

Environmental Reference Group Meeting Minutes

6 October 2008, Korimako - Committee Room 2, Wellington City Council

Present:

Hamish Allardice (Co-chair)
Counillor Pannett
Ralph Chapman
Debbie Firestone
Liz Hibbs

Sea Rotmann (Co-chair)

Kathryn Maxwell
Ian Shearer
Tushara Kodikara

Apologies: Members

Ruth Paul
Councillor Wade-Brown
Chris Horne
Mike Ennis

WCC Officers:

Ken Bowater (Policy)
Maria Archer (Infrastructure Planning),
Kevin Murphy (Strategy, Climate Change Office)
Brian Rahm (Climate Change Office)
Mark Farrar (City Communities)

Other

Nicky Karu (Treaty Relations)

*Tim Park (GWRC)
Graeme Hastilow
Liz Mellish*

GWRC Officers:

Mana Whenua Representatives:

Guests/Speakers: Hilary Campbell (Sustainability Trust), Marc Slade (Transition Towns)

Welcome

Those present were welcomed and thanked for their attendance, and apologies recorded.

The following resignations were accepted and a vote of thanks taken for the members' contributions.

- Chris Horne, who is choosing to retire but is keen to see his expertise in flora and fauna replaced on the group
- Ruth Paul, resigning due to being over committed.

Attendance claim forms were distributed for completion and return to Ken.

Matters Arising

Tushara reported that E-Day on 4 October was highly successful. He particular commented that the organisational efforts of Nicole Lew from CitiOps were fabulous.

Proposed changes for meeting management

It was generally agreed that:

- all future Calendar updates, Information-Sharing and Announcements will be emailed to members as they arise
- where possible, draft reports and/or information summaries will be circulated via email between meetings. Members will be asked to provide comment on reports of

interest by email directly to officers or the co-chairs, via the online discussion group or at the next meeting

- the primary purpose of meetings is the sharing of ideas, discussion and debate, rather than hearing lengthy presentations, although short briefings remain welcome
- the co-chairs will work to contain the number of items on the agenda so discussion can be in more depth
- members will trial the online Yahoo discussion group over the coming period and that this could provide for access to draft reports and/or information summaries for consideration and feedback, online discussion, increasing the time available for debate on key issues during meetings.

Action: Trial before next meeting.

Environmental Strategy Review and LTCCP

- Cr Pannett outlined progress - further update at the next meeting
- A need for integration across Strategies was highlighted

Action: Consider process for ERG input

Climate change planning and short-term focus - the Council's footprint and what it means for our work programme

- Questions covered waste, sequestration methodology, Waste Minimisation Act implications, retrofit issues, partnerships (e.g. with EECA), promotion of energy conservation, transport, pricing impact, partnering with Greater Wellington on Airport to Ngauranga.

Influencing Householder Sustainability Behaviour

(a range of concepts raised and discussion points are noted below)

Introduction

- Population pressure, timing of dam, water demand management.....

Transition Towns – Marc Slade (TT Brooklyn, Wellington Hub Steering Group)

- Bottom up, 'Share gardens', impact on transport behaviour,

Engagement through networks – Hilary Campbell (SustainTrust)

- General approach is bottom up based on personal gain or benefit
- Projects: 'Warm Dry Homes', 'Getting Around', 'Mind Your Waste', 'Light Bulb Challenge', 'Eco Kiwi', Energy Advice Centre (0800 388 588) – impartial expert advice

Approaches at DoC – Kathryn Maxwell (Sustainability Manager)

- 'awareness campaigns' had not proved effective
- Taking visible action and overcoming initial price barriers by having some freebies worked well

- Learning transfer from work to home worked well
- Suggested buildings be used for rainwater capture and storage before starting on any dam building

Water savings campaign

Action: please provide feedback

- Short term planning described
- Compulsory metering was discussed
- Draft long term report options circulated

Feedback on Proposed Wellington City Consolidated Bylaw Part 9 -Waste Management

- The report has been circulated.
- Action:** Feedback directly, or via the public consultation process (13 Oct to 14 Nov).
- A review of the Collection and Transportation of Waste Bylaw will start soon.
 - Consideration of the implications of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 is under way.

Input to ERG annual update report to SPC on 11 December

Action: Input to members' submission.

Action: Feedback on officer's report.

Previous minutes Moved: Hamish Seconded: Sea **Carried**

There were no other items.