

City Sustainability Partnership Meeting – 18th January 2010

Hanover Room, Brighthelm Centre, North Road, Brighton, BN1 1YD

Public Services:

Councillor Tony Janio

Councillor Paul Steedman

Councillor David Watkins

Stuart Laing, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs) University of Brighton – **Chair**

Alison Hadfield, Eco Schools

Business

Lorraine Bell – Brighton & Hove Chamber of Commerce

Jan Jackson – Sussex Enterprise/Business Link

Community and Voluntary Sector

Chris Todd, Friends of the Earth – **Vice Chair**

Vic Else - Brighton & Hove Food Partnership

Mike Creedy – Brighton Peace & Environment Centre

Agencies

Chris Wick – Environment Agency

Council Officers

Mita Patel

Tracey Wallace

Francesca Iliffe

Matthew Thomas

Gillian Marston

Peter Commane

Guests

Martin Grimshaw, Transition Brighton & Hove

Olu Elegbe, Primary Care Trust

Adrian Ely, University of Sussex

Ionela Macovei, University of Sussex

Marie Harder, University of Brighton

Ryan Woodard, University of Brighton

Jon Patmore, Wildlife Advisory Group

Susan Wilson

Partnership manager

Thurstan Crockett - Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy, Brighton & Hove City Council

Meeting notes

Sarah Jones - Administrator, Sustainability

1. **Apologies**

Councillor Gill Mitchell
Sharon Phillips, University of Sussex
Phil Belden - South Downs Joint Committee

2. **Minutes and Actions from the previous meeting**

2.1 Minutes agreed.

3. **One Planet Living Proposal & Funding Priorities Paper**

- 3.1 Thurstan introduced the CSP Funding Priorities paper which set out what funds had been allocated so far and gave an update on progress. Key issues for the partners to consider were the Suggested Criteria for funding and the Priorities as set out in page two of the paper.
- 3.2 Thurstan drew the Partners' attention to the Further Proposals set out in the paper that included the One Planet Living Plan proposal. This proposal is a result of a meeting that he, Chris Todd and Stuart Laing held with Pooran Desai of Bioregional, in which they went through the initial proposal and suggested changes, most of which had been incorporated into the revised proposal. Thurstan recommended to partners that they accept the funding in principle, look at the proposals and convene a working group as soon as possible. This was agreed and Jan Jackson, Councillor Paul Steedman, Mike Creedy and Chris Todd volunteered. Comments on the One Planet Living Plan proposal were that it was much improved and that the planned stages and the costings both looked broadly achievable.
- 3.3 The Chair advised the partnership that there was £26,000 of funding still available and invited partners to submit their funding proposals by February 22nd for decision at the next CSP meeting. It was confirmed that a process would be put in place by the chairs to consider funding proposals. Stuart Laing advised that as Chair, he would propose any good proposals put forward by meeting guests.
- 3.4 It was agreed that criteria should include the secondary objectives proposed. Examples of potential projects included a local climate impacts profile; a community strategy project, eg heat mapping; the development of an Energy Services Company; a city study for sites for large energy infrastructure projects.
- 3.5 The Chair asked for proposals to put forward to himself and Chris Todd by February 22nd and they will make recommendations to the next meeting.

Action - Jan Jackson, Councillor Paul Steedman, Mike Creedy and Chris Todd to convene a working group to discuss the OPL funding proposals.

Action - partners to submit any funding proposals by 22nd February 2010 for consideration by the Chair and Vice Chair and decision at the next meeting.

4. Sussex Manifesto presentation by Adrian Ely, University of Sussex

- 4.1 Adrian Ely explained that the Sussex Manifesto seeks to bring together groups at local community level in Manifesto project roundtables in several countries. These serve to link science and technical innovation with local forums enabling innovation via local knowledge. Adrian is organising a roundtable in Brighton in March, in order to set local aims and goals, plus an evening event to put issues to politicians, hopefully the main candidates for the Brighton Pavilion constituency.
- 4.2 Lorraine Bell felt that it would be useful for the CSP to liaise with Adrian Ely to achieve joint working on the city wide 10:10 campaign events to ensure a co-ordinated message.
- 4.3 Chris Todd recommended that CSP consider how the Sussex Manifesto might tie into their OPL Plan.

5. Waste & Minerals Core Strategy Consultation draft response

- 5.1 There was still an opportunity for final comments to be submitted on this paper; the deadline for submissions had been extended to 22nd January 2010.

6 Sustainable Community Strategy Consultation Discussion

- 6.1 The sub group looking at the Sustainable Community Strategy had sought to look at the whole strategy for final thoughts to be made. The transport chapter was still out for consultation and so was not included in the draft brought to the meeting.

Action - Councillor Paul Steedman, Chris Todd and Vic Else would try to organise a last sub-group meeting and submit final comments.

7 Urban Biosphere Report / WAG discussion paper

- 7.1 Gillian Marston, Head of City Parks at B&HCC presented the paper with Matthew Thomas, City Ecologist.
- 7.2 Recommendations proposed were the development of the Biodiversity Action Plan review of the city's Sites of Nature Conservation Importance, a strategy group to facilitate delivery and work to scope the policy and practical implications of achieving an urban biosphere status for the city.

- 7.3 Other plans for 2010 included a series of events to support the International Year of Biodiversity, under the banner of 'Big Nature'; working with the active branch of the UN Association in Brighton & Hove.
- 7.6 Councillor Tony Janio thanked Chris Todd for his assistance in co-ordinating the initial Urban Biosphere meeting.
- 7.8 The Chair commended the council's revision of this report taking into account the concerns raised at the last CSP and welcomed the progress that has been made and Chris Todd thanked the council for responding in such a positive manner to previous concerns.

Action - Protecting and expanding habitats and progressing biodiversity, should be included within OPL whole city plan principles.

Action - A substantive report on progress to be made to a future CSP meeting.

8 Food Waste presented by Dr Ryan Woodard, University of Brighton

- 8.1 The presentation was written by Professor Marie Harder and Dr Ryan Woodard of the University of Brighton. It looked at the amount of household food waste generated in the UK, the reasons for its generation, current waste management strategies in other local authorities, and options for waste reduction and energy generation.
- 8.2 The presentation concluded that food waste is a significant problem. The recommendations were to prioritise reducing food waste generation, to embrace energy generation opportunities, find markets for digestate/compost and consider the opportunity of treating municipal and commercial waste together.
- 8.3 Options for Brighton & Hove were raised by Partners, such as the possibility of burning waste; doorstep collections; and Bokashi (kitchen caddy with fibre accelerator) as a composting solution in multiple occupancy flats.
- 8.4 The Chair advised partners that the purpose of this presentation was to prompt debate on how its recommendations fit with the council's propositions for the city. The next step would be another discussion with more information to prepare for future items.
- 8.5 Vic Else proposed to bring details of her food waste work with Cityclean to the next meeting and this was agreed.

Action – Vic Else will bring details of Food Waste campaign developed with Cityclean to the next meeting.

9. Any other business

- 9.1 None raised.