

**Environmental Reference Group Meeting**  
**19 May 2008 Committee Room One, Wellington City Council**  
**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Councillor Celia Wade-Brown (Chair)	Nigel Smith
Ralph Chapman	Mike Ennis
Liz Hibbs	Ian Hunter
Councillor Pannett	Hamish Allardice
	Kathryn Maxwell

**WCC Officers:**

Bryan Patchett  
John Parrott

**GWRC Officers:**

**Mana Whenua Representatives**

**Guests/Speakers**

Bryan Patchett (WCC Manager: Climate Change Office)  
Jenny Rains (WCC Manager: Grants)  
Luke Troy (Manager: City Planning)

**Apologies:**

Sea Rotmann  
Maria Archer  
(Infrastructure  
Planning)  
Waruna  
Padmasiri  
Ken Bowater  
(Policy)  
Dave Kettell  
Nicky Karu  
(Treaty Relations)  
Debbie Firestone  
Tushara Kodikara  
*Ian Shearer*  
*Graeme Hastilow*  
*Liz Mellish*  
*Tim Park*  
(GWRC) *Ruth*  
*Paul*  
*Chris Horne*  
*Mike Mendonca*  
(CitiOperations)  
*Michael Oates*  
(Open Space and  
Recreation  
Planning)  
*Zach Rissel*  
(Policy)

**Welcome**

The presenters were welcomed and thanked for their attendance.

**Information-Sharing and Announcements**

- ERG Calendar was circulated for updating.
- E-Day date changed to 4 October.
- Green Drinks - Inaugural Green Drinks on 4 June, in The Lodge at Southern Cross Garden Bar and Restaurant from 5.30-7.30, RSVP by 29 May to [brenda@sustainable.org.nz](mailto:brenda@sustainable.org.nz) [Bryan to add to WED website information].

**Matters arising**

- The revised Terms of Reference, attached, [were adopted by Council on Wednesday 28 May]. Note: the new Terms of Reference lets the group select a chair other than a councillor, and allows for a modest fee for member attendance.

**Grants**

Jenny Rains presented on the process for allocation of Grants and details of the current round. The ERG can have a future role in advising on applications.

- Kathryn Maxwell – a silo approach to grants can lead to a silo approach to thinking and a narrowing of community group behaviour. It may be good to offer a fund that encourages collaboration between community groups and across wellbeings.
- Cr Wade-Brown – Can provide information on grants rounds through the ERG networks.

## **Draft Annual Plan environmental initiatives**

Cr Wade-Brown noted that an increase to the budget for pest and weed control is proposed and highlighted three proposals of particular interest:

- Feasibility studies on wind power at Cares Gully.
- Resource Consent subsidies for green technologies.
- Transport Survey – move towards more sustainable approaches for transport.

Submissions are encouraged. ERG members were offered an extended deadline of 21 May. [NB The ERG does not make group submissions.]

## **World Environment Day**

Bryan Patchett outlined what is being planned.

## **Levers for a more sustainable city**

Luke Troy outlined tools for city planning.

Comments from the floor:

- Risks of higher density housing and impacts on liveability of communities
- Range of issues when thinking about density – services, community, infrastructure, design
- Need to develop communities as well as houses
- Impact of poorly sited infill – e.g. visual impact of building on steep sites to get harbour views
- Public transport capacity is currently inadequate
- Need minimum quality standards for housing and density.

## **E-waste**

Mike Ennis noted the new date for E-day – 4 October. Volunteers are needed for the day – ERG contacts – Mike or Tushara. CitoOps contact - Nicole Lew 3834440.

## **Previous minutes**

Adopted.

Ian/Mike

## **Other**

Cr Wade-Brown encouraged others to consider offering to chair / co-chair the ERG.

New ideas for ERG to consider:

- How can we get people to adopt water-, energy-efficient appliances? – E.g. awareness programmes, interventions (such as a plumber with leak detection equipment), organisational approaches – What would be Council's role in this? [Kathryn to share material with Climate Change Office and bring to next ERG meeting.]

For August meeting agenda: 'LTCCP briefing', and 'How to deliver change at the household level'.

Please note that suggestions for future meetings are welcome, and that these can be raised with Ken or Cr Wade-brown.

**Next Meeting: 4 August** (5.30 to 7.30 on the first Monday of every second month)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Theme / Key Items (proposed)</b>	<b>Location</b>
11 Aug	Water Conservation Plan - Maria LTCCP briefing Household behaviour change – Kathryn (with input from our Climate Change team)	Committee Room 2