

**YORK ENVIRONMENT FORUM
MINUTES OF MEETING ON Jan.13th 2015**

Present:

Philip Crowe	York Tomorrow
Carole Green	Bishopthorpe PC
Dot Lawton	Heslington PC
Cllr. Andy d'Agorne	CYC Green Group
Cllr.Dave Merrett	CYC Labour Group
John Cossham	York in Transition
Richard Lane	YRAIN/York Community Energy
Alison Sinclair	YOPF, Cons.Area Advisory Panel
Ron Healey	CTC N.Yorks.
Penny Bainbridge	Edible York
Mick Phythian	YNET
Ivana Jakubkova	St.Nicks
Linda Maggs	Friends of Hagg Wood/YNET
Adrian Lovett	Schumacher North
Alastair Cooper	York Quakers Friargate
Jacqui Warren	CYC

Chair: Phil Bixby

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies; Sara Robin, Anna Bialkowska. Welcome to Jacqui Warren.

2 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

agreed.

3 MATTERS ARISING

item 6- Cllr.DM queried the input of the transport sub-group, which had not yet formulated comments on the Local Plan.

4 REPORT ON MEMBERSHIP and SUBSCRIPTIONS

Penny B.noted that three new members had joined the YEF. She would report back after the Parish Council workshop on Jan.22nd.on interest expressed in becoming Forum members.

5 URBAN COMMUNITY ENERGY FUND -Jacqui Warren

JW outlined the new funding and strategy which included a new £10million Urban Community Energy Fund; a "one stop shop" information resource for community energy and partners; a central dedicated Community Energy Unit to work with communities and Local Authorities to implement policy; a commitment from the renewables industry to increase shared ownership of on-shore schemes; and

additional funding to the Big Energy Saving Network to go to third sector organisations and community groups supporting hard-to-reach consumers, helping them to reduce energy costs. This would fit with the CYC "transformational" programme, which would include a new Board set up to support the initiative, which would include energy "switching" opportunities.

The Climate Change Action Plan would be refreshed. Sustainability was till very much on the CYC agenda, and the work on the "One Planet Living" concept continues.

The utilities are funding the "Big Energy Race" this year. The two potential sites for district heating were under discussion with developers, and could not be divulged at this time.

Members thanked Jacqui for her presentation, and looked forward to further updates.

6 THE LOCAL PLAN - subgroup contributions

Historic and Built Environment subgroup

PC reported that he had attended the Local Plan Working Group on 17th.Dec. having circulated all members and relevant officers with the report on housing densities. He intended to follow this by attending the LPWG on 29th. Jan. when safeguarded land was to be on the agenda.

AS was to prepare comments for submission.

(LM was concerned over the future of the MoD housing estate and whether this should be referred to in the YEF responses)

Natural Environment subgroup

MP was to prepare comments for submission.

Transport subgroup

Cllr.Ad'A would circulate comments for consideration by members.

Energy and One Planet York subgroups

JC had prepared comments for consideration, and referred to the AMEC energy report

7 WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP AND FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

AS suggested members be canvassed for suggestions for topics. PB suggested that transport should be one of them. AC thought that it would be useful to obtain candidates views on important environmental issues before the elections. The YEF should determine what these should be, and they could be raised at any public meetings with constituents or via E-mail questionnaires.

8 TERRY'S CLOCKTOWER FORUM - Alison Sinclair

AS was concerned over the developer's proposal for change of use of the tower to residential, when the original proposals were for community use, with public access. There was to be an Open Forum to discuss this at St.Chads Church on Jan.21st. at 7.00 pm. Examples of similar high-rise conversions would be welcomed. This might be an opportunity to examine the proposals for housing on the land to the s.w of the main Terry's block, formerly occupied by single storey manufacturing sheds.

9 A.O.B.

There was to be a Fairtrade event at City Screen on Feb.24th. "Edible York" AGM was to be on 21st.Mar. with attendant events and much excitement. St.Nicks was seeking funding to stage a "Green Open Homes" event in April/May.

NEXT MEETING

Date	Tues. 10th.Feb.2015 4.00-6.00pm.
Venue	West Offices - George Hudson room
Agenda	tbc

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