

Delivering the Warwickshire Climate Change StrategySteering Group Meeting

Fri 5th June 2009 09:30 for 10:00 till 13:00
Montague Road Training Room, Warwick

Minutes**1. Welcome, Present, Introductions, Apologies****Present**

Dr. Jacky Lawrence (WCC)	Alex Patterson (Stratford upon Avon College)	Brent Davis (NBBC)	David Jullien (Act on Energy – formerly known as WEEAC)
Linda Ridgley, (Warwickshire Rural Community Council)	Derrick Knight (Greenwatt Technologies)	Phil Dickin (Warwickshire Wildlife Trust)	Emma Clarke (WCC)
Chris Begg (Hill Close Gardens)	David Baxendale (NWBC)	Bernard Perkins, Action 21 Energy Group, Encraft, Transition Town Leamington	Stephen Marks (RBC)
John Buckingham (Environment Agency)			

Apologies

Paul Chapman (SDC)	Lynne Roscrow (Carbon Trust)	Professor Tony Marmont (Beacon Energy)	Mike Woolacott (GreenWatt – Technologies)	Dave Passingham (Stratford Climate Action Network, Sustainable Action Stratford, Stratford Transition Town)
Pat Ryan (KICC)	Nick Hillard (University of Warwick)			

2. Minutes of last meeting

An amendment required to page 4 – Grant for community buildings is £2,500 worth of energy efficiency improvements.

No matters Arising.



3. Warwickshire Climate Change Strategy – Communications

- **Progress Reporting**

ENERGY

David Baxendale reported on progress being made by North Warwickshire Borough Council on saving energy via closing one of its buildings and relocating 40 members of staff, to the main offices.

EC to Send DB Energy Advisor information

North Warwickshire Borough Council would be interested in the WCC Energy Advisors project.

<http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/Web/Corporate/pages.nsf/Links/E20CAC6AB0FF2BD6802575B00037B9DA>

Jacky Lawrence told the group that Warwickshire County Council is in the process of updating its' energy and water policy to cover: buildings, street lighting, vehicle fleet and business miles.

Warwickshire County Council has completed an initial assessment of biomass boiler installation on its own estate. A top ten list has been produced and site visits / full feasibility studies are underway.

The County Council is currently developing a revised Carbon Management Action Plan (CMAP). This is an updated version of the CMAP produced 5 years ago. A draft target of 20% has been set for the next 5 years. In order to achieve this 20% target 99 energy efficiency projects have been identified and quantified.

The climate change sub-group of CSWAPO (Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Association of Planning Officers) are to engage consultants (tender and interview process) to undertake a renewable energy resource assessment of Warwickshire and Solihull. This will provide the evidence base required for PPS1 and Core Strategy work.

Phil Dickin reported that the Wildlife Trust have recently put in a bid for PV for the centre.

WWT has achieved 50% funding for a wood chip boiler awaiting to see if can get match funding from a bio-energy grant. Planning permission has been granted for a 3m*4m shed to house the wood boiler. Plans for installation to take place in September, still awaiting final costings.



Stephen Marks reported that Rugby Borough Council has been doing an accommodation review in which a number of energy efficiency measures have been tied up in.

RBC have contacted the Carbon Trust for support.

Ashlawn school, who already have a 5 kW wind turbine, are looking at funding for solar pv supported by Rugby Borough Council.

The Power Academy is being built at Warwickshire College.

The Rugby Radio mast site is due to be utilised for housing development (6,500 houses). A consultation meeting is due to be held on planning – looking at building in sustainability. Meeting to be held 25th – 29th June. The sessions to be held on the 25th, 26th and 29th are invitees only. They will look at district heating and what is appropriate and feasible.

Brent Davis reported that Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council are making significant progress in moving and updating an IT server room to a new building, this would allow the closure of the old building and make significant energy savings. The new server room and servers will require less energy to run as well as less cooling.

The CHP system installed into Pingles Leisure Centre has been a success and is generating larger savings than were originally expected.

