rural Partnership for projects on slurry digestion and Rural Energy Advice on Tap.

Kevin Bush advised Eyres Monsell Primary school, Leicester wind turbine now operating.

RF – WI Food for Thought event Parklands Leisure Centre in summer with picnic and cookery demonstrations. WI are concerned children not learning how to eat and cook properly at home and school.

9. Any other Business

Quorn Hall – Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

RT/RS attended regional session to decide whether or not to set up regional forum for ESD and citizenship education. The next steps decided were to operate regional group but requires funding and informing EMRA. Next meeting to be held in February. For information on next meeting contact Rachel Sweetland.

ENABLE Logo Competition

Winning design chosen – Hollie Taylor, aged 10 from Badgerbrook Primary. RS arranging prize ceremony at County Hall and liaising with design team for ENABLE letterheaded paper and compliments slips.

PET recycling scheme

TM and Environ involved in project with Nottingham University and an Italian University researching technique to break down PET plastic into constituent parts to enable plastic to fully reused and remade into new products.

Action: TM to forward information and PW to speak to Waste Management department.

Meeting dates for next year:- 9th March, 8th June, 14th September and 14th December.