

**ENABLE Steering Group meeting  
Minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> January 2006, 2.30pm  
Charnwood Borough Council**

<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Attendees</b>
Annie White, Brooksby Melton College Mark Haslam, Environment Agency (Vice Chair) Alistair Leake, The Allerton Trust Helen Gregory, Oadby and Wigston Borough Council Graham Walley, Leicestershire County Council Danny Goodwin, North West Leicestershire District Council	Mrs Camamile – Leicestershire County Council (Chair) Peter Williams, Leicestershire County Council Tony Lockley, Leicestershire County Council Donna Worship, Leicestershire County Council Rachel Sweetland, Leicestershire County Council Hetal Patel, Leicestershire County Council Kevin Bush, Environ Nick Dunnett, English Nature Ruth Fenney, Leicestershire and Rutland Women's Institute Revd. Nigel Tufnell, Leicestershire Diocese Karl Letten, Charnwood Borough Council Rob Parkinson, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Tony Marmont, Beacon Energy Stephen Passmore, Studentforce for Sustainability

**1. Apologies**

See list above

**Action**

**2. Matters arising**

The Climate Change sub group have not yet met to discuss the Climate Change Action Plan and summary leaflet but will be meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> January to discuss a potential bid to DEFRA for the Climate Change Communications Fund and will decide whether to go for a Leicestershire Campaign or link up with East Midlands Climate Change group.

**3. Feedback from Leicestershire Together Board**

**Leicestershire Local Area Agreement**

PW advised the penultimate draft agreement to be submitted to GOEM (Government Office of the East Midlands) on 3<sup>rd</sup> February with the final version submitted by 21<sup>st</sup> February. LAA signed off 24<sup>th</sup> March and starts on 1<sup>st</sup> April. The Cleaner and Greener section to concentrate on walking for health, green spaces including Green Flags and Economic Development in Market Towns. The energy efficiency target could be going which is a shame as it ties in with Climate Change.

KB asked about seeing a copy of the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft. **PW to forward a copy.**

**PW**

**BME Citizens Jury**

To consider health, transport and active citizenship. Nothing directly environmental

### **Funding Toolkit Project**

Help support voluntary sector in gaining funding and set up a searchable database.

### **Draft Response to the Regional Plan Review**

There may be land released in environmentally sensitive areas

### **Work Programme Report**

Climate Change information from Leicestershire Together and ENABLE SG members reported and request made for environmental contacts names member organisations so can approach relevant person.

#### **4. Sustainability Appraisal of the Local Area Agreement**

DW advised there is no requirement by GOEM to submit a sustainability appraisal but was discussed at the last County Sustainable Development Officers group and it was agreed to use the East Midlands Sustainability Appraisal Toolkit but focus on environmental issues as very lengthy process. DW has contacted Roberta Norris, LAA Co-ordinator to discuss.

DW made a request for volunteers to help out . **Kevin Bush volunteered.**

**DW**

Tom Gill, Leicestershire Rural Partnership to carry out a Rural Proofing appraisal of the LAA.

#### **5. Stephen Passmore, Voluntary Projects Manager, Studentforce for Sustainability**

SP presented to the group information about Studentforce for Sustainability with particular reference to the Community Check programme which trains volunteers to carry out a free environmental audit on publicly accessible buildings such as pubs and hairdressers. This includes a two hour site visit and action plan.

Studentforce currently operate in Northamptonshire and Leicester in the East Midlands and would like to work on projects in Leicestershire starting from April.

See presentation slides attached for details of presentation.

Questions to SP

RF Q – Do the volunteers have any previous knowledge of environmental issues?

SP A – Not necessarily but the training provides the basics

TM Q – Is the SAP rating of buildings taken into account?

SP A – No

KB – Energy Certification of Buildings coming into force next year. All public buildings must display a certificate rating their energy consumption. All privately owned buildings when sold or rented must produce a certificate.

DW – Q Have you had any feedback from organisations that have already been checked?

SP – A – Checkers do go back every six months to check on progress

RC – Q – What credentials does Studentforce have?

SP – A – Operates an Environmental Management System accredited by Peterborough Environment City Trust.

