

**ENABLE Steering Group meeting
Minutes of 9th March 2005, 2pm
Sparkenhoe Committee Room, County Hall**

Apologies	Attendees
Sarah Cromie, Charnwood Borough Council Paul Tame, National Farmers Union Tony Lockley, Leicestershire County Council Tony Marmont, Beacon Energy Helen Gregory, Oadby and Wigston Borough Council Kathy Astbury, Leicestershire Constabulary Lois Child, Loughborough University Andy Lear, Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust Kevin Bush, Environ Karen Letten, Environ	Ernie White, Chair, Leicestershire County Council Mark Haslam, Vice Chair, Environment Agency Peter Williams, Leicestershire County Council Rachel Sweetland, Leicestershire County Council Chryse Tinsley, Leicestershire County Council Richard Thompson, Leicestershire County Council Katie Hemsley, Melton Borough Council Carolyn Holmes, Leicestershire County Council Eve Reynolds, East Midlands Business Resource Efficiency Network Ruth Fenney, Leicestershire and Rutland Federation of Women's Institutes Karl Letten, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Annie White, Brooksby Melton College

N.B. New dates for next meetings:- 6th July; 12th October and 11th January 2006

1. Apologies

See list above

2. Matters Arising

EW still discussing hydrogen car with cabinet at Leicestershire County Council.

3. Leicestershire Together – Feedback

Next board meeting not until 14th March

It was decided to check dates of future meetings and change ENABLE meetings if necessary.

Leicestershire Together Board dates:- 20th June; 26th September; 12th December and 13th March 2006

4. Business sub group

CT explained the background to the venture – to provide environmental support for small and medium sized enterprises (SME's) in Leicestershire as currently receive very little support.

Working towards EMDA's target for environmentally accredited companies, help is on the way in form of Eve Reynolds, East Midlands Business Resource Efficiency Network which provides support and advice to businesses and shares best practise across the region.

At the business seminars arranged last year in Charnwood, Hinckley and Bosworth and North West Leicestershire, 65 people attended. None contacted Envirowise for

free, follow up support. The sub group has decided not to have seminars this year but to offer support in different ways.

-Student Force for Sustainability are carrying out Eco Audits on businesses, free of charge in Leicester and Derby. CT to meet them in April about offering the same service to businesses in Leicestershire.

-Exploring funding avenues as would like to offer ongoing, long term support to businesses

-Want to build up sub group and contacts – CT has contacted Leicestershire Together business group and Leicestershire Chamber of Commerce

-Promote EMBREN services, targeting those companies attending breakfast seminars last year.

4.1 EMBREN - East Midlands Business Resource Efficiency Network

Eve Reynolds introduced EMBREN to the group and explained:- EMDA funded initiative delivered by Business Links Northamptonshire but covers East Midlands region. Currently carrying out mapping review of counties around region to find out what support on offer, large gap identified in Leicestershire with some activities on offer but no promotion.

EMBREN offers following support – free eco audit and advice to businesses. Can put businesses in touch with consultants if would like consider accredited environmental management system. Project is funded until March 2007.

Website goes live end of March – www.embren.net. Website to include contact details for support, good practise case studies, other EMDA funded business projects and BEST Network at Nottingham Trent University.

It was agreed to promote EMBREN via article in ENABLE newsletter and Leicestershire Matters.

Action: RS to arrange

EMBREN launch 6th May, all are invited. Please contact Eve Reynolds for further details:- eve.reynolds@businesslinknorthants.org or Tel. 01604 634 777.

5. ENABLE Logo competition

RS updated the group on the competition and stated that all Leicestershire primary Eco Schools were invited to take and she received over 60 entries from six schools. The judges were so impressed by the high quality of entries they awarded one winner and five runner's up. The winning design was very simple featuring a tree and bird with the strapline 'Care for our environment' and was drawn by Hollie Taylor, aged 10 from Badgerbrook Primary School. The winners were invited to a ceremony at County Hall with Ernie White and the chairman and received a framed certificate, book tokens and Hollie also received £250 for her school to spend on their new nature area. The logo is currently featuring on new letterheaded paper, compliments slips, envelope re-use labels and recycled pencils.

