

EFDC GREEN CORPORATE WORKING PARTY MINUTES

DATE: October 1 2010
TIME: 2.30pm
VENUE: Committee Room 1, Civic Offices

Chair: John de Wilton Preston (JP)

Attending: Ian White (IGW), Sarah Creitzman (SC), Mike Tipping (MT), Mike Warr (MW), Dawn Jolley (DJ), Cllr Penny Smith (PS), Kassandra Polyzoides (KP),
Minutes: Elizabeth M Thomas (EMT) Dominique Pharoah (DP)

Welcome to: Bruce Pittingale of Carbon Special Reserve, giving a presentation today on Feed-In Tariffs (notes attached)

Apologies for absence

Lewis McGann (LMG), Brian Bassington (BB), Jim Nolan (JN), Tom Carne (TC), Ann Kossick (AK), Chris Overend (CO)

Matters arising from last meeting

- Minutes agreed.
- Climate Change Strategy to be recirculated.
- SC & JP have discussed the sub-group that will take the strategy forward.
- Sub-group will consist of 4 people: SC, TC, MW, DJ
- A benchmarking list of other councils is available.

Action

Climate Change Strategy

- Sub-group to meet on November 2nd.

Sub-group

Green Champions

- Discussed what Green Champions (GCs) can do: SC has resources to hand.
- Samples of posters and stickers circulated.
- Sharon Lekha has suggested teaching GCs about smart print & paper techniques.
- GCs to be picked from all Directorates.
- JP to discuss Green issues & GCs with other Directors & Management Board.
- KIoE indicates that we should have GCs.

Sub-group

Comments:

- KP: GCs should be linked to Climate Change & Carbon Reduction strategies.
- JP: I'll take our soundings to Management Board in 4 weeks time.
- DJ: The sub-group could give Management Board a list of priorities and they can feed back on the ones they need us to action first.
- MT: Good idea, working from the bottom up often helps! The 5 year plan for maintenance was primarily about finance but it had a knock-on effect for the environment. The sub-group and Green CWP must get through normal Council processes especially if finance is involved, including Scrutiny.
- DJ: can the sub group please have policies generated by other authorities, to study so we can discuss options.
- JP: As a Council we are thinking greener and are more conscious of carbon, efficiency etc than 10 years ago.
- DJ: materials and practices are geared to be more efficient now any way.
- IW: Sustainability is more commonplace, the WWF recently did a freedom of information request regarding sustainable sources of wood in the offices.

- KP: We do lots of small things too, like using our own cups at vending machines.
- PS: Strategies should be seen by businesses and households across the district, and then they'll educate people.
- IW: Directorates appointing GCs will make this corporate.
- KP: Each directorate should appoint before we do the strategies, so they can be a part of the processes.
- MW: Can people nominate themselves?
- DJ: We should start aspects of the strategy small.

Presentation: Feed-In Tariffs

By Bruce Pittingale

Green Fleet Review update

- E-mail has been circulated by SC re driving training – 22 responses received. **SC**
The course will run over 2 days in December 2010 to be arranged by SC.

Renewable training for planning officers

- Progress being made with essential car users, and we are looking at various training issues.
- Anglia Ruskin University has been working on this over the last 3 years, recent topics being renewability and green working issues.
- EPOA are running some free courses soon, information has been circulated and can be redistributed to GCWP, please see Sarah King in Planning.

Any other business

- 10/10/10/: are we doing anything to mark this? 10:10 campaign for Carbon Reduction, we could choose a single effective action for this. Suggested sweep of monitors/ PCs to make sure they are switched off.
- It would be a good day to launch GCs, but the scheme is not ready yet.
- Agreed to see 10/10 website for information.
- Need to see how to take feed-in tariffs forward to EFDC decision-makers.
- Weigh up what Carbon Special Reserve offers, SC budget, and the 5-year plan and budget for improving facilities at Civic Offices.
- IW: we should investigate the potential of PV (solar cells?) on buildings and present that to Members.
- DJ: start with our own building first to show the public we're committed – and how it works – before rolling out. What other sites can we use?
- MT: Langston Road Depot will have internal relocation, so we could build renewable energy into that.
- PS: I'd prefer to see all the costs and figures first before doing anything, plus the first 5 years are the most expensive: having said that Carbon Special Reserve has a portfolio of good clients.
- DJ: we could approach an authority that has already embarked on it.
- Agreed to study what we have heard today and produce reports – and to include findings in forthcoming drafts of the strategy.

Date of next meeting

Next meeting scheduled for November 9 2010, at 2.30pm in Conference Room.