

## CORNWALL COUNCIL

# ENVIRONMENT KERNOW

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Environment Kernow held at CEP Offices, Tolvaddon, Pool on Friday 4 September 2009 commencing at 10.00 am.

Present: - Steve Crummay (Chairman)  
Ian Smith (Vice-Chairman)

Paul Bright, Manda Brookman, Councillor Julian German, Lucy Harris, Colette Holden, Bill Holiday, Rebecca Isaacs (for Peter McGregor), Ian Jones, Dave Lewis, Justin Olosunde (for Jon Rolls), Dave Owens, David Rodda, Ben Simpson (for Tim German) and Wesley Smyth.

Also in attendance: - Thelma Sorensen.

Apologies for absence: - Mike East, Tim German, Peter McGregor, Judy Proctor and Jon Rolls.

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 12 JUNE AND 10 JULY 2009** (Agenda No. 2)

EK/10 The Minutes of the meetings held on 12 June and 10 July 2009 were agreed as a correct record, subject to the Minute EK/157/12 June recommendation being clarified to make it clear that it related to performance reward grant for work on behavioural change activities rather than just NI186 activity.

#### Matters Arising

Ref: EK/181 – It was reported that the scheme regarding the retro-fitting insulation into 'Easy to Treat' homes in the County had been approved by the first round of the Programme Monitoring Committee process and was now being developed as a full bid. The Chairman advised that the scheme relating to 20 areas in the County was on track for commencement during November 2009.

Ian Smith stated that a "Hard to Treat Properties Seminar", which would be specifically focused on Cornwall, was currently being arranged and that approval had been given to funding bids for a feasibility study to deal with 20,000 "hard to treat properties" by means of £5-6000 schemes per property.

The Chairman advised that discussions would be held with Jean Taylor (Environmental Sustainability Institute) regarding her concerns in respect of aspects of the proposed scheme.

Ref: EK/156 – Justin Olosunde (Rezolve) advised that, in respect of the development of the Environmental Skills Network (ESN), all areas were ahead of target except in respect of NVQ completion which had been delayed by a reduction in the number of available jobs due to the recession. A detailed report would be circulated in due course.

Ref: EK/179 – Ian Jones (Volunteer Cornwall) reported that the initial discussions at a meeting of the Learning and Skills Sub-Committee meeting held on 20 August 2009, focused on the need for a behaviour change programme to address the increasing environmental challenges. It was noted that there was increasing evidence that new methods of engagement were required if lasting and substantial change in behaviour was to be achieved.

Features of behavioural change programmes, such as “Be the Change” and “Carbon Conversations”, were explored and differences from natural change were discussed on 20 August meeting. After extensive debate, the conclusion of the meeting was that a recommendation be forwarded to Environment Kernow so that the behavioural change programme could be developed with Footprint Consulting based on the Natural Change Programme and that this be included in a PID.

Dave Lewis advised that a “resilience forum” had been established in connection with Environment Kernow.

## **DESIGNS OF THE TIME PRESENTATION**

(Agenda No. 3)

EK/11 Robert O’Dowd (Project Director, Dott) gave a presentation in respect of Dott Cornwall, which was a partnership established by the Design Council, Cornwall Council and University College Falmouth, to deliver a series of design-led community engagement projects, addressing some of the challenging and economic issues facing people in Cornwall today.

Dott Cornwall tapped into the creativity and ingenuity of local communities to help them shape their own future. The Dott methodology was based on a ‘bottom-up’ approach; it encouraged people to co-create solutions to local challenges and take ownership of the process and outcomes; therefore, creating a better chance of the project becoming embedded in the community.

Dott Cornwall would include public design commissions, which were projects which provided the opportunity for broad community involvement and a sustainability of design; a significant skills and innovation programme partnered with University College Falmouth, showcasing progress and results; and an Eco-design Challenge for schools which would involve young people in reducing the carbon footprint of the school. Dott would work alongside other initiatives, including supporting the

objectives of the Convergence Programme, and add value to projects in a number of ways.

In respect of the sustainability of design, audits would be carried out of affected dwellings according to a benchmark and loans would be made to the householder to improve energy consumption. The resulting savings would be used to pay off the loan and the remainder would be paid to the householder.

