



## Environment Theme Group

**Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2009**  
**Committee Room 3, Council House, Earl Street**

### Present:

Peter Woodward	Chair - Quest Associates
Sarah Perry	Coventry Partnership Support Officer
Nick Hillard	University of Warwick
Tony McNally	Climate Change Solutions
Cllr Nigel Lee	CCC
Tony Crompton	GOWM
Myles Bremner	Garden Organic
Melody Stokes	CCC – Sustainability and Campaigns Manager
Michael Checkley	CCC – Climate Change Manager
June Jeffrey	CEN
Mark Nicholls	CVOne
Ric Richards	Federation of small businesses
Gennie Holmes	CCC – Play Strategy Manager
Surindar Nagra	CCC – Equality and Diversity Officer (Item 3)

### Apologies:

Trevor Errington	CCC – Head of Strategic Planning & Transportation
Elise Smithson	Coventry University
Stephen Beasley	Coventry University
Richard Barron	ENCAMS
David Cockcroft	ENCAMS

Agenda No	Item	Action
1	<b>Welcome and Apologies:</b>  The Chair welcomed everyone to the Environment Theme Group meeting introductions were made around the table and apologies were noted.	
2	<b>Minutes of the last meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March and matters arising:</b>	
2.1	These were accepted as a true record of the meeting held. All items covered in the agenda.	
2.2	Melody announced that she will be leaving CCC at the end of July for a new position at the Energy Saving Trust.	

<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>3.1</b></p> <p><b>3.2</b></p> <p><b>3.3</b></p> <p><b>3.4</b></p>	<p><b>Community Cohesion Strategy – Surindar Nagra (CCC – Equality and Diversity Officer)</b></p> <p>Surindar gave some background on the work that is currently being carried out through the Equality and Community Cohesion (E&amp;CC) Theme Group. As part of the development of the Partnership Community Cohesion Strategy, theme group members are being asked to develop a commitment to Community cohesion and to develop an action plan to support the commitment. Once the draft strategy is complete, a 3 month consultation period will take place before the launch later in the year.</p> <p>Discussions took place around the large amount of cohesion activities that is currently taking place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Growing Coventry</li> <li>▪ Open and public spaces</li> <li>▪ Clean Britain and Green Flag Awards</li> <li>▪ Eco-schools and Sustainable schools</li> <li>▪ Zero tolerance on graffiti in City Centre</li> <li>▪ Working with schools in priority neighbourhoods</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> Small working group to be set up to develop commitment statement and action plan. (Sarah, Tony M, Michael, June and Gennie)</p> <p>Surindar also discussed that as the E&amp;CC is a cross-cutting theme within the SCS each theme group will be invited to the E&amp;CC group to discuss how they are embedding E&amp;CC in their work.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Sarah to report date back at the next meeting.</p> <p>The group thanked Surindar for attending the Environment Theme Group.</p>	<p><b>Sarah to organise</b></p> <p><b>Sarah</b></p>
<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>4.1</b></p> <p><b>4.2</b></p> <p><b>4.3</b></p> <p><b>4.4</b></p>	<p><b>Update on key activities:</b></p> <p>Following the re-launch of the Environment Theme Group, five key projects were identified that have the potential to put Coventry firmly on the map for sustainable development.</p> <p>An update on the five projects was circulated (attached) and a verbal update on each followed, below are updates that are not included in the attachment:</p> <p><b>Innovative network of decentralised energy production + distribution:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions took place on progress – bids have been submitted to HCA with results being announced the end of June. A study to develop a strategy for district heat and power across the city has also been agreed by CCC. It was decided that a small group should meet to discuss further and take forward.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> Small working group to be set up (Nick, Tony, Peter and Michael)</p> <p><b>Growing Coventry – Celebrating Local Food:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch of Growing Coventry was a huge success</li> <li>• Green Space Tent at Godiva Festival (3-5<sup>th</sup> July) is being planned</li> <li>• Myles is discussing the work at the Ambassadors group 25/06/09</li> <li>• Steering group is meeting in June to work on next steps.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sarah to organise.</b></p>

<p>4.5</p> <p>4.6</p> <p>4.7</p> <p>4.8</p>	<p><b>Coventry to become a world leader in the development and deployment of low carbon vehicles:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further announcements from Government are expected on 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> June – discussions took place around the infrastructure required. It was decided that the partnership review the vision following June's announcement. <b>Action:</b> Sarah to organise meeting for early July.</li> </ul> <p><b>Coventry Bishopgate – gateway to a low carbon future:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Empty retail space in the City Centre is being investigated for a climate change centre; Tony M circulated a vision document which was discussed. It was decided that a small group meet to take this forward and to link in with Switch it Off week (w/c 9<sup>th</sup> November) and the communication of events leading up to the Copenhagen Summit. <b>Action:</b> Small group to be set up. (Tony M, Peter, Mark, Nick and Michael)</li> </ul> <p><b>Detailed aerial thermal survey of the City:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The survey took place at the end of March, data is currently being processed and dialogue has begun with DIY outlets. It was decided that a meeting with the original group that met in December should be arranged to provide an update and discuss the way forward. <b>Action:</b> Sarah to organise the meeting.</li> </ul> <p>In conclusion all projects are progressing well. It was agreed that the 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> November Switch it Off Week, might provide an excellent opportunity to show case progress on all the projects and draw in fresh stakeholders and energy. The exact format would depend on discussions with each of the project areas. <b>Action:</b> Peter, Michael, Tony and Sarah to discuss...</p>	<p><b>Sarah to organise.</b></p> <p><b>Sarah to organise.</b></p> <p><b>Sarah to organise.</b></p> <p><b>Sarah to organise</b></p>
<p>5</p> <p>5.1</p>	<p><b>Feedback from presentation to the Business Group:</b></p> <p>Melody reported that she recently carried out a presentation at the Business Group which was aimed at making businesses aware of the Environments Group work and work with Business in The Community who are encouraging businesses to sign up to the Princes May Day Network. A meeting is scheduled to discuss further with Business in the Community.</p>	
<p>6.</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>6.2</p>	<p><b>Any Other Business:</b></p> <p>Melody reported that she had recently taken part in the CCC's tree strategy development. There is an opportunity for this strategy to be Partnership document and for the Environment Theme group to develop stronger links with the Parks and Leisure officers in CCC, who are key players in the Strategy. The group expressed an interest in becoming. <b>Action:</b> Melody to advise the Tree Strategy Team and to give the lead Sarah's contact details to ensure the Group is kept informed.</p> <p>Melody raised the Care 4 Coventry initiative, which is an ongoing campaign for reducing litter and fly tipping. Susan Morrison in CCC is leading on this and is keen to work with the Partnership for a new campaign in Spring '10. Mark reported that he will contact Susan and ensure that the campaign is discussed when the Cleaner and Greener sub-group is formed.</p>	<p><b>Melody</b></p> <p><b>Mark/Sarah</b></p>

<b>6.3</b>	The Group thanked Melody for her hard work and commitment to the group and wished her well in her new post at the EST.	
	<b>Meeting ended at 12.10 pm</b>	
	<b>Date of the next meeting is on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2009 10.00 – 12.00 in Diamond Room 2, Council House</b>	