

# YORK ENVIRONMENT FORUM

## MINUTES OF MEETING ON 23rd..July 2012

### Present:

Philip Crowe	York Tomorrow
Isabel Waddington	Murton PC
Chris Chambers	Strensall PC
Dot Lawton	Heslington PC
Carole Green	Bishophorpe PC
Cllr.Andy d'Agorne	CYC Green Group
Cllr.Dave Merrett	CYC Labour Group
Cllr.Ian Cuthbertson	CYC Lib.Dem. Group
Phil Bixby	Constructive Individuals
Penny Bainbridge	Edible York
Mick Phythian	YNET
Barry Otley	Wheatlands Community Woodland
Ron Healey	CTC North Yorks
Guy Woolley	CPRE
John Cossham	York in Transition/York Rotters
Sara Robin	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust/York Cycle Campaign
June Tranmer	The Healing Clinic/Briar Hour Resources
Hugh Cripps	Yorkshire Energy Partnership
Jaquie Warren	CYC

**Chairs:** Kate Lock                      York Rotters/Planet Southbank/Friends of Rowntree Par  
                 Philip Crowe                      York Tomorrow

### 1        **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Andreas Heinemeyer. Apologies to Carole Green and Dot Lawton who did in fact attend the meeting on 25th.June. Please note it is the responsibility of individual members to make sure they sign the attendance sheets.

### 2        **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

agreed

### 3        **MATTERS ARISING**

none

### 4        **ECONOMIC STRATEGY**

**KL** tabled the "Reaching Further -York Economic Strategy 2011-2015" Summary.This is a revised version, and there are still concerns over a lack of "green" policies, and the failure to promote an integrated approach. **KL** stressed that these views have been passed on to CYC, who are still keen to engage in dialogue. Comments were

that it was insufficiently ambitious, and failed to recognise the relevance of green infrastructure in economic policy making. It was noted that the bid for a "Future Cities" demonstrator pilot via SCY had been unsuccessful, although it had recognised the importance of the green environment. The conclusion was that the EF should be closely involved in the revised development plan process if it wished to influence policy.

## **5 THE "ENGAGE" PROGRAMME**

**KL** confirmed the continued CYC support for this project. **JW** outlined the aims of the programme as essentially to engage people at a local level in changing behaviour and attitudes towards reducing emissions, increasing energy efficiency and promoting the use of renewable energy sources. **Cllr. Merrett** signed the "Charter" on behalf of CYC. Details can be accessed at [www.citiesengage.eu](http://www.citiesengage.eu). It was proposed that the programme would be featured at the Food and Drink Festival on Sept.25th. Four posters were ready, and it was proposed that there would be a total of 12 on the outside of the main marquee. The films taken by **Chris Vassie** would be shown. More individuals with interesting tales to tell were still needed to appear on the posters, and more sites identified. College students could be interested. Photographers were needed for additional poster subjects. **KL, JW, JC** and **CG** were to form the initial working group. It was important to monitor performance and outcomes. Funding could be a problem.

## **6 FOOTSTREETS**

**PC** reviewed the main issues raised by the consultation questionnaire, which were discussed at length. It was important to note that without more background information it was not possible to make a meaningful response to many of the questions. **Cllr. DM** stated that this was not the final consultation. It was resolved that the EF would not respond to this, but that members should make their own representations.

## **7 GI TOOLKIT-NATURAL ENVIRONMENT SUBGROUP**

**BO** reviewed the recent presentation by **Anne Jaluzot** of the GI Toolkit which was being developed to assist in the preparation of green infrastructure strategies. It can assist in the formulation of an evidence base for funding bids. In the CYC Plan to 2015 CYC is committed to delivering a Green Infrastructure Strategy, a Bio-Diversity Action Plan and a Tree Strategy. **Cllr. DM** agreed that generally current employment sites were unattractive due to poor quality of the green infrastructure. It was essential to ensure the early delivery of green elements on all development sites (otherwise known as "advance landscaping") if they were to be made attractive to investors. **Cllr. A d'A** stated that experience elsewhere suggested that developers could be attracted by the economic benefit of well-designed green infrastructure

Comments were:-the GI Toolkit should be tried as a pilot. The A59 P+R site could be suitable, but it was essential that the process was eventually applied comprehensively, and sites not treated on an individual basis. Developers must know in advance how their sites fitted in with the total vision. Green infrastructure considerations could affect housing density.

## 8 TREEMENDOUS YORK

PC stated that it was hoped to apply to CYC for funding under its Delivery and Innovation Fund for additional resources to provide an evidence base for further funding bids to be made by members of the group, capitalising on the success of the bid by Conservation Volunteers York.

## 9 AOB

Discussions were under way with CYC to establish protocols for dealing with grass verges, and to confirm a future parks strategy in the light of the limited resources now available.

### NEXT MEETING

Date	<b>Mon.</b> 10th.Sept. 4.00-6.00 pm.
Venue	Guildhall rm.1
Agenda	tbc

further meetings:-

<b>Mon.</b> Oct. 8th. 4.30-6.30 pm
Guildhall rm.2
Nov. to be arranged
<b>Mon.</b> Dec.3rd. 4.00-6.00
Guildhall rm.1

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