

**YORK ENVIRONMENT FORUM
MINUTES OF MEETING ON Sept.8th.2015**

Present:

Philip Crowe	York Tomorrow
Cllr.Denise Craghill	CYC Green Group
Cllr. James Flinders	CYC Labour Group
Dot Lawton	Heslington PC
Andy d'Agorne	unaffiliated
Dave Merrett	unaffiliated
Barry Otley	Wheatlands Community Woodland
John Cossham	Frack Free York
Alastair Cooper	York Quakers(Friargate)
Ron Healey	CPRE York/Selby
Richard Lane	York Community Energy
Graham Collett	unaffiliated

Chair Phil Bixby

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies: Tom Waring,Mick Phythian,Adrian Lovett,Carole Green,Anna Bialkowska, Penny Bainbridge,Cllr.Ian Cuthbertson .Welcome to Graham Collett

2 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

agreed.

3 MATTERS ARISING/MEETINGS ATTENDED

Ad'A noted that the I-Travel York report was expected shortly, and the JMP transport survey funding had closed. Note that members of the reconstituted **transport sub-group** were Alastair Cooper, Graham Collett,Ron Healey,Dave Merrett ,Kate Lock

4 REPORT ON MEMBERSHIP and SUBSCRIPTIONS

not discussed

5- COMMUNITY ENERGY- Richard lane

RL invited all interested parties to the forthcoming conference on renewable energy. **"York Community Energy"** is a voluntary independent 3rd. sector group committed to developing a local renewable energy co-operative in the York area. This could be for solar,wind or micro-hydro generation. One option could be to lease roof areas, generally commercial or educational buildings, for solar panel installation, although there could be problems in agreeing terms with the National Grid. An example was shown where agricultural land was devoted to large scale solar panels, which, if correctly designed, could have multiple ecological benefits. It was not thought practical to include solar thermal generation in the programme

due to its individual nature and demand variability. The only site considered commercially viable for district heating was York Central.

Members thanked Richard for his informative review.

6 THE DEVOLUTION QUESTION-Philip Crowe

not discussed

7 "HOW GREEN IS OUR CITY?"- Phil Bixby

PB had intended to compare cities such as Bristol, Copenhagen and Nantes with the situation in York. By pursuing distinctive policies on transport and green infrastructure a city could promote its individual identity, where economic and environmental issues converge, rather than be seen to be in opposition. The discussion turned to the more basic issues of the UK land development process and development land taxation. Major investment on improved transport links and green infrastructure were called for. The Danish pro-active policies on non-car transport were commended. It was clear that change in lifestyle choices could be effected by campaigning and persuasion, but this must be reinforced by capital investment. It would be interesting to see an updated "green audit" of the city to act as a comparator. This could be a topic for a later agenda.

8 A.O.B.

There would be meetings preparing for the major climate change Paris conference in Dec.with a possible delegation from York.

BO suggested a discussion on the future of the CYC waste programme with Neil Ferris(CYC) in November.

St.Nicks was running a series of events throughout September.

"Powering the City" conference would be held on 12th.Sept. at The Quaker MeetingHouse,Friargate,York1.00 -5.30pm.

(www.yorkcommunityenergy.org.uk/conference)

NEXT MEETING

Date	Tues. Oct.13th.2015 4.00-6.00pm.
Venue	West Offices
Agenda	tbc

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