

**Harrow Agenda 21 Environmental Forum
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
Committee Room 6, Civic Centre, Harrow
21 January 2009 7.00 pm**

Present:

Name	Ref	Role	Present
Sarah Kersey	SK	Chair & Consumer Group Chair	Yes
Pam Gershon	PG	Treasurer	Yes
Linda Robinson	LR	Secretary	Yes
Caroline Williams	CW	Planning Group Chair	Yes
Marilyn Raymond	MR	Education Group Chair	Apols
Mick Oliver	MO	Waste Management & Recycling Group Chair	Yes
Don Liversedge	DL	Harrow Humanist Society	No
Mick Campbell	MC	South Harrow & Roxeth Residents Association	Yes
Sarah Fahy	SF	Earth Project	Yes
Mary John	MJ	Harrow Association of Voluntary Service	Yes
Madan Badale	MB	Harrow Council for Racial Equality	Apols
Vina Mithani	VM	LBH Councillor, Kenton West Ward	Yes
Marilyn Ashton	MA	LBH Councillor, Stanmore Park Ward	Apols
Phil O'Dell	POD	LBH Councillor, Wealdstone Ward	Yes
Yogesh Teli	YT	LBH Councillor, Kenton West Ward	Apols
Jeremy Zeid	JZ	LBH Councillor, Kenton West Ward (Reserve)	Yes

1. Welcome and Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were noted from MA, MR, MB and YT. JZ was attending as a reserve councillor for MA and YT. Reserve councillor Dinesh Solanki had also sent apologies.

2. Agenda Review

- 2.1 SK checked that everyone was happy with the agenda.

3. Chair's Report

- 3.1 Referring to her written report (attached), SK clarified her suggestion to John Edwards, Harrow's Director of Environment Services, that he or another council officer representative attend Executive Committee meetings. She had not heard back from him about whether or not he felt this would be of value to either party.
- 3.2 There had been no progress in appointing a new Planning Group Chair. Despite sending emails and leaving telephone messages, SK and LR had received no response from Mark Brown. As Acting Chair, CW had hoped that Mark would also take over her role as HA21's official representative at Greener Harrow (see 8.5 below).

3.3 David Summers (DS), HA21 member and Chair of Greener Harrow, had expressed disappointment at HA21's lack of co-ordinated response to the council's consultations, such as those on its Climate Change Strategy and Sustainable Community Strategy. He was pushing for more official HA21 input into Greener Harrow. Without a fully functioning Planning Group, SK felt HA21 had little expertise to offer in many of the required fields, other than DS himself.

3.4 The HA21 website problems continued to delay updates and file uploads. Support from the hosts had been thin, but a workaround was being used.

Action Point: SK to ask the administrator to email trustees with the passwords for access to relevant pages and files.

3.5 The updated 2009 Events Calendar was now available on the website for action groups to plan activities around appropriate dates.

4. Treasurer's Report

4.1 PG reported a balance of £5356.87 in the bank. The amount of council grant for the next year would not be known until the Grants Panel met in February. SK confirmed that over £6,000 had been applied for.

5. Publicity

5.1 SK sought input on ways to attract new people. PG suggested a press release to local free papers, the Harrow Times and the Leader. MJ stressed the need for a welcoming tone. POD advocated issuing as many press releases as possible. SK thought that a photograph of the well attended Waste Group could be used to show an example of HA21 activities. MO envisioned the group's Time Capsule project capturing people's interest. SK encouraged more picture-taking, including fun shots such as those of the Winter Social.

5.2 LR reminded trustees of the Communications and Media Policy produced last year by the Communications Working Group. Templates for publicity material and press releases had been delayed by the website problems.

Action Point: SK and LR to refer to the Communications and Media Policy and design a press release, based on the Waste Group, for submission to the local free papers.

5.3 As promised VM had emailed Cllr. Paul Osborn about promotion in the Harrow People magazine but had received no response.

5.4 MC wondered if the Education Group could target secondary schools and colleges, pointing out that Harrow School had a long history of community involvement. SK also praised St. Dominic's Sixth Form College. It was suggested their media departments might be interested in designing a new HA21 publicity leaflet or producing a newsletter for all of Harrow's high schools and colleges. HA21 would pay for the production costs.

