

**YORK ENVIRONMENT FORUM
MINUTES OF MEETING ON Mar.8th.2016**

Present:

Philip Crowe	York Tomorrow
Barry Otley	Wheatlands Community Woodland
Dave Merrett	Independent
Graham Collett	Railfuture Yorkshire
Ron Healey	CPRE York/Selby
Elly Healey	CYC Sycamore House
Penny Bainbridge	Edible York
Alastair Cooper	York Quakers(Friargate)
Anna Bialkowska	Tang Hall Big Local
Nathan Wood	York University
Hannah Birch	York University
Adrian Lovett	Schumacher North

Chair Philip Crowe

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies: Chris. Vassie, Chloe Suter, Tom Waring, John Cossham, James Flinders(CYC Labour Group). Welcome to Elly Healey, Nathan Wood, Hannah Birch

2 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING,MATTERS ARISING

Minutes agreed.

concern that item 3- the York Business District Bid (BID) had not been mentioned.
item 4- **One Planet Living**- a comprehensive report on progress would be submitted to the Executive on Mar. 17th.

PB reported that membership stood at 22, with a cash balance to date of £741.0
Next years subs.due as from April 1st.- please contact Chloe Suter.

3 INTERESTING FILMS -courtesy Chris. Vassie

Anna B. introduced a series of films on sustainable transport, "brownfield" development and energy conservation solutions from the continent and the U.S.A. Chris. has had his own media production company for many years, and is well connected with European movers and shakers.

Film 1- Dijon and Brest- policies on encouraging modal shift through extensive public engagement. New "green" tram routes along integral grassed groundscapes. Smart ticketing with comprehensive links to bike hire stands allowing for continuous environmentally friendly journeys. Emphasis on immediate across-the-board environmental benefits. Success comes through innovative procurement by joint city/private finance investment in the long term.

Film 2- Heidelberg "Bahnstadt"- redevelopment of a former railway goods marshalling yard, based on a competition, using fast track "passivhaus" construction techniques, after comprehensive site acquisition by the city. Strict planning conditions imposed, with an energy network provided. Loans and grants available. Already oversubscribed.

Film 3- Groningen- a compact city with an intensive emphasis on cycling, with high-quality cycle ways with thousands of free secure cycle parking spaces, many supervised for a nominal charge. Employers widely provide employee cycle parking, many with change facilities. Where taxis are needed the ranks are provided at a distance from demand points so that cycle/pedestrian solutions are always the first option. The level of vehicle traffic noise and pollution is low as a result of these policies, which are generally accepted.

Film 4- USA business energy audit examples, showing how close evaluation of existing uses of premises can lead to significant energy savings through relatively modest expenditure and changes in procedures.

In conclusion it was clear that the films' content was highly relevant to the formulation of the York Local Plan and the development of York Central. It was significant that no officers or councillors involved in these projects attended, although previous invitations to view them had not been taken up. As a result it is not clear how far they are aware of developments elsewhere which could benefit the city.

PC thanked AB on behalf of members for facilitating this presentation, and CV *in absentia* for providing the material.

4 A.O.B.

DM and AL stated that "Zero Carbon Yorkshire" had been launched
DM noted the possible amalgamation of local drainage boards and its likely impact on farming practice in relation to flooding issues.

A "Better Buildings Challenge" had been publicised, and could involve the business community.

A "Food Rebels" outlet had been opened in Brighton as a social enterprise, with local sourcing, fair pricing and retaining profits locally. An example for York? (as seen on TV)

NEXT MEETING

Date	Tues. April 12th. 2016 4.00-6.00pm.
Venue	West Offices
Agenda	tbc

The Forum contact is c/o 70a Holgate Road, York YO24 4AB t. 01904 625300 or email. phil@constructiveindividuals.co.uk + www.yorkenvironmentforum.org.uk and on **Facebook**