

ENABLE Steering Group Meeting Minutes

22nd May 2007, 10am

Committee Room 2, Charnwood Borough Council, Loughborough

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:- 12th SEPTEMBER 2007, 2 -4 pm HINCKLEY
AND BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Attendees	Apologies
Ruth Camamile, Leicestershire County Council (Chair) Peter Williams, Leicestershire County Council Tony Lockley, Leicestershire County Council Rachel Sweetland, Leicestershire County Council Hetal Patel, Leicestershire County Council Jane Neachell, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council David Lepper, Natural England Andrew Quigley, Diocese of Leicester Bob Scott, Leicestershire Constabulary Karl Letten, Charnwood Borough Council Ruth Fenney, Leicestershire and Rutland Federation of Women's Institutes Susan Bulpitt, North West Leicestershire District Council	Tony Marmont, Beacon Energy

1) Apologies

(see above)

2) Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed to be a true record

3) Matters arising

Regional Spatial Strategy Examination in Public to commence today (22nd May 2007)

LAA update

PW advised Leicestershire Together are required to produce a new Sustainable Community Strategy next year which will link in with the Local Area Agreement process. ENABLE will be involved in the process as a consultee regarding environmental issues and advise District strategies.

TL advised as FLAG (Forward with Leicestershire Aggregate Grants) grants are now linked into the LAA .

PW advised that Leicester City and Leicestershire County cabinet members have now met to discuss working in partnership on Climate Change issues but there has been no feedback as yet.

The ENABLE Event went well and there has been lots of positive feedback. Three trees will be planted at County Hall as part of carbon offset at the event.

4) ENABLE Constitution

TL advised that the document was currently with the Leicestershire County Council Legal Department for consultation

HP had some comments he wished to raise which included:-

Does not mention anything about setting up sub groups in the Power section D, yet is raised in section G Steering Group-

Would like to include the phrase Leicestershire Environment Partnership, an umbrella partnership of Environmental Organisations in Leicestershire.

Wanted some feedback about Leicestershire County Council representation and only being allowed one member from each organisation as LCC currently has 5 members – PW advised one member one vote

An AGM will need to be arranged

Would like to see consistency throughout the document between the wording Steering Group or Committee

5) EMRA Climate Change

This was moved up the agenda from Item 5 as PW had to leave early to attend the Leicestershire Together Board meeting as the ENABLE Climate Change Action Plan was being discussed. The LT Board were also being asked to endorse the ENABLE Climate Change Declaration for their members to sign up to.

The outcome of the meeting can be reported back as the Climate Change Action Plan being approved for public consultation after making one minor change regarding sustainable food options.

EMRA will be celebrating all East Midlands Local Authorities signing the Nottingham Declaration on Thursday 14th June at an event at Conkers starting at 10am. Mrs Camamile will be attending to represent ENABLE at the event.

Action RS/HP: Add Climate Change Action Plan to ENABLE website for consultation

RS/HP

HP advised that EMRA are now adopting the ENABLE Climate Change Declaration to roll out Nottingham Declaration equivalent to sectors other than local authorities and will be acknowledging this at the event which will help to raise the profile of ENABLE.

6) Business sub group

At the last meeting it was discussed the need to resurrect the Business sub group due to the disappointing results from the latest Leicestershire Business Survey and also now that EMBREN (East Midlands Business Resource Efficiency Network) has dissolved and the 3 local Business Links have now become one Regional Business Link there is less environmental advice for businesses.

Karl Letten was invited to become the Chair again of the group but this matter was not resolved.

Jane Neachell volunteered to represent ENABLE at the EMDA Environment Management

Support Programme on 7th June at Snibston and would feedback in next meeting about how it would be useful to resurrect the business sub group.

It was decided there was a need to get a member from the business community and a discussion took place on regarding who. Some suggestions were:- Housing – David Wilson, Jelson to pioneer new Building Regulations, Tony Marmont, Federation of Small Businesses Leicestershire Rep, a Social Enterprise and approaching companies from the Top 100 Leicestershire Businesses list

Action:- To approach members and set first meeting date:-

HP – Social Enterprise

BS – Federation of Small Businesses

PW – David Wilson/Jelson Homes/Tony Marmont

**HP
BS
PW**

7) Annual ENABLE Report

This would be required to raise the profile of ENABLE and demonstrate achievements year on year. It is also something that would be required of a constituted group so we really need to start thinking about producing an annual report. BS suggested writing a special edition of the Newsletter dedicated to annual achievements.

