

**Goldsmiths  
University of London**

**ESTATES COMMITTEE**

**ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY SUB-COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held 14 January 2010

**Present:** Hugh Jones, Erica Drew, Mary Bright, Rebecca Watts, Graham Gaskell, Patsy Carter (Secretary)

**Attendance:** Richard Groves, Craige-Lee Paterson, Richard Carmichael,

**Apologies:** Michael Dick, Kay Stables, Adam Cresswell, Vicky Annand

**OPEN BUSINESS**

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2 WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed the Energy and Environmental Manager to the Committee who had started in post December 2009.

**3 IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Noted:

There were no items identified for report as needing substantive discussion.

**4 MINUTES**

Noted:

- (i) that from the attendance Tom Pool should be written as Tom Poole;
- (ii) item 9 (iv) should read Erica Drew reported that she had discussed the results of the waste audit with Nick Jones and Sarah Gibbon, Head of Design and Printing Services. The audit established that 20% of the College's mixed waste was cardboard. They agreed that altering current disposal methods for cardboard

should be a priority as recycling the 20% would contribute to both waste minimisation and carbon reduction targets and assist the College in achieving its 10:10 commitment. CD Waste had suggested dedicating the Whitehead compactor for this purpose;

- (iii) CD Waste were using a new plant in Slough that produced Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF). Mixed waste bins across campus often include left-over food. This contaminated the waste for recycling purposes and it had to go to landfill. It was suggested that redirection to an RDF plant could provide a best practice solution and therefore should be a consideration when specifying the contract arrangements for the appointment of a new waste management contractor.

## **5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Noted:

- (i) that the Committee had discussed at its last meeting the HEFCE consultation with HEIs regarding carbon reduction targets for 2020 and 2050 and that the outcome of the consultation would be reported to the Committee when it became available;
- (ii) that battery recycling bins were now in place in the Library and Students Union shop;
- (iii) that the Students' Union Building would be the next area to receive the installation of thermostatic radiator valves.

## **6 DRAFT WASTE MANGEMENT STRATEGY**

Received:

The draft Waste Management Strategy. (10-1)

The Committee noted that the waste management strategy would set out the campus wide waste minimisation actions that were referenced in the Environment and Sustainability Policy that had been approved by Council 1 December 2009.

The Committee commented that the strategy should include the year on year targets that should be achieved, a clear definition of what the target 50% savings would represent as well as include the baseline target. The management of IT waste should be included in the strategy.

Noted:

- (i) that Richard Groves was in the process of implementing a trial recycling initiative in the Laurie Grove, Dixon Road and St James properties that would replace the existing recycling system and that the trial involved the recycling of mixed waste that would be of no cost to the College;
- (ii) that the College were currently using New Leaf for the disposal of IT equipment that was in accordance with WEEE regulations, however, it was important to ensure the

College was being issued with the consignment notes and the Environmental Advisor would seek clarification on this;

- (iii) that Design and Print Services recycled coloured paper in recycle bins and maintained the statistics on the white paper waste and by using these figures there was an opportunity to identify areas on campus where models of good practice;
- (iv) that there were opportunities to reduce food packaging and the Environmental Advisor was in contact with a supplier to discuss how this could be achieved;
- (v) that the Energy and Environmental Manager was reviewing the existing location of the compactors and a suggested location was the Music Wing court yard and that RG should approach the Music Department to discuss this suggestion taking into account the noise that will be generated by the compactor;
- (vi) that the Energy and Environmental Manager would visit and work in conjunction with Library staff to review the existing re-cycling arrangements and identify further opportunities;
- (vii) that an area had been identified for composting that was located at the back of the campus adjacent to St James Halls – Block one.

**Resolved:**

that following incorporation of the Committee's suggested amendments the strategy should be submitted to the next Estates Committee meeting that was scheduled to take place 9 February 2010 for recommendation to Council that the strategy be approved.

**7 DRAFT BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN**

Received:

The draft Biodiversity Action Plan (tabled) and an oral report from the Environmental Advisor.

The Biodiversity Plan had been developed to demonstrate the College's commitment to retaining and enhancing the green spaces, trees and wildlife habitats on campus. It was recognised by the Committee that the plan was a very good step forward in that it will create the opportunity to support the College's land becoming a useable and appreciated asset.

