

**EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY  
PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
HELD ON 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2005 AT DERBY CITY COUNCIL OFFICES**

**Present**

Alan Smith	Groundwork East Midlands
James Luger	EMDA
Bettina Lange	EMEL
Clark Field	EMFEC
Diane Whitehead	GOEM
Joan Travis	Derby City Council Member
Helen Ross	Nottingham City PCT
Keith Melton	EMAGE
Lucy Care	EMRA/Derby City Council Member
Nick King	Environment Agency
Yvette Dearden	EMRA
Nick Brown	Nottinghamshire County Council
Hugh Fenton	EMAGE/Wellingborough LSP
Tony Marmont	Beacon Energy
Helen Chadwick	EMRA
Mike Meech	GOEM
Andrew Jenkins	Boots plc

**Apologies**

Simon Drury (Chair)	Center Parcs Ltd
Paul Fleming	De Montfort University

	[YD chaired in SD's absence.]
<b>1.</b>	<b>Minutes and Matters Arising from Previous Meeting</b>
	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting:</p> <p>Item 6 – wording queried as suggested that vocational training was only available to young people. <b>Action: YD to rephrase.</b></p> <p>Item 4 - KM highlighted that he had suggested biannual running of design competition, with real building from region again. <b>Action: SD&amp;C steering group to consider.</b></p> <p>Item 3 - YD had tried to reorganise a meeting with Belinda Davis. The agenda had moved on, however, and in light of the timing the key messages from the Group had been reiterated to Belinda.</p> <p>The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed subject to above amendments.</p>

2.	<b>Progressing Climate Change Programme</b>
	<p>NK presented a report on the work of the Climate Change Steering Group (EMCCSG). He highlighted the current programme, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bid to CCF - awareness raising aimed at University students (due to hear in June)</li> <li>• Nottingham Declaration - aimed at LAs and supported nationally by EST, UKCIP and others. EMCCSG aim is for all EM councils to sign. Toolkit being piloted in EM</li> <li>• Report on biodiversity and climate change</li> </ul> <p>NK highlighted that EM and WM are the only regions without a climate change co-ordinator in post - increased activity has been reported in the other regions as a result. In most regions, the co-ordinator post has been supported by a partnership of regional organisations.</p> <p>All agreed that a co-ordinator would be useful and should be progressed. <b>Action: EMRA, EA, emda and GOEM to discuss best way forward.</b></p> <p>Discussion on ideas for CC agenda covered a wide range of issues, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to recognise the increasing price and scarcity of fuel</li> <li>• Opportunities for innovative biofuels and other alternatives</li> <li>• The health agenda and changing delivery in light of climate change</li> <li>• Extending Nottingham Declaration to other public sector bodies</li> <li>• Need to continue to take a holistic approach</li> <li>• Link to consumption, sustainable product design and the issue of whole life costs versus bottom line.</li> <li>• Role of spatial planning, including transport</li> <li>• Role of energy strategy and energy hierarchy</li> <li>• Growth agenda and need to produce current buildings to a very low carbon target</li> <li>• The need to continue to include issues relating to adaptation</li> </ul> <p>Agreed 'big idea' to encompass these actions - to be a carbon neutral region by 2050.</p> <p><b>Action: Climate Change Group and Energy Group to meet to discuss joint working.</b></p> <p><b>Action: 'Big idea' to be considered as part of bid for Defra Partnership and Innovation Fund.</b></p>
3.	<b>Sustainable Public Procurement Project</b>
	<p>The project report is in its final stages - the work was completed in March. Report split into 2 main sections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barriers</li> <li>• Adding Value</li> </ul>

	<p>CF reported that the barriers are fairly well understood and that areas where the region can add value have been identified as part of the project. The project has also formed the basis for the continuing work by the Regional Centre of Excellence and emda is also taking elements of the agenda forward.</p> <p><b>Action: Clark Field to send Final Report to group when completed.</b></p>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Securing the Regions Future</b></p> <p>YD reported that this government document was launched in the region by Elliot Morley during his visit in April. The document calls for each region to appoint a body to act as Regional SD Roundtable. These roundtables would need to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appointed jointly by regional bodies</li> <li>• Act as critical friend, challenging regional partners</li> <li>• Have a common set of purposes</li> </ul> <p>The PSD group is cited as being able to mirror a roundtable.</p> <p>YD invited views on the type of roundtable EM needs to feed into early meeting with emda and GOEM. View of group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PSD group is doing a good job and is delivering</li> <li>• PSD is well networked</li> <li>• Needed to avoid a talking shop</li> <li>• Closer involvement of an MP would be beneficial</li> <li>• Need for resource to support</li> <li>• PSD does do many of the things RT asked to do, but would need additional responsibility to fulfil DEFRA requirements, although DEFRA is not prescriptive</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: EMRA, emda and GOEM to meet to discuss way forward.</b></p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Project Updates</b></p> <p><b>EXPO</b></p> <p>YD provided an update, including the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EXPO on 12<sup>th</sup> October, aiming for 800 people.</li> <li>• EMCBE is a new partner this year.</li> <li>• Theme “Buying for the future” – sustainable procurement. Three strands - construction, food &amp; drink and energy. To include meet the buyer sessions.</li> <li>• Side meetings to be held, where practical.</li> <li>• Flyer for exhibitors currently being developed.</li> </ul> <p>Suggestions from group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable transport between railway and pride park should be considered.</li> <li>• Sessions to explain what Sustainable Procurement is would be useful.</li> </ul> <p><b>Behavioural Change</b></p> <p>Under the direction of the steering group, EMRA is gathering evidence of current</p>

	activity and also of projects/initiatives that will help the steering group define where regional working can add particular value in relation to this issue.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>
	<p>TM advised group of construction supply chain work to be taken forward under the Sustainable Design and Construction agenda and also of the forthcoming TV programme on climate chaos. Also described opportunities for new technology for hybrid diesel/hydrogen engines that are seeking funding.</p> <p>NB indicated this is his last meeting as he is going to NZ to work for the NZ government - the group will therefore need a new LA rep.</p> <p>BL asked on behalf of EMEL about the Environment Challenge. YD advised this was an Environment Group issue.</p> <p>HR invited YD and SD to attend a future Planning Sustainability and Health Impacts meeting that would inform the Public Health Agenda.</p> <p>KM reported on a planned conference to target business in relation to sustainable development and is hoping to tie in with EXPO, but still at an early stage.</p> <p>MM advised that GOEM are helping deliver a pilot with a school in Leicester to help to deliver SD using a toolkit from Scotland.</p> <p>AS advised that ENVIRON has now become Groundwork Leicester and Leicestershire.</p> <p>HC advised ENVIRON were publishing information on their Green Doctor Scheme and would circulate to group.</p> <p>JT highlighted the problem of reconciling growth of tourism and consumer purchasing with sustainable development.</p> <p>AJ said he had enjoyed his first meeting and had found it useful.</p> <p>YD thanked Derby City Council for hosting the meeting.</p>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>
	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July – 10am