The lighting schemes in council house, town hall and car parks have taken longer to complete than expected and are so far not delivering expected savings. Reasons for this are currently being investigated with the suppliers.

Just completed feasibility study on fitting voltage optimization. Looking at two companies Power Perfector and Power Star. In the process of completing business case providing estimated savings of 15% with product having a life span of 25 years.

Had success of moving away from individual printers to multi functional devices.

John Buckingham reported that the Environment Agency has installed intelligent lighting to prevent lights being left on.



David Jullien reported on progress from Act On Energy (AoE). They are still supporting local authorities with NI187 (the national indicator on fuel poverty). They are continuing on EESEE project (energy efficiency scheme for employees and employers) as this is funded by the EST still.

AoE are arranging a SLA with WCC to provide support for a variety of initiatives.

AoE have taken over coordination of the Switch It Off (SIO) working group meetings.

Preparations for the SIO 2009 campaign include: attendance at planning meetings, plans for Universally Challenged, design of Flash House on-line energy saving house, plans for give-aways, poetry competition.

TRANSPORT

Derrick Knight reported that Greenwatt Technologies are focussing on exploring the potential for biomethane and alternative fuels for the transport sector.

RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

John Buckingham reported that the Environment Agency had set targets on water and energy consumption, hot-desking occurs.

ADAPTATION

John Buckingham asked if it would be possible to link flood forums. JL JL to contact Andrew Savage at WCC. (post meeting note – Andrew Savage reported that networking with neighbouring county councils is being developed, starting with Gloucestershire).



Phil Dickin reported that WWT is changing it's focus on its nature of work to living landscapes, looking at larger areas, linking areas to allow for climate change adaptation.

Areas covered include:

- Thame Valley wetland areas
- Arden
- Princethorpe Woodland Area

The messages being delivered to the public will also be changing from informative descriptive messages to messages covering why we need a particular species this will cover biodiversity, adaptation and the effects of climate change.

e.g. "you need this flower because...."

"climate change will"

"you need bees because....."

NI188 (planning to adapt to climate change)

County has now reported back on NI 188 with 11 completed impact sheets completed:

1. Snow & Ice - Registration Services, WCC.
2. Extremes in hot and cold ambient temperatures – Fire Protection Services, WCC.
3. Heat waves / hotter drier summers - Registration Services, WCC.
4. Heat waves / hotter drier summers - Tourism Business Areas, WDC.
5. Wetter winters / heavy rainfall - Registration Services, WCC.
6. Wetter winters / heavy rainfall - Tourism Business Areas, WDC.
7. Wetter winters / heavy rainfall - Parks and Public Open Spaces, NBBC.
8. Heat waves / hotter drier summers - Parks and Public Open Spaces, NBBC.
9. Heat waves / hotter drier summers – Smallholdings, WCC.
10. Wetter winters / heavy rainfall - Smallholdings, WCC.
11. Heat waves / hotter drier summers - Adult Car Homes, WCC example.

COMMUNICATIONS & EDUCATION

The Daw Mill presentation from the visit is on the web.

[http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/Web/corporate/pages.nsf/Links/56F34CAF281FA5A68025743A004856D5/\\$file/Daw+Mill+presentation.pdf](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/Web/corporate/pages.nsf/Links/56F34CAF281FA5A68025743A004856D5/$file/Daw+Mill+presentation.pdf)

John Buckingham suggested that staff at the Environment Agency would be interested in a lunch time briefing. JL to arrange.

JL / JB



Food & Farming event, 13th September – More details are available on the website Warwickshire-wildlife-trust.org.uk. Please pass on details to interested parties or call 02476 302912.

All

Could a link be created from Partnership pages to Warwickshire Wildlife Trust pages?

EC

Alex Patterson reported progress made by Stratford College. The college has recently hosted a week of screening environmental films and are keen on repeating this.

Alex suggested the students may be interested in a lunch time presentation on Climate Change/ energy efficiency. JL to arrange.

JL / AP

For various reasons, energy efficiency has not been a focus in plans for building work, however the college would be interested in Eco Warriors (Such as the University of Warwick) or Energy Advisors (Warwickshire County Council). Meeting / conference call to be arranged to share experiences.