Noted

- (i) that the plan would be developed in conjunction with Lewisham Council and the London Wildlife Trust and that it was important to work with other organisations as appropriate to achieve maximum benefit;
- (ii) that Committee members would review the plan further and send their comments to the Environmental Advisor.

## **Resolved:**

that the plan with revisions would be re-submitted to the next meeting of the ESSC scheduled to take place 28 April 2010.

## **8 REPORT FROM THE CARBON MANAGEMENT FOCUS GROUP**

### Received:

- (i) an oral report from the Campaign Awareness, Waste Management Focus Group;
- (ii) an oral report from the Environmental Manager on the Energy Management Activities progressed between September 2009 and December 2009.

### Noted:

- (i) that the new Energy and Environmental Manager would be featured in the next Hallmark and that the finding from the thermal imaging pictures would also be featured;
- (ii) that the Student Union and Environmental Officers and who they were would need to be made clear to people;
- (iii) that the website would need developing further and improved navigation to the pages needed to be on the website;
- (iv) that the valve insulation jackets had been installed in various locations around campus and other locations for further installation had been suggested;
- (v) that Thermostatic Radiator Valves (TRV's) installation programme had begun and would be installed on all radiators eventually;
- (vi) that an automated meter reading system was currently being installed which would allow the College to effectively monitor energy consumption in all its buildings;
- (vii) that conversions to the light fittings in the Richard Hoggart Building had been completed;
- (viii) that the BPB lighting control system had been installed and there was an opportunity to increase motion sensors on light fittings, 'Switch of the Lights' signs had been installed above light switches;
- (ix) the installation of foil to walls behind radiators especially those radiators situated in the Laurie Grove properties would help to conserve heat;
- (x) that voltage optimisation was not viewed as effective and suggestions was made that if EDF were to reduce the transformer emission this could save up to 10Kw or 20Kw and that campus wide building maintenance should be reviewed if implementation were to take place;

- (xi) that windows were often left open in Halls and that 'green' awareness should be raised in student Halls and that students would be approached and asked how they think awareness of the issue could be promoted to minimise these occurrences;
- (xii) that it was worth considering the installation of inverter drives to extractor fans in kitchens which would enable energy efficiency;
- (xiii) that Halls were undertaking a survey of the wattage of light bulbs currently used;
- (xiv) that incandescent light bulbs in desk lamps should be reported to [green@gold.ac.uk](mailto:green@gold.ac.uk) so that they can be replaced with energy efficient bulbs;
- (xv) that Erica Drew suggested shower timers could be installed which would help users to monitor their water usage and would support students with carbon footprint activities;
- (xvi) that Richard Groves was looking into the feasibility of placing a solar thermal system on the roof of the BPB which could help reduce the carbon emissions by half;
- (xvii) that RG would look into the requirement and cost of moving the BREEAM rating of the New Academic Building from excellent to outstanding and that he would also include the catering areas in his investigation;
- (xviii) that the College needed to consider 'space planning' from the basis of how rooms can be used more efficient and that RG would be attending the next meeting of the space allocation Sub-Committee and will report developments on the above consideration;
- (xix) that Hugh Jones, Richard Groves and Mary Bright would meet to discuss progressing the College's new application to obtain Fair Trade status;
- (xx) that the Green Gowns Awards were to take place on 19 February 2010 and that it was important to note the actions that had been achieved by the College over the past 2 years;
- (xxi) that it was very important that Goldsmiths should apply for the Green Gown Awards in future; the New Academic Building should be entered for an award and that the Ben Pimlott Building would be a possible candidate in the next few years;
- (xxii) that the deadline date to submit an application for the Green League was April 2010;
- (xxiii) that an Ethical Investment Policy was being developed by the Director of Finance;

## **9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Noted:

- (i) that cycle racks had been installed around the campus and that Richard Groves would meet with Francis Rentan to discuss further installation of bike racks around campus;

- (ii) that Nick Jones, Head of Facilities, Estates Department was the contact to be notified of broken furniture that required disposal;
- (iii) that the College should actively support the promotion of vegetarian food in catering facilities and if more vegetarian options were available this could result in the reduction of meat being selected as a food choice at the College and assessment should be given to whether this would mean a reduction in the College's carbon emissions;
- (iv) that better labelling of locally sourced produce was needed and that at present there were some inconsistencies that any issues with labelling of products could be emailed to catering@gold.ac.uk.

## **10 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 29 April 2010, 10.30am, DTH, Room 110.

Patsy Carter Secretary  
March 2010.