6. Climate Change Conference

Around 50 people attended the conference from a variety of organisations including the County Council, District Councils, Friends of the Earth, Energy Efficiency Advice Centre, Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust and English Heritage. The conference included an introduction to the strategy by consultants ENTEC UK Ltd who wrote the strategy and a series of workshops aimed at different sectors including householders, community groups, business/industry, waste, transport and sustainable buildings. There was lots of positive feedback about the strategy itself,

good participation in the workshops and interesting ideas for promoting the strategy. Some workshop comments will feed into an action plan to be published later on this year.

Did not sign Nottingham Declaration at the conference as discussed at previous meetings. It was decided to sign after strategy has been submitted to Leicestershire Together Board in June and endorsed by all partnership members.

KL advised Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council will be publicly declaring their Climate Change Action Plan at the end of March and will sign up to Nottingham Declaration at the same time. They have decided not to have their own strategy but endorse the ENABLE strategy.

Charnwood Borough Council have also signed up to the Nottingham Declaration.

6.1 Climate Change Strategy

Now written!!! Currently with graphic design team and should be ready by the end of March. A summary document to be published in the new financial year looking at a number of topics including foodmiles, countryside, biodiversity, business and what you can do as an individual.

KH advised Melton Borough Council want to write their own Climate Change Strategy.

A discussion then took place about other district councils writing their own strategy and it was decided to put issue onto agenda for next Sustainable Development Officers Forum in April.

Action: RS to contact Mike Greenway re SDO Forum

KL asked about targets for action. PW advised need to think about this before submitting to Leicestershire Together Board. Perhaps reconvene the Climate Change sub group to discuss targets and actions.

Action: RS to arrange climate change subgroup meeting

7. Youth

CT has been actively involved in youth work at the moment and advised the following:-

- writing some teacher resource packs aimed at secondary aged children and is meeting the curriculum board on March 17th to discuss content.
- Hosted a Climate Change workshop with Six Formers at The Robert Smythe School, Market Harborough which was successful
- Put a bid into education for environmental education work aimed at young people
- Attended Charnwood Youth Conference – Engage and Enrage session
- Will be attending Melton Youth Conference in March.
- Submitted bid in conjunction with Environ to target youth clubs – bid unsuccessful but have been asked to resubmit.

KH advised Melton hosting two youth events – 18th March with MP Alan Duncan on panel and 23rd June at the Melton Cattle Market. For further information contact Katie Hemsley Tel. 01664 502 395.

8. Newsletter

It was decided to have a climate change special edition. CH agreed to CHI team submitting an article on phenology and the Young People's attitudes to wildlife survey.

Action: CH to submit articles for inclusion in next newsletter, deadline 18th April.

Action: All If anyone else would like to submit an article then please let me have by 18th April.

9. Upcoming events and campaigns

Miniguide to strategic overview of Leicestershire's environment now available, have over 2000 copies to distribute. Was suggested to send a copy to all 174 Heritage Wardens.

Action: RS to send 174 copies to CHI Team for distribution

CH – Holly Hayes Open Day, 12th June 11am-4pm – Theme – Countryside and Heritage Discovery. – Family fun day with activities and stalls.

If you would like to host a stall or would like further information please contact Carolyn Holmes, Tel. 0116 267 1377.

CT advised currently updating ENABLE website and arranging display material. KH suggested linking up to 'Jitty' website – aimed at young people.

Action: CT to arrange link

RF – WI hosting Food and Farming Day at Parklands Leisure Centre, 27th June.

For further information contact Ruth Fenney Tel.

A discussion took place about possibility of joint Countryside and Heritage Day and World Environment Day celebration at Watermead Country Park next year.

KL – Bike Ride around Mallory Park, 13th June 6-8pm as part of Bike Week.

10. Any other Business

CH advised Cultural Heritage Initiative will be launching online over next 4-6 weeks young natural history recorders packs in conjunction with Wildlife Watch to encourage the natural history recorders of the future. Will be available from www.leics.gov.uk/celebrating_wildlife.

It was suggested new Visitors Centre at Bosworth Battlefield purchases Fair Trade Tea and Coffee.

Action: RS to let Peter Williams have copy of Out of Home Directory