



**Kingston Environment Forum meeting,
Thursday 17th July 2014, 10.00am, Rose café**

NOTES

Present: Martin Birley (MB), Jo Butcher (JB - chair), Chris Cockel (CC), Cllr Hilary Gander (HG), John Legate (JL), Marilyn Mason (MM) (note-taker), Clive Messenger (CM), Jean Vidler (JV)

Apologies received from Carlos Queremel, Dean Tyler, and John Fellowes

1. Matters arising from May meeting minutes not covered elsewhere:

Membership: HG had invited Andrew Connolly of Kingston Pound to join KEF, thought he would come to meet us sometime, and JB had invited Cllr David Cunningham, new lead Councillor on Environment and Transport. Still seeking a representative from Kingston University

Energy: **HG and CM** were meeting Shadia at RBK that afternoon to discuss energy production and energy efficiency measures in local schools, and would report back.

KEF co-chair: MM had contacted Elise who was opting out for a while, so MM would take on co-chairing pro tem. JB and MM were sharing attendance at other meetings - KSP, VCSS..., and would continue to report back and forth.

2. Update on developments: new administration and next steps: JB has had a brief chat to Cllr Kevin Davis and MM had attended meetings with Kevin, new leader of the Council.

JB had sent round an update on arrangements following attendance at RBK's VCS steering group meeting. MM had sent round a report of **recent KSP meeting** including presentation and request for feedback on **Kingston data** to kdo@kingston.gov.uk or justine.rego@kingston.gov.uk. KEF could request data on the issues of concern, e.g. air quality, numbers of cyclists, green spaces and encroachments; and/or provide data when we could e.g. on solar panel installations in London by borough. **JB** would circulate a draft table/template with suggestions and requests for **All** to contribute to.

MM thought that **Voluntary Community Sector Strategy** and members of KEF would do well to focus on what they could offer the Council in terms of delivering Council objectives, spotting opportunities and tendering for commissions. **MM** would do her best to pass on any info from VCSS about a possible workshop for the VS on commissioning and other relevant info.

JB would draft a flier to explain KEF and its objectives, and to show how they aligned with RBK's environmental sustainability and wider objectives e.g. health and well-being. This will support its communications activity, including for the new administration.

3. Update on Kingston mini-Holland: KCC had had its AGM, and JL reported continuing concerns that the mini-Holland plans did not do enough to encourage new cyclists by making cycling routes

continuous, pleasant and safe, that new developments in Kingston did not necessarily take cycling into account and should provide their own funds for cycle provision (HG confirmed that developers at the recent Kingston Futures conference were interested in the mini-Holland plans) , not eat into min-Holland funds, and that mini-Holland funds could be diverted to high profile infrastructure (station plazas etc.) that did little to promote cycling. KCC had had a meeting with Andrew Gilligan of GLA who had agreed with their priorities.

MM had recently addressed some of these issues on behalf of the Canbury and Riverside Association, and would draft and circulate a letter from KEF on these concerns to relevant RBK officers (Richard Lewis, Peter Treadgold) and councillors. Individuals and organisations also welcome to send in their own comments (**All**). Questions include how cycling provision fits into RBK business plan and what the deadlines are.

4. Update on Green Spaces Strategy: CC and JV (Kingston Biodiversity Network) had sent in a submission to RBK's strategy re: standing open water and continued to work on other themes. **JB** has invited Marie Claire Edwards to next KEF meeting.

5. KEF priorities & outcomes - taking things forward: **JB** would update KEF priorities in view of the meeting's discussions, offers and suggested actions. JV, JL and CM offered to work up the outcomes for relevant strands of activity.

6. Communications : MM requested that **All** added events and news and data to the website - all KEF members have to do is go to <http://e-voice.org.uk/kef/>, request membership via the button at the top of home page, and MM would make you an editor so that you can add items. If this proved too difficult, MM or JB would add items for other members. Tweeting continues to provide useful updates on the website.

7. Invitees to future KEF meetings: **JB** would invite Cllr Cunningham, Marie-Claire and someone from public health team. **HG** has invited Andrew Connolly.

8. AOB:

JV invited **all** to Kingston Environment Centre's music and networking event on Saturday 19th July.

HG reported that RBK, with assistance from TTK's Energy Group, had carried out a feasibility study on solar PV for 36 Kingston schools and 53 social housing blocks + district heating networks in new developments – HG to forward the relevant email.

JB had emailed details of Young Place Shapers riverside activity to KEF members and asked for people's help to circulate through their networks.

KEF focus with regard to waste reduction to be discussed at the next meeting.

9. Date of next KEF meeting: either **Friday 26 Sept, 10-12, or Tues 30 Sept, 10-12** - please let JB know if you have a preference (**All**, especially if not at this meeting). (Kingston Strategic Partnership conference scheduled for week before, 24 Sept.)