

# Minutes

**Place** SYDNI Centre  
**Date** Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2011.  
**Time** 6pm

## 1 Attendance

Staff – 5; Board – 11; Volunteers – 18; Members – 7; Visitors – 9.

**Staff:** L Male, N Dally, M Smith, L Smith, S Elvyhart.

**Board:** R Twiney, G Davies, C Pollock, G Randall, J Armstrong, R Edwards, K Sinfield, N Jones, M Begg, D Gillbee, R Wallsgrove.

**Volunteers:** C Begg, E Hunt, DW White, G Oliver, L Bishop, A Goodwin, D Felsted, M noonan, L Drake, I Mbata, J McArthur, R Moore, I Wood, D Thomas, J Liddamore,

**Members:** J Weare, R Bhachu, K Cliffe, R Smit, K Naimo, E Smith, B Weed

**Visitors:** Cllr Felicity Bunker (Chair of WDC), C White MP, J Pollock, S Dobson, D Beal, C Ingall, C Sandal, J Armstrong, J Bunkes, C Wiggins WDC, G Church

## Apologies

B Knight, J Dean, Cllr Caborn, J Redshaw, N Pratt, J Rose, C Sharman, H Starkey, B Long, S Tyrrell, Mrs Evans, V Jones, **Cllr Mrs Elizabeth Higgins**, Cllr Moira-Ann Grainger, Cllr Sue Gallagher, R Winship, J Myers, C Philpott

## 2 Minutes of the last AGM

Approved

## 3 Matters arising

None

## 4 Adoption of Report and Financial Statements period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011

### 4.1 Trustees Report

John Armstrong (JA) gave the report summarising the transition Action 21 has gone through with the loss of Princes Drive site; the redundancies that were made; the new appointments made in February, and the great work that Action 21 has since undertaken over the past year with The Re-Useful Centre and East Lodge Sustainability Centre.

**Re-use:** JA summarised the good work being done by staff and volunteers at The Re-Useful Centre: 7 day opening, steady donations, good sales, van delivery and collection service which could be expanded geographically, bicycle renovation successes, continuation of electrical PAT testing and sales, clothes and supportive partnership workings with similar organisations.

**Recycling:** JA reported on the tonnage kept from landfill at the 2010 Peace Festival and Warwick Folk Festival (2.5 tonnes). 2011 figures showed 2.13 tonnes from both festivals. 2012 will see Action 21 only offering this service at The Leamington Peace festival.

**Transport:** JA reported that the Bicycle workshop team kept 300 bikes from landfill. In the last 7 months 464 had been diverted, renovated and sold. Huge thanks to all bike volunteers for keeping up production, and morale.

**Energy:** Louise Male (LM) reported on Solar 300 Challenge which had completed 26 installations for 2010/12 bringing the total number of installation to approx 60. LM gave thanks to all the volunteers who have helped make this happen. The Sydenham Community Insulation Challenge had been completed and engaged about 60% of the community in the target area helping raise awareness of insulation.

**Food:** LM reported on the success of the Dobson Lane Community Allotment site in Whitnash stating that the raised bed area 'Action for Health', a partnership project with Brunswick Healthy Living Centre offering continued gardening activities for people with mobility problems and wheelchair users. LM also reported on the progress of the disabled access compost toilets that were under construction and would be ready for Spring. Thanks and farewell were given to Dawn Thomas our volunteer who had successfully maintained the Re-Useful Centre Garden providing information to encourage more gardeners growing their own in our community.

**Education:** LM spoke on the annual education event which Action 21 is annually involved in is the '200X and Beyond' event at Coombe Country Park, run in partnership with other local authorities. This event gives children from local primary schools the sustainability message. 2010 & Beyond worked with 1263 children from 45 local Primary Schools. Thanks were given to the organisations that funded the event. The event was repeated in 2011 the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and another is planned for 2012.

LM talked about East Lodge Sustainability Centre in Jephson Gardens and the plans we have for the information rooms, the focus education, and on some of the courses we would like to offer and encouraged the audience to express their thoughts on workshops that they would be interested in. Thanks to Robin and John for their work on the bespoke cork information boards; the development of the demonstration permaculture gardens and thanks to volunteers there; LM welcomed Laura Smith as the new Community Ranger outlining some of the events that have happened so far and future ones.

**Volunteers:** LM gave thanks to all volunteers involved with Action 21 stressing how dependent we are upon them, how ideas come from the volunteers and the reciprocal relationship that can often be beneficial to both parties.

**Staff:** JA formally welcomed and thanked all the new staff appointed in February for their good work and welcomed the two newest members, Laura Smith and Sam Elvyhart.

## 4.2

### Financial Statements

Geoff Randall (GR) presented a slide outlining Action 21's finances, stating the reports handed out were for the 8 month period since we became a charity, 1<sup>st</sup> August to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011. GR drew attention to the details on pages 3-10 of the Annual Report and Financial Statements stating there was a £30k surplus transferred from the old company Action 21 to the new charity Action 21 (2010). The year end surplus on 31 March 2011, carried forward as general reserves, was £32K. GR confirmed that the Trustees were budgeting for a small surplus in 2011/12 whilst using funds to develop services.

The meeting agreed to adopt the Annual Report and Financial Statements.

## 5 Questions from the audience

At this point, JA invited the audience to ask questions.

No questions were asked, but the audience thanked Gareth Davies for all his hard work as Chair over many years.

## 6 Appointment of Independent Examiner

GR proposed we continue to use Dafferns for 2011/12 and this was agreed.

## **7 Election of Trustees**

Geoff Randall had been co-opted on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2011, was acting as Honorary Treasurer and was willing to become Company Secretary. His appointment was confirmed.

Gareth Davies, Gitta Ashworth, Margaret Begg & Keith Sinfield stood down by rotation and being willing to stand again, were re-elected.

## **8 Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

John Armstrong had acted as Chair since 31<sup>st</sup> May taking over from Gareth Davies. Roger Twiney was willing to stand as Vice Chair. Both appointments were confirmed

## **Any Other Business**

**9**

None raised.

## **10 Date of next meeting**

Will be announced a month in advance of the meeting date.