

**CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21 MAY 2009**

Started 15.00
Finished: 16.25

Present: Jake Roos (Chair)
Emmy Pateman
Keith Osborne
Russell Goodey

ACTION

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from John Farnell, Will Cockerell, Richard Auty, Mike Ovenden, Sally Johnson, and Melanie Jones.

2.0 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

3.5 HERITAGE QUEST CENTRE

JR

Jake thought that the funding for the Heritage Quest Centre had expired however he has now found out that it has been restored. Jake stated that half of the application would go to a different programme and half to the Low Carbon Building Programme.

3.0 STRATEGY

3.1 PEAK OIL

JR

Jake explained that Peak Oil is when the supply of fossil fuel production produces a bell curve and peaks. It has now peaked and declined in sixty countries around the world. If there is less oil being produced it is more expensive to purchase which leads to a decline in services, such as when the prices of oil peaked in the UK in 2008. Jake continued that oil producing countries may decide not to sell their oil and keep it for themselves therefore fuel would effectively run out for certain countries. It has been forecasted that the peak will occur in the UK within the next ten years.

Jake went on to say that the prices of gas and electricity are linked to oil, therefore after the price of oil peaks, gas will peak and then electricity. Everybody relies on oil for transport. Jake wants to raise awareness of Peak Oil and include it in the new Climate Change Strategy. There would be issues with keeping the fleet and housing repairs vehicles running. Jake explained that they could be run on gases produced by waste food or electricity, as we could feasibly generate our own electricity and the price of electricity will never go up as much as oil and gas.

It was decided that the Council need to raise the profile of Peak Oil and raise awareness of the situation to the town. Jake continued that there was enough potential bio gas

supply for public transport at least. Both SMB and members need to be on board with publicising the issue of Peak Oil and trying to sort out the problem to reduce risks to the council.

- 3.2 REBOUND** JR
Jake explained that Rebound is as a resource becomes more efficient and is therefore cheaper it becomes more in demand as there is more money to be spent on the resource. Jake continued that energy efficiency is good but it is not the whole picture, the concept of rebound is going to be put into the Strategy. The only way to solve Rebound is to ration the resources. Rebound is becoming a big problem at the moment as energy is abundant and cheap. If prices soar it would help solve the Rebound problem (but have other negative consequences).
- 3.3 ACCREDITATION – EMAS VS. CARBON TRUST STANDARD** JR
Jake stated that one of the key things for the strategy is to become externally accredited. The decision needs to be made whether to stick by EMAS and try to get the accreditation or go with the Carbon Trust Standard which is simpler. The Carbon Trust Standard states that the Council have to show that their carbon emissions have been cut. Jake is going to assess whether or not we can achieve the standard, it costs around £2000. Jake continued that if the temperatures of the buildings cannot be corrected then the standard shall not be achieved and it shall have to wait until the next financial year.
- 4.0 CARBON MANAGEMENT – STATUS OF PROJECTS** JR
- 4.1 TAC ENERGY SOLUTIONS**
Jake explained that TAC are a controls company but also deal with energy solutions. TAC state that for a certain fee they will look after all buildings and save both energy and money. They will do all projects that need doing on a property at once, which means that energy is saved sooner. Steven Joyce is interested in the scheme. Jake has spoken to Salix and it should be possible to go with TAC and it would also be interest free capital.
- TACs first phase of the process is to scope out all of the Council's estates and see what projects can be done and what savings can be made, the fee at this stage is £3000, the decision has to then be made whether or not to continue with the process. If it is decided not to continue the fee is non refundable, however the Council would still receive their savings plan and what projects need to be done on all of the Council sites.
- 4.2 PLANT ROOM REFURBISHMENTS** JR
Jake stated that there is £120,000 to replace boilers and controls at three of the sites. Aqua who changed the

boilers and controls at Walden Place are going to look at three sites and produce quotes. The procedure could go all the way to tender with Aqua but we do not have to go ahead with it if it is decided to use TAC.

- 6.0** **NI 188 CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION** **JR**
This has been given to Lisa and she has been invited to all meetings. The deadline is now up and no progress has been made at all within the last few months. Jake stated that it is easy to catch up on.
- 12.0** **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** **JR**
There was no other business.
- 13.0** **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING** **JR**
18 June 2009 at 3:00pm in the Staff Room Meeting Room.