

## **Aston University**

### **Sustainable Aston Working Group**

Notes of the meeting held on 25 January 2011

Present:	Tom Axup	Stuart Cooper (Chair)
	John Blewitt	Frank Eperjesi
	Christopher Brewster	Peter Hedges
	Andrew Bryers	Victoria Johnsen
	Alan Charters	Lynnette Jones

In attendance: Julie Ottley (Secretary)

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Peter Shearer and Caroline Witton.

#### **2. Membership**

It was noted that:

- (i) Alan Charters would be the Executive representative on the group, replacing Phil Extance.
- (ii) Julie Ottley would be secretary to the group, replacing Emma Sutton.
- (ii) Nick Martin, the student representative, had stepped down as he was in his final year and unable to commit time to the group.

#### **3. Minutes of last meeting**

The notes of the previous meeting, held on 9 December 2010, were confirmed.

#### **4. Carbon Management Plan**

The Carbon Management Plan was accepted by the University in October 2010 with a target reduction in carbon emissions of 48% by 2020 but with a stretch target of 53%.

In order to drive this forward, SAWG must be committed to the plan and support it in the following ways:

- (i) Review progress at the start of each academic year and report to Council.
- (ii) Spread the message across campus by identifying areas to make efficiency savings and people who can contribute towards this.

(Information would be circulated shortly asking Schools and Departments to appoint Energy Champions to move this forward in their areas).

LJ

(iii) Embedding the Carbon Management Plan in teaching and research.

Estates were doing a considerable amount of work towards the plan but cannot meet the targets without the support of the wider University community.

It was agreed that at the next meeting the group would look at the Implementation Plan in more detail to devise ways to deliver targets and find new initiatives in order to reduce carbon usage by the required amount.

JO

The Plan is available on the website

<http://www1.aston.ac.uk/about/environment/policy/carbon-management-plan/>

## 5. Go Green Week 2011

Go Green Week, 28 February to 4 March, coincided with Rag Week and there would be links between the two at some events.

The event would be launched with a lecture by the VC.

### ABS

Carole Parkes had confirmed she would host a session but needed to decide day/time.

MBA students to be involved. Chair to liaise with MBA office.

There would be a display to promote the new MSc Social Responsibility and Sustainability.

VJ  
SC

### EAS

Would be providing a poster display.

Kate Sugden may be able to do something re pedal power.

### LHS

Caroline Witton was negotiating with colleagues.

### LSS

Reiner Grundmann had been approached to do a talk, Chair would chase.

SC

John Blewitt confirmed he would do a presentation on wildlife conservation on Wednesday.

“Coming Soon” posters would shortly be appearing around campus.

All arrangements have to be finalised by 7 February so that publicity showing firm details can be distributed.

ALL

Tom Axup would ensure that the event is promoted in the Guild.

**TA**

It was noted that it was the EQUIS accreditation visit to ABS during this week and it was hoped to be able to show the panel a sample of the events taking place.

## **6. Other business**

### Environmental and Ethics market research – policy awareness

Tom Axup circulated a report prepared by the Guild Market Research Officer about students' awareness and views on the University's sustainability policy.

The main points highlighted were that the students wanted to know more and that it needed better promotion.

It was agreed that the information on the University website be linked to the Guild website.

**TA**

### Leading curriculum change for sustainability

John Blewitt circulated a draft Pilot Plan for the HEFCE funded project: Leading curriculum change for sustainability.

Members were asked to send their comments on the plan to John.

**ALL**

### Support Group

It was suggested that a group for Energy Champions from support departments be established by Victoria Johnsen.

It was agreed that this be discussed further at the next meeting.

**JO**

### Aston Energy Group

It was noted that Andrew Bryers would be establishing an Aston Energy Group.

**AB**

## **7. Date of next meeting**

To be arranged towards the end of Spring term.

**JO**