

**ENABLE Steering Group meeting
Minutes of 12th October 2005, 2.30pm
Oadby and Wigston Borough Council**

Apologies	Attendees
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

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 25th 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

The penultimate draft agreement to be submitted on 3rd February with the final version submitted by 21st February. LAA signed off 24th March and starts on 1st April.

BME Citizens Jury

- Will 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 in organisations as has little input yet.

- Environmental contacts requested in each organisation who are relevant to Climate Change

Local Area Agreement

TL spoke about the Leicestershire Local Area Agreement proposal currently being submitted to GOEM – Government Office for the East Midlands. The agreement, if successful, would mean extra funding for Leicestershire from central government. LAAs are the successor to PSAs Public Service Agreements. Leicestershire Together are taking a lead on the submission and the final plan would need to be agreed with the government by 1st April 2006.

The LAA is broken down into four themes –

- Health and Older People
- Children and Young People
- Economic Development
- Safer and Stronger Communities, Cleaner, Greener

In order to tap into funding streams, projects would have to be able to fulfil all areas. ENABLE has the potential for Climate Change projects. There would be little scope for funding projects which would not fulfil the LAA topic areas.

Full details of Local Area Agreements can be viewed on

http://www.leicestershiretogether.org/local_area_agreements

5. ENABLE Action Plan

New Community Strategy now out for 2005-2008 has set specific targets for ENABLE so there is a need to revisit the action plan to reflect ENABLE targets in the Community Strategy. There will also be developments concerning LSEP funding strands. Therefore is now a need to re-appraise the action plan and direction of the partnership and reform the Action Plan Group.

Action:- RS to contact Action Plan group members

Action:- Action Plan group to fill out Community Strategy Appraisal Form

A discussion took place regarding potential projects to fulfil community strategy actions inc...

Local energy schemes:- Brocks Hill, Rural Energy Trust, New Schools which monitor energy usage as part of national curriculum, anaerobic digestion of cow manure

CS advised to raise project ideas at LAA meetings early on as still often the case of those who shout loudest get their projects submitted.

KB advised Leicester City are at draft proposal stage but there is a bidding process for money, projects must deliver on certain outputs and advised the whole scheme is also undergoing a Sustainability Appraisal.

6. Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

Andy Lear gave a presentation to the group on the Leicestershire Biodiversity Action Plan. See attached handout at end for information.

7. Climate Change Strategy

Now the strategy has been commended by the Leicestershire Together Board there is a need for the strategy to become a priority area so we don't lose momentum. There is a need to reform the Climate Change subgroup to put together an action plan and help produce a public friendly summary document. The full strategy is now available on the ENABLE section of the Leicestershire County Council website and copies have been sent out to all schools, libraries and ENABLE members.

DW advised about the CRED scheme – a carbon reduction strategy. For information visit www.cred-uk.org.

There is a need to develop a climate change campaign and could be possible to link in with Leicester City.

The Local Area Agreement and Community Strategy both have actions for Climate Change so is covered strategically.

Will press release the Climate Change strategy in November as the UN Climate Change Conference takes place in Montreal on 28th November so climate change would be in the press a lot leading up to that date.

Action:- RS to email Climate Change subgroup

8. Business Subgroup

The consultant has now visited all 5 businesses and is working with them to create action plans. Some businesses even want to work towards ISO 14001 a recognised European standard for an environmental management system. The consultant is currently carrying out follow up visits. A project is also underway investigating recycling on a business park although there are issues with bulking up the waste in a central area before it can be collected for recycling. There is also a possibility for a small area to be set aside for businesses in household waste and recycling sites otherwise known as tips to you and me.

Studentforce for Sustainability, an organisation who recruits students and recent graduates for small projects are wanting to generate projects in Leicestershire carrying out environmental audits with small and medium

sized businesses. Called Community Check they are targeting publicly accessible buildings such as pubs and hairdressers. Will be inviting Stephen Passmore, the project manager along to the next meeting in January to find out more about the scheme.

KB advised the group about Environ's Business Resource Efficiency Club providing a free benchmarking service to businesses on areas such as waste, energy and water use enabling them to make savings by helping the environment. For further information, please visit: [www.environ.org.uk/business/Leicestershire Business Resource Efficiency Club/](http://www.environ.org.uk/business/Leicestershire_Business_Resource_Efficiency_Club/)

9. Partnership Event

Want to aim for an annual event early 2006. This time want to focus on actions rather than hearing from speakers in the form of discussion groups on issues such as energy and BAP with an evaluation to help people to issues raised back to their organisations.

Action: RS/DW to investigate venues

10. Newsletter

RS asked the group for suggestion for articles and was advised on Christmas recycling and buying Christmas food from local sources such as farmers markets.

Also suggested the possibility of producing a more professional looking newsletter in conjunction with the Leicester Environment Partnership. KB advised there could be potential funding from Environ.

Action: DW to speak to Dave Nicholls

11. Upcoming events and campaigns

East Midlands Climate Change group are arranging the second local authorities Climate Change conference on 5th December to launch the new version of the Nottingham Declaration now to be called the Nottinghamshire Agreement. For details visit:- www.nottingham2005.org. Please note the cost for the conference is £150 + Vat.

RF -WI have submitted bid for lotto funding to carry out a wildflower survey during 2007 with possibility of training for WI members and villagers. DW advised RF to contact Carolyn Holmes at CHI – Tel. 0116 267 0002.

CS – OWBC Christmas Event 17th December with the only team of free ranging reindeer from the Cairngorm mountains! Brocks Hill 11am -3pm and Wigston Town Centre 5-9pm.

RT – Leicestershire Waste Partnership Project concerning children asking for family and friends to sign a pledge agreeing to recycle more using district council recycling scheme or recycling and household waste sites.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:- 11th January, Charnwood Borough Council.
2.30 -4.30pm.