Action Point: SK to contact St. Dominic's, Harrow School and the University of Westminster about the possibility of redesigning HA21's publicity leaflets.

- 5.5 CW asked what would happen to the HA21 telephone line and voicemail based at her home and if the contact number would be used in the publicity. SK was waiting for confirmation of an upgrade to a designated desk facility at the Community Premises, which would enable the installation of a landline and possibly the transfer of the number.
- 5.6 As discussed previously, SK had made contact with Harrow Community Radio, which was not yet operational, and had been offered a slot on air once it was set up. She was awaiting news from the station's David Gawn. MJ mentioned another local radio service due to start in Harrow.

Action Point: SK to follow up contact with Harrow Community Radio and investigate details of the other local radio station.

6. Action Plan Review

- 6.1 SK distributed a summary (attached) of the last meeting's start on reviewing the original Action Plan. Due to lack of attendance it had touched on only three of the five areas and had drawn blanks on whether or not many of the indicators and targets had been achieved. DS had since cast doubt on the validity of this exercise as the plan had depended on outside bodies over which HA21 had no control and concentrating on the future would be more productive. Nevertheless, LR and SK had felt it important to review the outcomes of the Action Plan before drawing a line under it. POD did not want to abandon the review either and offered to head up a Working Group to complete it, believing that answers to many of the outstanding queries on achievement would be available via the council.

Action Points: MC to book the Community Premises for a meeting of an Action Plan Review Working Group, comprising POD, MO, MC and possibly DL.

POD to seek answers from council departments about the indicators and whether or not targets were met.

7. New Direction – The Earth Charter

- 7.1 MO explained the background to the Earth Charter (attached). It was an international initiative operating within the United Nations. Like Agenda 21, it dated back to the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. Many towns worldwide had since adopted the charter, including only Glasgow and Bournemouth in the UK. It was a universal, common purpose document whose aims could be easily supported, even and especially by diverse populations such as Harrow's. There was no reason why it could not be endorsed by Harrow Council or Harrow Agenda 21, or both.

- 7.2 SK commended the Earth Charter as much smaller and easier to understand and act upon than the full United Nations Agenda 21 document. She recommended adopting it and using it to engage new grassroots members. CW agreed that it could be viewed as an extra tool to involve people as there was no conflict with Agenda 21. SK called for a vote on the proposal to endorse the charter.

Proposal: That Harrow Agenda 21 endorse the Earth Charter.

Votes- For: 9 Against: 0 Abstentions: 2

The proposal was carried.

Action Point: MO to contact Jeffrey Newman at Earth Charter UK to obtain glossy copies of the charter and ask for a speaker to address the HA21 AGM on 22 July.

- 7.3 For Harrow Council to consider endorsing the charter, POD recommended sending it forward to the Harrow Strategic Partnership Board. MJ said the process would have to be instigated by the local authority, for which JZ stressed it would need to be credible achievable by the council itself. SK asked that the Action Plan Review Working Group bear the charter in mind when considering the way forward.

8. Action Group Reports

Waste Management and Recycling

- 8.1 In follow up to his report (attached) MO explained that the consultation period for the West London Waste Plan had been extended due to delays. It was set to be discussed at forthcoming Greener Harrow meetings, as was Harrow's Waste Management Strategy. In response to MO's suggestion that the requirement for Site Waste Management Plans be referred to the Planning Group, JZ blamed legislation for sometimes having the unforeseen consequence of encouraging fly tipping by imposing huge costs on the construction industry for disposal of even top quality topsoil, for example.

Consumer

- 8.2 As mentioned in her report (attached), SK hoped that sharing meetings and energy with the Harrow Oxfam Campaign would boost the group and possibly help find a new Chair.
- 8.3 Due to lack of activity on the allotment project, the group had been forced by the council to give up its allotments in West Harrow. Instead it would be supporting African Sang's Shamba project, which had three sites elsewhere in Harrow and a paid co-ordinator funded by the National Lottery to encourage vegetable growing. JZ said that the council was now promoting allotments and some neighbourhoods were spending their Prosperity Action Team budgets on them. MJ drew attention to a general lack of awareness that some privately owned allotments were more expensive to rent than the council's own. MO explained that expectations about comparative rents stemmed back to wartime use of allotments.