RC – Q – How is Studentforce and the Community Check programme funded?

SP – A – Large grants from DEFRA and the Big Lottery Fund to fund 50% of work. Other funding provided as match funding from private sector, fund raising and in kind support such as advice and desk space. Funds are used to train volunteers.

Q – How many staff would work on Leicestershire based projects?

SP – A – Two support staff and 20 volunteers

DW - Q– What support are you looking for to enable you to work in Leicestershire?

SP – A – Advice and support from the voluntary sector and local authorities and members for the steering group. – Leicester City Council provide desk space one day a week and Corby Volunteer Bureaux offer volunteer support.

KB advised would talk to Ben Dodd about Home Energy Ratings as from April 07 all homeowners will need energy certificate before sell their homes. Would be beneficial to homeowners if could get direct support. Environ then would be looking for volunteers to carry out survey work.

NT advised is involved with a Church in Loughborough who would like to improve their environmental performance.

SP advised recruit volunteers at Freshers Fayre's and Volunteer Bureaux

**All**

SP would like letters of support and offers of in kind support to assist the move into Leicestershire.

RT offered to put notice in schools bulletin

SP mentioned Community Check scheme involves schools so could be useful to new Eco Schools

**RT**

## **6. ENABLE Action Planning Meeting**

DW – advised as a Leicestershire Together board member, ENABLE was required to complete a Partnership Self Assessment to evaluate its operation and structure. The main outcomes from the assessment included:

1. ENABLE needs agreed priorities, targets, milestones and outcomes
2. There needs to be more two way communication of projects between Leicestershire Together partners.
3. Membership of ENABLE steering group should reflect objectives
4. No equalities assessment
5. Need to raise ENABLE profile

See paper 'A' for further information

A discussion took place about renewable energy targets in the new Local Development Frameworks to help reach the national target for 10% electricity to be produced from renewable sources by 2010. An issue Karl has included in the Charnwood Plan based on the Merton Policy.

PW suggested writing to all District and Borough Councils to commend the Merton Policy to them.

DW/HP  
/RS

RF suggested could set up a Continuing Professional Development day/half day for planners to raise awareness of renewable energy. PW advised contacting Chris Noakes, Leicestershire County Council responsible for Leicestershire CPD.

DW/HP

### **7. Climate Change Communications Fund**

Climate Change sub group reconvening on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Jan to discuss a Leicestershire bid for DEFRA funds. East Midlands Climate Change group meeting same afternoon to discuss a bid. Could potentially feed into a regional wide campaign.

Climate Change Action Plan and Summary Report still to be produced.

### **8. Business Subgroup (KL)**

Received final report from Nick Gerrard, Consultant employed to work with a number of Leicestershire businesses to help improve environmental performance. Highlighted cost savings from recycling.

Ric Ellis, Environ putting in funding bid to EMDA for business recycling project. Would like letters of support from ENABLE steering group.

RC

### **9. ENABLE Annual Event**

RS advised NSPCC National Training Centre, Beaumont Leys booked for half day event on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 9.30-2pm. Planning to invite Penney Poyser, No Waste Like Home, to give keynote speech. The theme for the event is Community Action and workshop focussed with two 1 hour workshop sessions on Countryside Issues, Environmental Improvement, Community Consultation and Planning and Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

Invitations to be sent out end of January to ENABLE members, Tree Wardens, Heritage Wardens, Leicestershire Together members and Parish Councils.

KN suggested should be aiming for carbon neutral event with reference made to food and transport.

### **10. Newsletter**

Any ideas to RS by 3<sup>rd</sup> February. TM offered articles from archive.

### **11. Up and coming Events**

TM advised good carbon footprint calculator on National Energy Foundation website – [www.nef.org.uk](http://www.nef.org.uk)

### **12.AOB**

RT advised schools currently meeting to discuss how to spend extra funding for school meals in light of Jamie Oliver programme.

KL advised central government currently consulting on code for Sustainable Buildings on the ODPM website – [www.odpm.gov.uk](http://www.odpm.gov.uk) until 6<sup>th</sup> March.

Dates of next meetings:- TBC when Leicestershire Together dates set