8) Refresh of the Strategic Overview of Leicestershire's Environment

TL raised this issue as it helps to feed directly into the new Sustainable Community Strategy. Also, the information contained in the original Overview is now slightly dated as the research was carried out in 2003 and since then environmental issues have now moved up the political agenda with Climate Change becoming a high profile issue.

TL feels the document can be produced in house rather than using consultants as was originally used. There is a need to set up another sub group to co-ordinate this piece of work to contact organisations relevant to the individual sections.

Action: RS/HP to arrange meeting of the sub group

HP/RS

9) Ideas for Climate Change Campaign

Although Action Plan nearing completion the Climate Change sub group will still be required to meet to discuss promotional and implementation tactics

Two campaigns would be required – one for businesses and community groups and the other targeted at Householders in line with Climate Change Action Plan this would include leaflets, posters and a website.

HP presented some information he had picked up produced by the Wellingborough Partnership on Climate Change which was a set of Guidance Notes on various issues and a CD which he was keen to see reproduced for Leicestershire.

HP also had another suggestion of Market shows related to events run by Sustainable Staffordshire taking a Green Roadshow to market towns around Staffordshire. These could be arranged in conjunction with District Councils and incorporate issues such as a hybrid car, local food and energy efficiency.

JN advised that she would be visiting events in the Hinckley and Bosworth area during the summer such as Lark in the Park and would be able to take the ENABLE banners and leaflets along and promote ENABLE.

<p>Action: RS/JN to liaise over promotional material</p>	<p>RS/JN</p>
<p>10) ENABLE Newsletter The ENABLE newsletter is due to be published at the end of June and a number of suggestions were raised including information on Church Events, news on the Climate Change Action Plan, EMRA Climate Change Declaration recognising ENABLE's input, District Council Climate Change Action Plans, EMRA celebration of East Midlands authorities signing up to the Nottingham Declaration, Charnwood Borough Council receiving ISO 14001 accreditation for certain buildings, Charnwood Forest event and EMRAF Conference on climate change</p>	
<p>Action:</p>	<p>AQ/KL</p>
<p>11) Charnwood Forest Event Leicestershire County Council is organising an event to raise the profile of a proposed designation of Charnwood Forest as a Regional Park at the NSPCC National Training Centre in Beaumont Leys on Monday 25th June between 9.30am and 1.30pm chaired by Ernie White, Lead Member for the Environment at Leicestershire County Council. It will highlight issues such as gravel extraction, M1 widening, Loughborough Town expansion as well as the excellent natural features of the area.</p>	
<p>12) Updates</p>	
<p>BS – EMRAF (East Midlands Rural Affairs Forum) organising a Conference on Climate Change on 11th July at PERA Innovation Centre, Melton Mowbray. Free to voluntary and community organisations and £50 to other organisations</p>	
<p>AQ – Bishop of Leicester recently addressed a question at the House of Lords asking the UK to ban the sale of incandescent lightbulbs as has happened recently in Australia</p>	
<p>AQ – The 3rd Sunday in June has been declared Environment Sunday by Leicester churches with many churches hosting an environmental event or an environment themed service. A film is also being screened at the Phoenix</p>	
<p>KL – 3 Charnwood Borough Council buildings recently awarded ISO 14001 accreditation – Council Offices, Town Hall and Swimming Pool</p>	
<p>RF – Leicestershire and Rutland WI involved with national campaigns based around the carbon challenge and putting pressure on supermarkets to reduce packaging</p>	
<p>JN – Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council are very close to being awarded with Fairtrade Borough status</p>	
<p>SB – North West Leicestershire District Council has recently published its Environment Strategy</p>	
<p>13) Any other business HP spoke about the proposed Sustainable Energy Networks to replace the local Energy Efficiency Advice Centres with regional virtual networks internet based so no more face to face advice for householders wishing to find out more about energy efficiency. HP is responding to a consultation and will be opposing it as reducing current levels of service.</p>	