Education

- 8.4 The content of MR's report (attached) was noted. She was praised for doing a splendid job as chair. Her absence from Executive Committee meetings since May 2008 was remarked upon. LR pointed out the Executive Committee's constitutional power to require a member who was absent from all its meetings for over six months without an acceptable reason to 'vacate their office'. It was assumed that MR's reasons for absence were valid and hoped that she would be attend the next meeting.

Planning

- 8.5 There was no written report as CW had expected a new Chair to be in place. She would try to gain Mark Brown's commitment at the following day's Greener Harrow meeting, if he was in attendance, or afterwards.

**Action Point: CW to make contact with Mark Brown and ascertain his interest in chairing the Planning Group.
SK to invite Mark Brown to a meeting with herself, CW, MO, MC, DS and former Transport and Air Pollution Group members to discuss the group's future.**

9. Minutes of the Last Executive Committee Meeting of 12 November

Accuracy

- 9.1 The minutes were proposed as a true record by PG and seconded by MC.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Matters Arising (if not covered above)

- 9.2 Item 9.2. The continuing lack of response from Deborah Ganley and Claire Codling about the list of residents' associations suggested that no such list existed, as originally suspected. The request would not be pursued further.

10. Any Other Business

- 10.1 SK thanked POD for arranging an impromptu pre-Christmas get-together at the Cumberland Hotel. The Winter Social in January had also been very enjoyable.

11. The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday 18th March 2009 in Committee Room 5

**Harrow Agenda 21 Executive Committee Meeting
Chair's Report
21st January 2009**

Progress since last EC meeting

- Continued development of Residents' Association Network.
- Contacted John Edwards and requested an officer to join the EC.
- Planning Group chairperson replacement

Work to be done before the next EC meeting

- Developing induction and training process for new volunteers.
- Follow up John Edwards regarding EC officer attendance.
- Work with Action Group Chairs to create campaigns around HA21's 2009 Calendar
- Follow up Deborah Ganley and Claire Codling regarding Residents Associations.

Issues

- Website difficulties have impacted on uploading website content – volunteer needed to help with maintaining website
- Greener Harrow & HA21 resources and interaction / impact with the HA21 Planning Group

Social, Economic, Leisure & Business

Who knows what happened about this and was it achieved?

Number		
Target 1	Need a copy of the Community Safety Plan 1997/98	Richard Walten
Target 2	Harrow Health Strategy	PCT
Target 3 a & b	UDP is now the LDF – anything in there about this?	Susan Hall / Marilyn Ashton
Target 4	Athsma	Education Dept
Target 5	Accidents	Social Services / Age Concern / HAD
Target 6		Is there anything in our own records?
Target 7		PG says that awareness has risen

How do we want to take this forward, if at all, and which members could help?

Target 1	Contact Richard Walten	Now PCSO's – HA21 not to interfere
Target 2		Now PCT's business
Target 3 a & b	Environmental Health - Fireworks	
Target 4		Marilyn Raymond to find out
Target 5	Many says in place	
Target 6		Madan? says threat of nuclear waste train has passed
Target 7		

Transport & Air Quality

Who knows what happened about this and was it achieved?

Indicator 1	Council will know. Don't know if achieved	
Indicator 2	Council have done a survey on car ownership level recently	
Indicator 3	Environmental Health Dept will know. A regular survey has been carried out.	
Indicator 4	Fuad Omar - Travel Plan Officer will know.- Don't know if achieved	
Indicator 5	Don't know if this was achieved Anthony Woods HPTUA / Fuad Omar LBH Travel Plan Officer / Brian Kerby TAP Group	
Indicator 6	Fuad Omar - Travel Plan Officer will know.- Don't know if achieved	

How do we want to take this forward, if at all, and which members could help?