During the discussion, Mr O'Dowd responded to various questions, a summary of the main issues being as follows: -

(i) he welcomed being involved in the Youth Summit being organised by the Economic Forum;

(ii) waste issues were included in the Transformation Agenda which was being considered by CLT on 6 October;

(iii) reports of the discussions of the Dott would be circulated to Environment Kernow via the Secretariat; and

(iv) farming/ food issues would be included in the Dott and that the Transformation Agenda would enable appropriate action to be taken.

#### **LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN**

(Agenda No. 4)

EK/12 The Chairman gave a presentation in respect of the background to, and development of, the Local Transport Plan which was a statutory requirement of the Transport Act 2003 and set out the transport strategy for the whole County; the vision and strategic approach to transport in Cornwall; and included delivery plans, capital programme and targets.

LTP3 required a different approach to LTP2 in that it was no longer directly linked to funding or for a 5 year period, although it did relate to several plans and strategies, e.g. Sustainable Community Strategy/LAA, Convergence/ Strategic Investment Fund (SIF), RSS and Regional Transport Strategy etc. In particular, the LTP3 need to reflect national goals, namely: Supporting Economic Growth; Tackling Climate Change; Equality of Opportunity; Better Safety, Security and Health; and Improve Quality of Life.

The presentation then outlined the needs, challenges and opportunities formulated by the CSP Task and Finish Group which agreed that priorities should be: (1) Climate Change; (2) Active Travel; and (3) Quality of Life. The next meeting of the Task and Finish Group was scheduled for November/ December 2009 and would include a briefing on the evidence base for the LTP, together with the consideration of a draft vision and approach to transport. The members of Environment Kernow were being

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asked to put forward their top 5 policy aspirations, for which a transport solution would be required to support the delivery.

During the discussion, various points were raised, including the following: -

(i) the need to minimise the effect of traffic measures on the environment and landscape;

(ii) there should be a reference to the Regional Spatial Strategy, Core Strategy and relevant partnerships;

(iii) concerns as to whether it was appropriate for economic development to underpin the development of the LTP;

(iv) the needs of an ageing population, including the provision of community transport, should be incorporated into the LTP;

(v) provision of public transport should be properly coordinated;

(vi) there was a brief discussion in respect of the availability of information regarding the mileage covered as part of the provision of local authority and other public services;

(vii) there was a need to provide a railway "halt" at Pool, near Redruth, in view of the increasing demand arising from the current and proposed developments in the area. In addition, it was suggested that the Council should provide a "rent a bike scheme" which would comply with the Active Transport Plan, and also make a contribution to the provision of gas-operated buses;

(viii) Glyn Williams (Highway Electrical Engineer) would be requested to give a presentation to a future meeting of Environment Kernow on alternative street lighting systems (e.g. solar powered) and the need to reduce consumption of electricity; and

(ix) Adrian Welsh (Transportation Policy Manager) would be invited to attend a future meeting which should be focused on transport issues.

In conclusion, it was agreed that the Chairman and Dave Lewis would collate the main points which should be incorporated into the LTP under the 5 theme areas and that the draft document be circulated to EK for comment/feedback.

It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted and any other comments be fed back to the Secretariat.

## **CORNWALL COUNCIL COMMUNITY INTELLIGENCE AND EK**

(Agenda No. 5)

EK/13 The Chairman presented the report by Rachel Bromley and Robin Millar (Community Intelligence Team), which updated Environment Kernow on the proposed work programme of the Community Intelligence Team. Community Intelligence was a new unit within the Chief Executive's Department of Cornwall Council, which reflected a drive towards developing a strategic and consistent evidence base and the need to make evidence-based decisions.

It was suggested that members might wish to consider areas of work within its own work programme for 2009/10 and 2010/11 which could be supported or undertaken by the Community Intelligence Team. Of specific interest to Environment Kernow was the draft work plan which had been developed to highlight the key community intelligence projects relating to the environment and climate change, including the Environmental Indicators Performance Plan. The purpose of this plan was to review the environmental indicators work as part of the "State of the Cornish Environment" and "Envirolimits" projects, and produce updates of key environmental indicators which could be used to inform the identification of environmental priorities.