AP / EC / Nick Hillard

Linda Ridgley reported on Jacky Lawrence's talk to Harbury Parish Council. As a result of Jacky's talk two members of the Parish Council spoke at the next meeting asking the councillors what they could do for sustainability. A member of the village community has approached ecotricity and local land owner regarding the putting up of a wind turbine.

Jacky Lawrence Warwickshire County Council informed the group of a presentation she will be providing to the Civil Service West Midlands [Animal Health, Crown Prosecution Service, MOD Defence Estates, MOD, DWP, GOWM, HMPS, HMRC, HSE, Job Centre Plus, Tribunals and Valuation Office Agency (VOA)]. The presentation will include information on WCC's Energy Policy & Carbon Management Action Plan (CMAP), WCC's ISO14001 and the Warwickshire Climate Change partnership.

JL



Warwickshire Climate Change Partnership third Anniversary will be taking place on the 3rd July at Merevale Estate, Atherstone. Speakers will include:

Merevale & Blyth estates
Warwickshire County Council
Encraft
Godfrey Payton
Forestry Commission
Midlands Wood Fuel
Talk on Pellet production – TBC
Stoneleigh European Bio-energy Expo and Conference (EBEC) conference
<http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/biomass>

Derrick Knight reported on behalf on Greenwatt Technologies. Derek was invited to a open day at Ragley Hall by the RFS where he was shown forestry management techniques such as tree felling and the production of pellets.

DG attended a meeting with British Gas to discuss the Green Streets 2 project. This project is currently open to applications having a two million pound budget. Applications are open to community groups.
<http://www.britishgas.co.uk/energy-efficiency/products/energy-innovation/green-streets.html>

Bernard Perkins reported on the work carried out by both Leamington Transition Towns and Action 21.

Leamington Transition Towns

Bernard attended a Transition Towns conference in Battersea, in which Richard Heinburg made the following key points

- a. Need a response from as many people as possible.
- b. We need to look at contingency planning for the food supply chain.
- c. Need to be talking with emergency planners.
- d. This can not be achieved by one group, all agencies need to be working together.
- e. Energy descent is as important as energy replacement / decarbonisation.



Action 21

Meeting with Green street project manager. Spoke about

- a Estate in Leamington to look at insulation (Sydenham Insulation Project).
- b Hydro-electrical project in Leamington.

BP has volunteered to do a talk on Peak Oil at Café Scientific 15th June, Leamington.

A 'Green Drinks' evening arranged by JL and BP took place on June 1st, where those in the community interested in 'green' issues met like minded people to discuss things in an informal atmosphere.

Chris Begg reported that Hill Close Gardens are still promoting their educational programmes however have concerns regarding funding for their educational officer.

Discussion

At the previous meeting held in March 2009 the group agreed on joint communications initiatives. JL asked the group for suggestions of what this joint working could be.

JL suggested that perhaps a brochure be put together stating what the organisations represented by the steering group could offer.

JL / All

The group supported the idea however PD raised the point that it is important to know who this will be aimed at. LR suggested a directory would be useful and could be separated into different categories. CB suggested this could be a web based document.

BP suggested that when deciding to undertake a campaign it is important to consider what do you want to communicate and who do you want to communicate it to.

PD suggested contacting the University of Warwick Business School, to get students to produce a business case.

Community Communication Sub-group

Community engagement sub group meeting was agreed by all as worthwhile to ensure consistency in approach.

All

STRATEGIC

Phil Dickin reported that the Wildlife Trust has had a successful 14001 audit.



Brent Davis reported that Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council are looking at renewing their Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

John Buckingham reported that the Environment Agency are currently redrafting it's Corporate Strategy containing five themes one of which is Climate Change.

NI186

Talks to Parish Councils are still occurring – One Tonne Challenge – Parish / Town Council talks – Bagington Parish Council, Pillerton Priors Parish Council, Beaudesert & Henley in Arden Parish Council, Luddington Parish Council, Rowington Parish Council, Whatcote Parish Council, Beausale Parish Council, Wolvey Parish Council, Ufton Parish Council, Bidford Parish Council, Stratford Town Council.