	How do we want to take this forward, if at all?	Who could help?
Indicator 1	We want the data if they have reached the target of 5% by 2005 & 10% by 2010	Ask Jeremy Zeid & Cllr Yogesh Teli – Also Julian Maw & Brain Kerby
Indicator 2	Get a copy of the survey of car ownership and compare it to the target in the HA21 action plan	Ask Jeremy Zeid & Cllr Yogesh Teli – Also Julian Maw & Brain Kerby
Indicator 3	Specifically ask the question: levels of Nitrogen dioxide in Harrow	Ask Jeremy Zeid & Cllr Yogesh Teli – Also Julian Maw & Brain Kerby
Indicator 4	Get the data from Fuad Omar	Sarah Kersey to email him
Indicator 5	Ask for information on this	Anthony Woods / Brian Kerby / Fuad Omar
Indicator 6	Get the data from Fuad Omar	Sarah Kersey to email him

Waste & Energy

Who knows what happened about this & was it achieved?

Waste – Happened & is happening. Good contact between HA21 & Harrow Council Waste Dept		Do we need help on west waste?
Energy – Warm Front Scheme, London Concierge Green Homes. Ongoing this one is very recent		

How do we want to take this forward, if at all, and which members could help?

Energy – Need closer cooperation with Energy Conservation Officer (Saeed Atlas) What happened with business.		
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The Earth Charter

PREAMBLE

We stand at a critical moment in Earth's history, a time when humanity must choose its future. As the world becomes increasingly interdependent and fragile, the future at once holds great peril and great promise. To move forward we must recognize that in the midst of a magnificent diversity of cultures and life forms we are one human family and one Earth community with a common destiny. We must join together to bring forth a sustainable global society founded on respect for nature, universal human rights, economic justice, and a culture of peace. Towards this end, it is imperative that we, the peoples of Earth, declare our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life, and to future generations.

Earth, Our Home

Humanity is part of a vast evolving universe. Earth, our home, is alive with a unique community of life. The forces of nature make existence a demanding and uncertain adventure, but Earth has provided the conditions essential to life's evolution. The resilience of the community of life and the well-being of humanity depend upon preserving a healthy biosphere with all its ecological systems, a rich variety of plants and animals, fertile soils, pure waters, and clean air. The global environment with its finite resources is a common concern of all peoples. The protection of Earth's vitality, diversity, and beauty is a sacred trust.

The Global Situation

The dominant patterns of production and consumption are causing environmental devastation, the depletion of resources, and a massive extinction of species. Communities are being undermined. The benefits of development are not shared equitably and the gap between rich and poor is widening. Injustice, poverty, ignorance, and violent conflict are widespread and the cause of great suffering. An unprecedented rise in human population has overburdened ecological and social systems. The foundations of global security are threatened. These trends are perilous—but not inevitable.

The Challenges Ahead

The choice is ours: form a global partnership to care for Earth and one another or risk the destruction of ourselves and the diversity of life. Fundamental changes are needed in our values, institutions, and ways of living. We must realize that when basic needs have been met, human development is primarily about being more, not having more. We have the knowledge and technology to provide for all and to reduce our impacts on the environment. The emergence of a global civil society is creating new opportunities to build a democratic and humane world. Our environmental, economic, political, social, and spiritual challenges are interconnected, and together we can forge inclusive solutions.

Universal Responsibility

To realize these aspirations, we must decide to live with a sense of universal responsibility, identifying ourselves with the whole Earth community as well as our local communities. We are at once citizens of different nations and of one world in which the local and global are linked. Everyone shares responsibility for the present and future well-being of the human family and the larger living world. The spirit of human solidarity and kinship with all life is strengthened when we live with reverence for the mystery of being, gratitude for the gift of life, and humility regarding the human place in nature.

We urgently need a shared vision of basic values to provide an ethical foundation for the emerging world community. Therefore, together in hope we affirm the following interdependent principles for a sustainable way of life as a common standard by which the conduct of all individuals, organizations, businesses, governments, and transnational institutions is to be guided and assessed.

