

Minutes

Attendance;

Wayne Bexton	WB	Derbyshire County Council
Alison Wheeldon	AW	Derbyshire County Council
Maddison Hill	MH	Derbyshire County Council
Peter Edwards	PE	Erewash CVS
Jane Horton	JH	Derbyshire County Council Public Health
Simon Geikie	SW	Peak District National Park Authority
Peter Corke	PC	Chesterfield Borough Council
Michael Reardon	MR	Derbyshire County Council
Thomas Gunton	TG	South Derbyshire District Council
Edward James	EJ	Derbyshire County Council
Nikki Wright	NW	Derbyshire Eco Centre
Richard Lovell	RL	Derbyshire County Council

Apologies for absence;

Alex Hopkinson	Climate East Midland
Andrew Kirkland	Derbyshire PNN
Esther Jones	High Peak CVS
Emily Fox	Peak District
Kathryn Warrington	Derbyshire County Council

Introductions and apologies

Wayne Bexton opened the meeting.

Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

Since the previous meeting, Derbyshire County Council has adopted WARPit to community groups and schools and is now looking to procure other items onto the site. The items are free of charge and include general office equipment. There are a large number of high valued items on the site which can be claimed and loaned. WARPit produces reports on the financial and Co2 savings of each organisation. AW to circulate the web link to the group.

Climate Change Charter

- a) Update and launch event
- b) LA adoption and Climate Local
- c) Action plan development

Update

The Climate Change Charter Launch was held at the Eco Centre on 12th December 2014 and was well received by all those in attendance. The document has been through Cabinet and the next stage will be to develop the Action Plan.

LA Adoption & Climate Local

AW has recently had initial discussions with Climate Local and Derbyshire County Council will sign up to charter as the lead authority and provide annual reports to adhere to the Climate Local requirements. This will provide all the charter signatories Climate Local accreditation and access to resources. There is an opportunity for members of the DPF to be involved and there will be a formal recognition for the group and logos would be included in the charter.

Action Plan development

AW is currently working on the action plan. There is baseline data available to report on districts. The six themes of the action plan link to the Climate Change Charter and creates a list of work from the District and Borough Councils and also the internal work.

***ACTION ALL – all members to send any current or future project details that fit into one of the six priority areas in the charter to Alison by the end of March for inclusion in the final version of the action plan.**

Community Climate Action

The main theme for this would be for everyone in the DPF group to work together. There has been a forum created on the 'Everyone's Talking about Climate Change' website and it was suggested to have schools collaborating with the active groups. Any projects around community engagement can be built into the action plan and other relationships can be fostered with the Parish Council and Community Group Partnership.

Low Carbon Economy

Businesses from the sustainable travel side will be added to the action plan. It was asked for the group to add in anything from a district level that the DPF has supported in the past, or been made aware of. There may be potential to fund the action plan through D2N2 and the group will be updated on this process. TG mentioned a model becoming available to South Derbyshire that offers free health and safety checks on waste and energy in organisations and is funded by D2N2.

Food

A motion has been raised for Derbyshire County Council to be awarded with Fairtrade status and DCC will be taking part in Fairtrade Fortnight. Various events have been arranged at County Hall to support the first week (23rd-28th February). A suggestion of including food banks and the 'New Derbyshire Food' site to the action plan was made. Farming and promoting local produce was also suggested along with links to public health agenda around healthy eating.

Travel and Transport

Currently, there is an 'Access to Stations' bid going to Cabinet in March. This project will have a key part in the network to link the North and South of Derbyshire. It was decided that the routes will need a monitoring device to calculate how many people use the cycle paths each day. As well as Chesterfield being explored for cycle routes, Long Eaton will also be considered.

Ultra Low Emission Vehicles will be added to the action plan.

Energy Efficient Homes

AW has recently spoken to Trading Standards to discuss a campaign to deal with the issues around cold callers. The Derbyshire Handy Van service is being well received, along with the Derbyshire Affordable Warmth Strategy. Most of the work under this section will be led by the LAEP partnership.

A Secure Local and Renewable Energy Supply

Derbyshire County Council has reviewed its current land ownings and will be looking at the District Councils land ownings in the near future. With the six solar farm sites confirmed, there was a community engagement opportunity held and the feedback received was said to be positive. Derbyshire County Council is currently in negotiation with Western Power to secure the grid connexions the six sites and after the cabinet report, Derbyshire County Council will be announcing the news of the solar farms to the public in the first week of March.

A report highlighting energy wastage is currently in process and will be circulated in due course.

Adapting Derbyshire to Climate Change

The Adaptation Action Plan and lowland soils will be added into the Derbyshire Climate Change Action Plan.

Information Cascade

- a)Public Health project
- b)APSE update

Public Health project

The Public Health project is soon to become live. It will link people with long term illnesses and vulnerable people together. JH will feedback the progress of the project through the LEAP.

APSE update

The Thriving Families project which enables community engagement in Danesmoor, Shirebrook, Gamesley and Cotmanhay was suggested to the group as a potential way to take the ideas and information to the general public.

Round Table

It was requested for more events to be held at the Eco Centre in Wirksworth before the main upcoming event this November. This request will also be advertised in the MEA newsletter.

MR mentioned a Government funding scheme 'Modeshift Stars' which enables schools to sign up to an online scheme which encourages sustainable travel. The scheme is free to join and each school can add their activities of encouragement online and see how other schools in Derbyshire are doing.

Date of next meeting

Thursday 7th May, venue TBC