Warwickshire climate change strategy review 2008

The Warwickshire Climate Change Strategy is on the web site www.warwickshire.gov.uk/climatechange

ii. Requests for help / Barriers to progress / previously unidentified projects

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust require more toilets at Brandon, requesting more information on grey water harvesting. All

JL stated that there used to be an expert in this field at Coventry University. ay also be worth contacting NH at the University of JL Warwick. JL to find out contact details at Coventry University.

WWT are currently drawing up plans for an office base – after All information on eco design retrofitting

PD said WWT needed a new minibus and requested ideas for vehicles All fitted with energy efficiency devices / eco features.

JL / PD

WWT are interested in how to sustainably extract wood from existing woodland. JL offered to ask members of the WCCP for suggestions.

JL suggested that WCC and WWT share experience. Also suggested that PD contact Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council as they have changed to biomass heating and are looking at providing their own wood fuel.



Natural England has produced a document for consultation called Inspiring people to conserve the natural environment. You are able to comment on this online JL to contact them to find out what they are doing in Warwickshire.

iii. Monthly Events update / Community Newsletter

Emma continues with the monthly community biased climate change newsletter. All to send a paragraph and photo of any community story they wish to promote. EC
All

Emma continues with the monthly business biased email with links to news and events. All to send Emma details of climate change related stories and events they wish to promote. EC
All

As of June 2009.

- ❖ There are 384 people on the contacts database who get regular (at least monthly) communications including news, events and steering group minutes.
- ❖ These people represent 160 different organisations.
- ❖ 25 of these people are active members of the Steering Group.
- ❖ A separate group of 78 people have signed up to receive the monthly climate change community newsletter (plus all staff in WCC Community Protection).
- ❖ The Climate Change Strategy web pages received 1,702 external web hits, the Switch it Off web pages received 1,698 web hits and the partnership pages received 5,416 web hits. This represents a total of 8,816 web hits.

iv. Case Study Reporting

v. Annual Review

Will be prepared for the 3rd anniversary event at Merevale Hall, Atherstone. After meeting note - JL
[http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/Web/corporate/pages.nsf/Links/7E511CDA04990774802572E1004F3F09/\\$file/2009+progress+report.pdf](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/Web/corporate/pages.nsf/Links/7E511CDA04990774802572E1004F3F09/$file/2009+progress+report.pdf)

4. Action Plan Progress – (green reporting – any update notes to be sent by email before steering group meeting)



NEWS RECEIVED FROM

From Clifford Chambers PC minutes.

Cllr Buczacki reported on the Flooding committee established after the floods last year to co-ordinate our response to last years problems and work with WCC / SDC to reduce the chances of it happening again. Further to that emergency plans were put in place such as the sandbag filling, emergency contact list, priority homes area. A sideline to this committee has been ditches / gully clearing to improve the drainage situation in the village and works in these areas are on going, some problems have been encountered during these investigations that may have made things worse last year and can now be rectified. Things are being done.

The Warwickshire Climate Change Strategy is on the web site www.warwickshire.gov.uk/climatechange

News, events and details of the Action Plan appear on the Partnership pages <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/climatechangepartnership>

5. Funding Opportunities

BP and JL with Dave Passingham and WCC colleagues have developed an Intelligent Energy for Europe bid through the Covenant of Mayors. If successful, this will enable community groups to develop their own community sustainable energy action plans to assist with the local Transition Town initiatives. A project specific communications strategy was produced by BP. The deadline for application to the project is the 25th June, each partner has a lead role, if the bid is successful, Warwickshire County Council would lead on the communication strand of this two year project. A decision will be made in December 2009 with work commencing in April 2010.

6. Any other business

None

7. Date and venue of next meetings

Friday September 4th 09 – Montague Road Training Room, Warwick
Friday December 4th 09 – Montague Road Training Room, Warwick