PRINCIPLES

I. RESPECT AND CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY OF LIFE

1. Respect Earth and life in all its diversity.

- a. Recognize that all beings are interdependent and every form of life has value regardless of its worth to human beings.
- b. Affirm faith in the inherent dignity of all human beings and in the intellectual, artistic, ethical, and spiritual potential of humanity.

2. Care for the community of life with understanding, compassion, and love.

- a. Accept that with the right to own, manage, and use natural resources comes the duty to prevent environmental harm and to protect the rights of people.
- b. Affirm that with increased freedom, knowledge, and power comes increased responsibility to promote the common good.

3. Build democratic societies that are just, participatory, sustainable, and peaceful.

- a. Ensure that communities at all levels guarantee human rights and fundamental freedoms and provide everyone an opportunity to realize his or her full potential.
- b. Promote social and economic justice, enabling all to achieve a secure and meaningful livelihood that is ecologically responsible.

4. Secure Earth's bounty and beauty for present and future generations.

- a. Recognize that the freedom of action of each generation is qualified by the needs of future generations.
- b. Transmit to future generations values, traditions, and institutions that support the long-term flourishing of Earth's human and ecological communities.

In order to fulfill these four broad commitments, it is necessary to:

II. ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY

5. Protect and restore the integrity of Earth's ecological systems, with special concern for biological diversity and the natural processes that sustain life.

- a. Adopt at all levels sustainable development plans and regulations that make environmental conservation and rehabilitation integral to all development initiatives.
- b. Establish and safeguard viable nature and biosphere reserves, including wild lands and marine areas, to protect Earth's life support systems, maintain biodiversity, and preserve our natural heritage.
- c. Promote the recovery of endangered species and ecosystems.
- d. Control and eradicate non-native or genetically modified organisms harmful to native species and the environment, and prevent introduction of such harmful organisms.
- e. Manage the use of renewable resources such as water, soil, forest products, and marine life in ways that do not exceed rates of regeneration and that protect the health of ecosystems.
- f. Manage the extraction and use of non-renewable resources such as minerals and fossil fuels in ways that minimize depletion and cause no serious environmental damage.

6. Prevent harm as the best method of environmental protection and, when knowledge is limited, apply a precautionary approach.

- a. Take action to avoid the possibility of serious or irreversible environmental harm even when scientific knowledge is incomplete or inconclusive.
- b. Place the burden of proof on those who argue that a proposed activity will not cause significant harm, and make the responsible parties liable for environmental harm.
- c. Ensure that decision making addresses the cumulative, long-term, indirect, long distance, and global consequences of human activities.
- d. Prevent pollution of any part of the environment and allow no build-up of radioactive, toxic, or other hazardous substances.
- e. Avoid military activities damaging to the environment.

7. Adopt patterns of production, consumption, and reproduction that safeguard Earth's regenerative capacities, human rights, and community well-being.

- a. Reduce, reuse, and recycle the materials used in production and consumption systems, and ensure that residual waste can be assimilated by ecological systems.
- b. Act with restraint and efficiency when using energy, and rely increasingly on renewable energy sources such as solar and wind.
- c. Promote the development, adoption, and equitable transfer of environmentally sound technologies.
- d. Internalize the full environmental and social costs of goods and services in the selling price, and enable consumers to identify products that meet the highest social and environmental standards.
- e. Ensure universal access to health care that fosters reproductive health and responsible reproduction.
- f. Adopt lifestyles that emphasize the quality of life and material sufficiency in a finite world.

8. Advance the study of ecological sustainability and promote the open exchange and wide application of the knowledge acquired.

- a. Support international scientific and technical cooperation on sustainability, with special attention to the needs of developing nations.
- b. Recognize and preserve the traditional knowledge and spiritual wisdom in all cultures that contribute to environmental protection and human well-being.
- c. Ensure that information of vital importance to human health and environmental protection, including genetic information, remains available in the public domain.

III. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

9. Eradicate poverty as an ethical, social, and environmental imperative.

- a. Guarantee the right to potable water, clean air, food security, uncontaminated soil, shelter, and safe sanitation, allocating the national and international resources required.
- b. Empower every human being with the education and resources to secure a sustainable livelihood, and provide social security and safety nets for those who are unable to support themselves.
- c. Recognize the ignored, protect the vulnerable, serve those who suffer, and enable them to develop their capacities and to pursue their aspirations.

