

## YORK ENVIRONMENT FORUM

### MINUTES OF MEETING ON Sept. 10th. 2012

#### Present:

Philip Crowe	York Tomorrow
Isabel Waddington	Murton PC
Dot Lawton	Heslington PC
Carole Green	Bishopthorpe PC
Cllr. Andy d'Agorne	CYC Green Group
Mark Warters	CYC Independent
Phil Bixby	Constructive Individuals
Penny Bainbridge	Edible York
Mick Phythian	YNET
Charlotte Harison	Mass Architecture
Ron Healey	CTC North Yorks
John Cossham	York in Transition/York Rotters
Anna Bialkowska	Abundance York
Maurice Vassie	Just York
Hugh Cripps	Yorkshire Energy Partnership
Derek Gauld	CYC

**Chairs:** Kate Lock      York Rotters/Planet Southbank/Friends of Rowntree Park

#### 1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Andreas Heinemeyer, Cllr. Cuthbertson, Chris Chambers, Alastair Cooper, Barry Otley. 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

Item 6 - some members had responded to the footstreets consultation, but it was generally regarded as an unsatisfactory questionnaire.

Item 9 - Interactive officer discussions were taking place on planting in parks, with no developments as yet on treatment of road verges. A winning dissertation on wildflower planting and verge treatment by an Askham Bryan student recognised as outstanding by CPRE was to be circulated.

#### 4 REINVIGORATE YORK

This followed on from the Simpson report. £200k. is available for initial design work, and £3.5m. for implementation, under the EIF scheme. Six areas had been identified

for action. There may be additional funding through the Better Bus Area fund. The CYC focus was on economic benefits. Some of the issues to be considered were behaviour patterns, sharing spaces and impacts on bus services. Consultation strategies for each of the project areas were being developed.

Comments were:- CYC to consider the possibility of developing underground cycle parking; the promotion of coloured shop awnings to provide visual interest; the provision of digital display space; increased WiFi coverage; renewed emphasis on "living over the shop"; attracting EU funding.

The EF should invite Alan Simpson to brief on this, particularly as he now appears to have developed closer ties with York University.

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

This would be promoted at the Cycling Festival in Rowntree Park, with a major launch at the Food and Drink Festival on Sept. 25th. Volunteers to feature their efforts to change behaviour on site photographs were still needed. Developing community comparators would be a useful technique to encourage participation. [www.citiesengage.eu](http://www.citiesengage.eu) and social networking sites could be used to expand the contact base. Handout cards with the "engaged" message should be printed for widespread distribution. The Bull Lane mosque should be approached to introduce the concept to the growing Muslim community.

## **6 TREEMENDOUS YORK**

There had been a successful bid for tree planting at New Earswick by a local group. Discussions were still ongoing regarding the bid for funding under the CYC DIF programme. Meanwhile evaluation of potential planting sites was continuing. It was hoped to participate in the "Reinvigorate York" initiative

## **7 YEF PRIORITIES-FORWARD PROGRAMME**

The following items were put forward for future agenda items:-

Queen St. Bridge demolition and alternatives

relaxation of planning laws

the new local plan

the York Central site (cf. the Heidelberg development)\*

danger to the green belt

the importance of visualisation in public communication

affordable/sustainable housing

Selby mine proposals

Allerton Park and CYC waste strategy

\* The York Central subgroup will meet on Sept. 17th at the "Sea Horse" Fishergate at 7.30

## **8 AFFORDABLE HOMES**

item postponed

## **9 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT/GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE**

item postponed

**10 AOB**

It was suggested that a visit to the new Derwentthorpe site could be of interest. The EF should explore contacts with any equivalent bodies in Dijon and Munster.

**NEXT MEETING**

Date **Mon. Oct. 8th. 4.30-6.30 pm** - speaker Sir John Lawton  
Venue **Guildhall rm.2**  
Agenda **tbc**

further meetings:-

**Mon. Nov. 12th. 4.00-6.00**  
**Guildhall rm.1**  
**Mon. Dec.3rd. 4.00-6.00**  
**Guildhall rm.1**

The Forum contact is c/o 66 Bishopthorpe Road, York YO23 1JS t.01904 620171 or kate @ klockworks.co.uk. + [www.yorkenvironmentforum.org.uk](http://www.yorkenvironmentforum.org.uk) and on Facebook