

Sustainable Aston Working Group

Minutes of Meeting 9th December 2010

Present:	Stuart Cooper	SC	ABS (Chair)
	Sofia Kokolaki-Hall	SKH	Estates
	Victoria Johnsen	VJ	Estates
	Caroline Witton	CW	SLHS
	Peter Shearer	PS	BPU
	Phil Extance	PE	Pro-Vice Chancellors office
	Peter Quaife	PQ	SLSS
	Christopher Brewster	CB	ABS
	Tom Axup	TA	Guild Environment and Ethics Officer
	Richard		Student representative
	Andrew Bryers	AB	Energy Manager
Apologies:	Lucy Bastin	LB	SEAS
	John Blewitt	JB	Combined Honours
	Alan Charters	AC	Estates
	Reiner Grundmann	RG	SLSS
	Lynnette Jones	LJ	Estates
	Frank Eperjesi	FE	SLHS
	Pete Hedges	PH	SEAS
	Nick Martin	NM	Student Representative

1. Introductions

SC

Phil Extance – Pro-Vice Chancellor: Phil is happy to help the group in any way he can and will offer a link into the Executive team.

Andrew Bryers – Energy Manager: Andrew will be working with the Environment Team on a number of projects.

Tom Axup – Guild Environment and Ethics Officer: Tom is keen to work closely with the group and plan campaigns and events together.

Richard – member of Guild Environment and Ethics Committee.

2. Energy Manager

AB

Andrew introduces his Energy Champions pack and explains the idea: staff and postgrads will be asked to sign up and provided with a work pack and actions to reduce energy; this will be launched in the new year together with the Go Green awards.

The network will be mostly electronic but there will be an introductory meeting with the volunteers and Andrew will link into other events like Go Green week. It is also suggested that this should tie into other work with student awareness activities and campaigns (in particular the Student Switch Off).

TA asks about Energy Champions in the Guild - would like to work with AB on audits and energy saving in the guild. Agreed that they will test out the walk around checklist and energy pack. TA also mentions awareness raising in the Guild; he is running a market research survey on awareness and will report back to group.

The Energy Champion documents will be made available to the group for comment by the end of next week (17th December).

3. Discussion topic: Go Green Week 2011

ALL

Agreed that there needs to be more academic input this year: each school to report back on their plans:

ABS

- Carole Parkes is happy to hold an event (either on UN PRME or on human rights);
- David Saal will also be involved in a seminar on his CSI research project – as there are 5 projects, could do 1 seminar each day or could do a one day report back event like last year;
- Beyond Grey Pinstripes survey: getting MBA ticked off as an ethical programme, SC to speak to Brigitte Nicolaud on MBA programme about targeting some ABS events specifically at MBA's and ask for input from her.

PS suggests contacting Cath Foster (Be Seen project based in science park) re: social entrepreneurs.

PS to provide list of winners of the HEFCE and Unlimited awards promoting social enterprises.

CB suggests contacting Social Enterprise West Midlands.

PE - need to get EBRI involved: contact Tony Bridgewater and Prof Hornung re display materials.

PE mentions the Celebrating Research day on 16th march – highlight links.

LHS

- CW to contact Richard Cooke re CSI bid - **PS** mentions psychology element - what motivates sustainable behaviour?
- CW to contact ABC builders and BREEAM about sustainable construction,
- LHS to possibly talk about LHS sustainability group.

PE suggests contacting Carillion to talk about ASV (contact through Clive and Alan).

PQ notes the need to be wary of spending money on go green week rather than staff costs in the current climate - **PE** suggests mentioning this to Adèle.

In particular, follow up on Co-op sponsorship of the Tarnished Earth exhibition and invite them to present / recruit in exchange - **TA** to find out about student placement - **PE** offers help in contacting Co-op if needed

PE - need to include Cabled car trial: contact Brian Price in SEAS.

TA suggests asking the sports teams to compete on the pedal power bikes.

AB suggests organising tours of the CHP plant.

PE suggests contacting Amey for a presentation/recruitment - they are replacing street lights in B'ham with LED's.

AB suggests presentation on New Street station project.

CB asks about the greenhouses on main building - can we find out from Estates what they are used for? This could be something for biodiversity day.

PQ asks if we can get someone in to talk about easy household tips for biodiversity – **VJ** suggests contacting the BBCWT.

PS reminds the group of a previous suggestion to look at British Science festival presentations.

AB suggests a presentation on How did Cadbury go Fairtrade – group notes need to be careful of controversy and potential protests.

AB requests promotion of a Big Switch Off, measuring energy use before and afterwards (preferably Friday night).

SC mentions that Reiner has a contact who spoke recently at an ACCIS event about nuclear power - the group agree that this is definitely an interesting topic.

PE suggests using adverts on computers in labs to promote the week.

6 AOB

- Nothing raised.

SC

7 Date of next meeting

To be confirmed.

SC