10. Ensure that economic activities and institutions at all levels promote human development in an equitable and sustainable manner.

- a. Promote the equitable distribution of wealth within nations and among nations.
- b. Enhance the intellectual, financial, technical, and social resources of developing nations, and relieve them of onerous international debt.
- c. Ensure that all trade supports sustainable resource use, environmental protection, and progressive labor standards.
- d. Require multinational corporations and international financial organizations to act transparently in the public good, and hold them accountable for the consequences of their activities.

11. Affirm gender equality and equity as prerequisites to sustainable development and ensure universal access to education, health care, and economic opportunity.

- a. Secure the human rights of women and girls and end all violence against them.
- b. Promote the active participation of women in all aspects of economic, political, civil, social, and cultural life as full and equal partners, decision makers, leaders, and beneficiaries.
- c. Strengthen families and ensure the safety and loving nurture of all family members.

12. Uphold the right of all, without discrimination, to a natural and social environment supportive of human dignity, bodily health, and spiritual well-being, with special attention to the rights of indigenous peoples and minorities.

- a. Eliminate discrimination in all its forms, such as that based on race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, language, and national, ethnic or social origin.
- b. Affirm the right of indigenous peoples to their spirituality, knowledge, lands and resources and to their related practice of sustainable livelihoods.
- c. Honor and support the young people of our communities, enabling them to fulfill their essential role in creating sustainable societies.
- d. Protect and restore outstanding places of cultural and spiritual significance.

IV. DEMOCRACY, NONVIOLENCE, AND PEACE

13. Strengthen democratic institutions at all levels, and provide transparency and accountability in governance, inclusive participation in decision making, and access to justice.

- a. Uphold the right of everyone to receive clear and timely information on environmental matters and all development plans and activities which are likely to affect them or in which they have an interest.
- b. Support local, regional and global civil society, and promote the meaningful participation of all interested individuals and organizations in decision making.
- c. Protect the rights to freedom of opinion, expression, peaceful assembly, association, and dissent.
- d. Institute effective and efficient access to administrative and independent judicial procedures, including remedies and redress for environmental harm and the threat of such harm.
- e. Eliminate corruption in all public and private institutions.
- f. Strengthen local communities, enabling them to care for their environments, and assign environmental responsibilities to the levels of government where they can be carried out most effectively.

14. Integrate into formal education and life-long learning the knowledge, values, and skills needed for a sustainable way of life.

- a. Provide all, especially children and youth, with educational opportunities that empower them to contribute actively to sustainable development.
- b. Promote the contribution of the arts and humanities as well as the sciences in sustainability education.
- c. Enhance the role of the mass media in raising awareness of ecological and social challenges.
- d. Recognize the importance of moral and spiritual education for sustainable living.

15. Treat all living beings with respect and consideration.

- a. Prevent cruelty to animals kept in human societies and protect them from suffering.
- b. Protect wild animals from methods of hunting, trapping, and fishing that cause extreme, prolonged, or avoidable suffering.
- c. Avoid or eliminate to the full extent possible the taking or destruction of non-targeted species.

16. Promote a culture of tolerance, nonviolence, and peace.

- a. Encourage and support mutual understanding, solidarity, and cooperation among all peoples and within and among nations.
- b. Implement comprehensive strategies to prevent violent conflict and use collaborative problem solving to manage and resolve environmental conflicts and other disputes.
- c. Demilitarize national security systems to the level of a non-provocative defense posture, and convert military resources to peaceful purposes, including ecological restoration.
- d. Eliminate nuclear, biological, and toxic weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.
- e. Ensure that the use of orbital and outer space supports environmental protection and peace.
- f. Recognize that peace is the wholeness created by right relationships with oneself, other persons, other cultures, other life, Earth, and the larger whole of which all are a part.

THE WAY FORWARD

As never before in history, common destiny beckons us to seek a new beginning. Such renewal is the promise of these Earth Charter principles. To fulfill this promise, we must commit ourselves to adopt and promote the values and objectives of the Charter.