During the discussion, various points were raised, including the following: -

(i) the Chairman advised that it would be necessary to make arrangements for obtaining aerial photographs of the County as part of the 5 yearly exercise to monitor change in vegetation cover. Alternative methods of obtaining such information, including their relative cost effectiveness and value for money, would be considered;

(ii) there should be a reference in the work programme to the Council's energy consumption;

(iii) discussions were currently be held in respect of the Council arranging an event on food security; and

(iv) arrangements would be made for Rachel Bromley to attend future meetings of EK as the relevant Policy Officer relating to environment and climate issues.

It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

(Agenda No. 6)

EK/14 The Chairman, in introducing the report, advised that concerns had been received regarding aspects of the vision, governance and organisation of the revised terms of reference. In particular, views had

been expressed that the Environment Kernow should meet on a monthly basis with every third month (i.e. quarterly) meeting being of a "strategic" nature, incorporating those appropriate individuals who should be engaged and able to contribute to the environmental strategy for Cornwall. It was considered that the next meeting in October should be a strategic meeting as there were several documents that required approval. The Chairman then invited comments/feedback which would be considered for inclusion in the revised draft document.

During the discussion, various points were raised, including the following: -

(i) a nominee from the Cornwall Business Partnership would be invited to join the Environment Kernow as the private sector representative. It was also suggested that consideration should be given to inviting representatives from the waste water sector/ supplies, Cornwall College/CUC, Cornwall Council Planning (e.g. Terry Grove White) and the "green community". Thelma Sorenson agreed to arrange for a representation of the Cornwall Business partnership to attend from the private sector;

(ii) the terms of reference, as set out on page 25 of the agenda, should be amended as follows: -

(1) paragraph 5 – delete "Identify" and substitute "Strengthen"; and

(2) add a paragraph 10:- "10. Individual and community engagement and involvement"; and

(iii) it was important to ensure that the "Board" did not control the partnership.

It was **RESOLVED** that, subject to consideration of any feedback received, the Chairman be authorised to prepare a revised draft for approval at the next meeting of the Environment Kernow.

## **LOW CARBON CORNWALL - SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCOPING WORK** (Agenda No. 7)

EK/15 Ben Simpson gave an update on progress being made in respect of the CSP Cornwall Climate Change Action Plan (3CAP), including the Socio-Economic Risk Scope, a summary of the main points being as follows: -

*Update on CDC-LCC Unit and 3CAP project staffing & status: -*

CSEP's new Partnership Coordinator was now in post. As stated in previous reports to the EK, apart from a few strands/ task & finish groups with ongoing momentum (such as the Economic Forum-led 'Private Sector Options Task & Finish Group), the 3CAP project had been on hold since March (One Cornwall/ CDC Transition) due to a lack of resource with CDC-

LCC and the need to wait for the new Cornwall Council systems/ teams to become fully operational. In addition, the CDC-LCC CHEOPS 'Clear About Carbon' Project Officer had now been appointed, which, it was hoped, would enable Ben Simpson to have more time to focus on 3CAP. It was also hoped that the 2 new officers taking up their posts by the end of this month would help ensure that the necessary work on the project strands would start by early October 2009, whilst the appointment of an additional 2 officers during the next few months should ease the current pressures on Ben Simpson's team.

*General update on 3CAP*

CDC-LCC were currently dealing with the backlog and rebuilding the project systems, with the aim of re-launching the project's Base-camp during the end of September/ early October, together with a newsletter detailing current situation and the next steps. Anyone who wished to be able to read and comment upon project draft documentation should contact the Partnership Coordinator who would make the appropriate additions to the Base-camp to be ready for when it next "goes live".

Ben Simpson reported that a draft version of the Interim Action Plan (detailing most of the task and finish groups' key aims and priority actions), which was now available from himself or the Partnership Coordinator, provided a status and direction update on the activities of the task and finish (T&F) groupings and proposed 'headline outcomes'.

