

LOW CARBON LYMM (LCL)

Meeting 7th September 2009

Attendees:

Edd Duncan
Paul Morgan
John Ogle
Hilary Paskins
Richard Pearce
Diane Porter
Alan Quale
Chris Reeves
Gareth Roberts
Alan Turner
Dave Watson
Su Williams
Ann Wilson

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Charlotte Burton, Richard Rust, Rachel Waggett and Steve Walsh.

2. Minutes of meeting on 7th July 2009

These were approved without alteration.

3. Membership

The membership of LCL continues to grow as more people in Lymm hear about us. It now stands 75 including those who signed-up at the Age of Stupid. John Ogle is collecting membership fees from those who want to be actively involved.

Richard Pearce explained that we are looking for people to form subgroups for the various actions we wish to take; for example a waste management group, hydro scheme group etc

4. Funding Progress

Richard Pearce reported that he is looking into various grants for core funding. Warrington Borough Council has a community grant scheme known as a "South Neighbourhood Local Fund" open to community groups in South Warrington. Up to £1000 could be provided for activities that aid community cohesion. The deadline for applications to this fund is the 15th October – Richard is to submit a funding application by then.

LCL could also be eligible for another grant scheme run by the Council; Community Chest – similar to the Local Fund but is to be used for one particular initiative and offers a maximum of £500.

A Bid into the North West Climate Fund is being considered with the LCCN for Cheshire & Warrington. The bid would be for LCL and other local groups such as Bollington and Broken Cross. The proposal is for what is called "Carbon Conversations" which is based on a model pioneered in Cambridge where community mentors are trained to encourage local people towards low carbon lifestyles. The technique is intended to cascade through groups, working its way through the whole community aided by volunteer champions.

Richard Pearce is to attend the LCCN Conference on 19th September at which there will be a session on Carbon Conversations.

A Foundation bid would need to be submitted within the next month or so and is quite competitive. Also, successful applicants have to prove the delivery of carbon reduction per pound granted and therefore would also need to measure the success of the scheme to prove this.

5. The Age of Stupid

Plans for the showing of the film at the High School on Friday 18th September were discussed and there were a number of offers of help to promote the event and to help on the day.

The feedback after the film has been very good and it has really helped to put LCL on the map. There were at least 100 people there (including a few complimentary tickets) - we took £277.68 including the food & drink. There are some expenses to come off this for the food & drink and the Hall rental and we hope we will clear about £200 in total.

We also signed-up 14 new members including 3 paying members. One of these is a case study for the Guardian's 10:10 campaign - the Barker family. Louise Barker has suggested that we could upload an article about their involvement in 10:10 from a recent Guardian supplement.

Raymond Chan also showed the film to his class of students at the High School earlier in the week (under a separate licence) and the feedback was also very positive.

Many thanks to Warrington Borough Council for funding the licence for the public showing and for all those volunteers who helped to make the event a success.

6. Schools Competition

John Ogle presented plans for a schools competition to find the best carbon/energy savings ideas put forward by pupils from any Lymm school. Options and prizes were discussed. Dave Watson (Warrington BC) offered to provide contacts at all the schools for LCL to approach to discuss the competition.

7. Lighting

Chris Reeves gave a short presentation on her campaign to tackle the light pollution caused by the floodlights on the sports pitches at the High School. She lives across the canal from the School and was very concerned about the angles at which the floodlights were set and the extent to which they were left on during the night. After a long campaign, new higher efficiency lighting was installed whilst the pitches were being refurbished. Chris showed us some before and after photos of the lighting which demonstrated the great improvements achieved.

8. Waste Management

We discussed the possibility of accessing Defra BREW Funding through the Council for a project in Lymm to tackle the residual and special waste streams which are not being handled by the current Council system. It was agreed that the timing of the bid submission was too tight to put in a proposal for this round but that it would be good to look at it again in the future.

Paul Morgan has some ideas for waste management initiatives in Lymm and will discuss these with Steve Walsh and others.

9. Hydro Scheme

Richard Rust has submitted a bid to EDF for a feasibility study into the hydro energy options for the Village. Warrington Borough Council is also looking in to if it could support this work if the EDF bid is unsuccessful.

10. Date and time of next meeting

Monday 19th October at 7.30pm at Oughtrington Community Centre.