

EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING

HELD ON 28th September 2006 at Wellingborough Borough Council Offices

Present

Simon Drury (Chair)	Center Parcs Ltd
James Luger	EMDA
Bettina Lange	EMEL
Diane Whitehead	GOEM
Keith Melton	EMAGE
Cllr Lucy Care	EMRA/Derby City Council
Sharon Palmer	Environment Agency
Yvette Dearden	EMRA
Cllr Eloise Finch	East Northants District Council
David Short	Clegg Construction
Saminder Gaheer	EMRA
Hugh Fenton	EMAGE/Wellingborough LSP
Miles Watkins	Aggregate Industries
Clark Field	EMFEC
Phil Keynes	Nottinghamshire County Council
Jonathan Harris	Regional Public Health Group

Paul Gusling and Denise Marsdon were also present for Item 3.

Apologies

Alan Smith	Groundwork East Midlands
Andrew Jenkins	Boots plc
Paul Fleming	De Montfort University
Cllr Joan Travis	Derby City Council
Tony Marmont	Beacon Energy

1.	Welcome and Apologies
	The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and the apologies were noted.
2.	Notes from Previous Meeting
	The notes were accepted as a true record.
3.	Climate Change
	Wellingborough LSP Climate Change Tool: Paul Gusling and Denise Marsdon presented the climate change toolkit for which they had secured funding from the Climate Challenge Fund. The toolkit is

	<p>designed for community groups to encourage people to consider how they can change their lifestyles in light of climate change. The official launch will take place on 4th December.</p> <p>Climate Change Co-ordinator Post: It was reported that James Schrodell from GOEM had been seconded to this post for a 6 month period commencing in mid October and that YD would be his line manager.</p> <p>The Group was keen to ensure that JS is in contact with the successful Climate Challenge Fund bids from around the region as well as the national projects that impact on the region. Phil Keynes highlighted his links with the Climate Heroes project.</p> <p>The Group expressed their many thanks to Nick King and Sue Brothwood for all their hard work in helping to progress the climate change agenda in the region.</p>
4.	EMAS in Leicester Schools
	<p>Clark Field outlined the project that he had undertaken, highlighting the progress made by Leicester City Council to introduce EMAS in its schools. He explained that these case studies would be added to the EMRA website.</p> <p>The Group noted how this project demonstrates that EMAS is not only appropriate for business and discussed the potential opportunities to promote EMAS to NHS hospitals.</p>
5.	Securing the Regions' Futures
	<p>Defra Partnership and Innovation Fund: It was reported that the Group's application for grant funding from the Defra Partnership and Innovation Fund had been successful with the maximum grant and match funding secured.</p> <p>IRS Framework: YD reported that each region had been invited to provide Government with a short update by the end of September on the arrangements being made to refresh the regional high-level strategies, ie. the IRS Framework. The Group discussed and endorsed the content of the letter.</p> <p>The Group also held an initial discussion on the approach of the IRS refresh to take place by December 2006.</p>
6.	Promoting SD Group Work Programme
	<p>The Group discussed and agreed its work programme to September 2007 – it was reported that this would feed into a work programme for Regional Policy Board as well as into the Regional Assembly's business plan.</p>

	<p>The Group was particularly keen to contribute to the IRS Framework refresh and continue to be focused on activity. It wanted to ensure its activities add value, are clearly focused and make effective links to other relevant groups and partnerships.</p> <p>The implications of Securing the Regions' Futures for the Group and its role were discussed. Yvette Dearden, Diane Whitehead, James Luger and Simon Drury to discuss this further in line with Government guidance.</p>
7.	East Midlands Expo Update
	The Group was updated on the preparations for East Midlands Expo to be held on 12 th October. The project was progressing well and the steering group were confident that the event would be successful.
8.	Any Other Business
	Simon Drury explained to the Group that his position at Center Parcs was being made redundant – the Group expressed its commiserations and wished him well in his search for employment.
9.	Date of Next Meeting
	Thursday 18 January 2007 – venue to be confirmed.