

Environment Partnership

Third Meeting

14 July 2008, at Town Hall, Oxford, 13:45 for 2.00 start – 16:00pm

Item		Action
Apologies:	Cllr Roger Belson Oxfordshire County Council Susie Ohlenschlager Oxfordshire County Council Craig Woolhouse Environment Agency Mark Saunders Vale of White Horse District Council Michael Crofton-Briggs Oxford City Council Sally Wilson South Oxfordshire District Council Ian Davies Cherwell District Council	(RB) (SO) (CW)
Attendees:	Robin Buxton Chair Paul Spencer Oxford City Council Paul Staines Vale of White Horse District Council Dave Woodwark James Wakelin Oxfordshire County Council Hannah Moser Oxfordshire County Council (Minutes) Margret Melling Independent consultant Edd Potter Cherwell District Council Matt Jackson BBOWT Ollie Schofield West Oxfordshire District Council (deputising for David Harvey) Ian Walker Oxfordshire County Council Chris Cousins Oxfordshire County Council Linda Watson Oxfordshire Rural Community Council	(RBux) (DW) (IW) (CC) (LW)
1 Introductions and apologies Robin Buxton 14:00		
2 Minutes of meeting on 17 March and matters arising Robin Buxton 14:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes needed in minutes • Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There were 3 briefing events in April; very valuable, go if you can for future events ○ Public consultation ends 22nd September; RBux happy to discuss any comments ○ Chris West presentation (last meeting): focus on our vulnerability and risks; does this need to be better addressed in SCS? ○ CC: six LAs Thames water and EA have had ongoing meetings to respond to climate change risk from flooding 	
3 Update on climate change groups and reporting relationship with	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Partnership (EP) should report on Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets; take on monitoring, reporting and coordination role. • Climate change group = officer lead, focus on implementation and advise EP • CC group has been divided into 2 groups: 	

<p>Environment Partnership 14:10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o LAA2 indicators and CO2 reduction work o Climate Change Communications group –; primarily NGO members such as Jo Hamilton of Climate X Change <p>CC raises point that partnerships currently under review and that proposal exists to combine EP with Oxon Waste Partnership. CC is against this move. LA leaders and chief executives wish to reduce number of partnerships across the board. OWP is long standing constituted organisation employing people and therefore very different thing. Currently being reviewed by Cherwell and WODC officers. To be decided 22nd September.</p> <p>Agreed consensus is that merger would be negative thing and will reflect this in feed back.</p> <p>Paul Staines pointed out that what ever decision is made EP will change significantly due to partnership reform as will have significant financial remit. Paul James is leading this process.</p> <p>RBux notes partnerships need to motivate people and this point is to be made at higher level.</p>	<p>Paul Staines to feed back point that EP against merger & needs to motivate.</p>
<p>4 LAA2 targets and other indicators Paul Spencer 14: 15</p>	<p>NI188 Susie Ohlenschlager (SO) had meeting with Jane Dunn (coordinator for LAA2 delivery in Oxfordshire County Council).</p> <p>Climate change/LAA2 group looking at NI185/188 and how LA's will measure CO2 emissions.</p> <p>SO attended meeting last week with GOSE; no feedback as yet.</p> <p>Group is taking forward methods to monitor CO2 from LA's operations.</p> <p>LW – matrix of LAA indicators in South East Region suggests Oxfordshire one of only 4 authorities not working on NI186, community/per capita CO2; suggest this be included in LAA3.</p>	
<p>5 Sustainable Community Strategy Ian Walker 14:35</p>	<p>Public consultation ends 22nd September 2008; all comments on draft SCS strategy and delivery plan by this time.</p> <p><i>See summary document attached</i> including SO has suggested changes. Discussion focused on how EP will deliver pledges:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Flooding: CC Pitt Review suggest mapping all drainage in area; implementation difficulty around this. DW – how can EP 'ensure...actions implemented...'? CC – flooding group chaired by Tim Saddler (City) could be 'implementation group' for flooding work and accountable to EP. 	<p>CC: Build flooding group into implementation group for EP</p>

	<p>Motion that implementation groups have formal link to EP and responsible for implementing environmental targets.</p> <p>Wider point that EP needs to have similar powers in other areas. LW scrutiny role?</p> <p>2. Planning standards (pledge 16) Planning officers group; IW looking to introduce common policy across all LA IW taking forward</p> <p>3. Energy & Water efficiency Energy covered by climate change communications group; wish to not dilute their message with water message. Thames water estimate 158 litres/person/day needed whilst Defra target is 130 litres/ person/ day; difference is one reservoir. Some LA's estimate 130l/p/d, some 180. Call for Oxon based data.</p> <p>4. Biodiversity Oxon Local Biodiversity Action Plan Co-ordinating group is the obvious choice for delivery group. Has temporary officer appointed (working part time in the TV environmental records centre updating maps) pending funding outcome.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This quick assessment indicates 6 implementation groups for LAA/SCS pledges. This is manageable and all but one already exists in some form. • 22nd September – public service board meeting date – last date for SCS & decision on partnership changes. (advise people submit suggestions earlier) 	<p>RBux discuss setting up group on water efficiency with Liz Sale at Thames Water & CW.</p> <p>RBux & CC to define remits and how to approach each group</p>
<p>6 Review of climate change activities and options for further work Margaret Melling 14:55</p>	<p><i>See attached presentation & document and discussion notes for further information.</i></p> <p>Consensus is there should be NO strategy produced, but that EP should focus on implementation. CC, RBux, Paul Staines and DW to draft</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one side statement of intent • based on actions outlined in SCS and LAA2 • Oxfordshire specific • Include/awareness of NGO work <p>Complete draft by 22nd September when expectations, governance and membership will be made clear. RBux to coordinate pre-meet</p>	<p>RBux to check partnership review welcome EP setting out priorities with Paul James</p> <p>CC, RBux, Paul Staines and DW to draft document by 22nd September.</p>

	<p>Question about how to reach businesses.</p> <p><u>Funding:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reward grant for LAA1 = 50% available to bid for; need to bid. • Purpose of above document is to convince PSB to provide funding • LAA1 money is available 2010 – need projects costed out by this date. • SEEDA potential funding for their corporate plan though Oxon not identified as priority in their plan. • 26th Nov = partnership board. <p>Chair thanks MM for extremely useful input.</p>	ALL to highlight need for resources.
<p>7 Future Meetings – forward plan <i>Robin Buxton</i> 15:40</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review statement of intent (subject to partnership review) • Work on implementation groups and work with other partnerships, particularly water – Thames and EA 	
<p>8 Any other business <i>Robin Buxton</i> 15:45</p>	Linda – Helen Ghosh, permanent secretary from defra, coming for visit to eco friendly village hall and community.	
<p>9 Date of next meeting and close <i>Robin Buxton</i> 15:55</p>	TBC	RBux to arrange pre-22 nd September meet; SO to coordinate November meeting