The Interim Action Plan (3CAP-IAP)

*Update on T&F Groups:*

As previously reported, most T&F groupings had been inactive since March 2009; however, the private sector grouping has been finalising its paper on require short term actions and the following feedback has been received by the end of August and collated by Lucy Harris, following a consultation period over the summer with businesses: -

Private Sector: -

- o 100% of those who responded said that they supported the proposal overall;
- o 91% said that they supported the rationale for this strand of work (9% did not respond to this question);
- o 81% felt that the process by which this consultation draft had been prepared had been effective;
- o 54.5% felt that nothing had been omitted from the proposal; however, some of the 36.5% who felt that something had been omitted had provided suggestions for additional points to be included;
- o 81% agreed with the proposed priorities included within the paper. Other responders had suggested alternative priorities;
- o A number of other constructive comments had been received and would be considered at the next stage. A key comment was about making the final input even more concise;

o Responses had been received from approximately 12% of the database of businesses to which the consultation had been sent. For a public sector consultation to a purely business audience during August, this was considered to be a fairly good level of response; and

o Responses had been received from a variety of businesses and sectors. There were a number of responders who had not permitted their details to be released. Those organisations which had permitted the publicising of their responses were: Doble Quality Foods, Imerys, May Gurney, Michael Thorne Construction, Mpad, Ocean Housing, Tregothnan, and Transition Falmouth.

This paper and the process by which it had been developed had also been endorsed by the Economic Forum.

#### *7.4 Update on other project outputs*

a. Vision – had been hold, but work was expected to restart in October 2009.

b. Policy Regulatory Review – again, this had been on hold. CDC-LCC were currently exploring options as to how they could obtain staffing support (possibly via student placement) to complete the proofing/ cross-checking of the draft database that was partially complete when the assigned officer's contract ended in March.

c. Risk Scopes - two risks scopes had been taken forward by working with Dr Stephan Harrison (UoE and Climate Change Risk Management/ CCRM) and followed the format of a desk study with some stakeholder interviews, the aim of which was to identify what was known and not known and the further work required regarding either physical risks, or socio-economic risks in relation to the climate-energy challenge.

#### *Physical risk scope*

Physical Risk Scope (CCRM) paper had been available in draft for some time was now awaiting UKCP09 update.

Dr Peter McGregor (Cornwall College) was current working up additional input covering pathogens and parasites (now available in draft form).

Species Range – draft was expected in October/ November 2009.

#### *Soc-Econ scope*

Led by CCRM – Dr Murray Simpson @ ECI - Oxon, was currently awaiting final comments from interviews which would be integrated by CDC-LCC into a draft paper available for consultation during October/ November. It covered the following areas, namely:

Impacts of CC on Cornwall - Natural Environment, Agriculture, Water, Biodiversity, Coastal Areas and Marine Fisheries, Seasonality, Society, Public Sector, Human Health, Disadvantaged Communities, Economy, Economic Growth and Development, Tourism, Energy, Built Environment & Infrastructure, Transport, Future Socio-Economic Scenarios, Conclusions and Research Recommendations.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS OF URGENCY**

(Agenda No. 8)

EK/16 A summary of the main points raised under this item include the following: -

(i) pump-priming funds of a maximum of £100,000 for the LAA funding was expected to be secured during the next few days;

(ii) an email notification had been circulated regarding a conference on 16 October entitled " Survival of the Retro Fittest";

(iii) the Cornwall AONB Partnership was currently consulting stakeholders as part of a review of the AONB Management Plan;

(iv) Dave Lewis and Bill Holliday had discussed the future role of smaller settlements in Cornwall, and a report would be submitted in due course;

(v) an item seeking endorsement of a refreshed outcome in respect of the Waste PID would be included on the agenda for the next meeting of Environment Kernow; and

(vi) the next meeting would be held at 10am on 2 October 2009 at the Environment Agency Offices, Sir John Moore House, Bodmin. This meeting would be the first of the "strategic meetings" which would be held on a quarterly basis, in accordance with the LAA timeline and the financial year. It would also be necessary to agree the meeting dates for 2010.

The meeting ended at 12.50 pm.

[The agenda and reports relating to the items referred to above are attached to the signed copy of the Minutes].