This requires a change of mind and heart. It requires a new sense of global interdependence and universal responsibility. We must imaginatively develop and apply the vision of a sustainable way of life locally, nation-ally, regionally, and globally. Our cultural diversity is a precious heritage and different cultures will find their own distinctive ways to realize the vision. We must deepen and expand the global dialogue that generated the Earth Charter, for we have much to learn from the ongoing collaborative search for truth and wisdom.

Life often involves tensions between important values. This can mean difficult choices. However, we must find ways to harmonize diversity with unity, the exercise of freedom with the common good, short-term objectives with long-term goals. Every individual, family, organization, and community has a vital role to play. The arts, sciences, religions, educational institutions, media, businesses, nongovernmental organizations, and governments are all called to offer creative leadership. The partnership of government, civil society, and business is essential for effective governance.

In order to build a sustainable global community, the nations of the world must renew their commitment to the United Nations, fulfill their obligations under existing international agreements, and support the implementation of Earth Charter principles with an international legally binding instrument on environment and development.

Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life.

**Harrow Agenda 21 Executive Committee Meeting
Waste Management & Recycling Group Report
21st January 2009**

Progress since last EC meeting

- Harrow Waste Management Strategy now issued for public comment – some of Group's comments on preliminary draft accepted.
- Members of Group attended Harrow's West London Waste Plan meeting.
- Separation of plastics for recycling – replies from WRAP and BPF – have raised issue in other Greater London forums with enthusiastic response.
- Disappointing response from Royal Mail to both MSO & Daniel McKeon – Greenwash! Needs an article in In Contact.
- Time capsule project – article drafted for Education Group and published in their Spring Newsletter.

Work to be done before the next EC meeting

- Members of Group with interests in energy intend to join in work of Planning Group, and to visit Ecobuild.
- Visit to Frog Island still to be arranged (retained from last report).
- Development of projects – MRF operators not prepared to allow access for Group to film "What happens to Waste" – but possible filming for Time Capsule project being investigated.
- Group to make comments on WLWP and on the Public Comment stage of Harrow Waste Strategy, and to attend Greener Harrow January & March meetings on both plans.

Issues

- Waste Group has no permanent secretary – suggestions?
- Batteries – consultation doc (URN: 08/1488 produced by BERR on 22.12.08 for comment by 13.2.09) aims for shops etc. to take back used batteries – Group to investigate what is happening already.
- Site Waste Management Plans have been required since Apr 2008 (intended to improve waste disposal from sites and reduce fly-tipping). BRE run SmartWaste and offer advice. Refer to Planning Group?

MSO 13.1.09

**Harrow Agenda 21 Executive Committee Meeting
Consumer Action Group
21st January 2009**

Progress since last EC meeting

- Group meeting took place in December – we will be holding regular group meeting with the Harrow Oxfam Campaign group – to build numbers and support campaigns.
- Fair Trade Fortnight activities – Tea Time in St Annes Centre
- Community Allotment Project – we have given up the allotments as there is increasing need for space for new allotment tenants and a lack of activity on the project. We will support the new allotment project being developed by the local group African Sang.

Work to be done before the next EC meeting

- Fair Trade Fortnight activities
- Create publicity of Consumer Group meetings locally
- Promote the African Sang allotment project to members through the members newsletter

Issues

- We are seeking new ideas for the way forward for the Consumer Group. Possible merging with the Harrow Oxfam Campaign group may identify a new Chair. Are there any other local groups who could be invited to Consumer Group meetings?

**Harrow Agenda 21 Executive Committee Meeting
Education Group
21st January 2009**

Progress since last EC meeting

- Monies for LSEA 'type' award from Harrow not forthcoming at present time (see previous report).
- Open Meeting - Thursday 20th November at St Teresa's F&M School, Long Elmes 4.00- 5.30pm, 'Setting up of an Environment Club' courtesy of Margaret Atwill, Margaret provided us with an extremely useful overview on starting an Environment Club.
- At this meeting it was decided that future Committee meetings would now become hands on particularly as this way we'll get immediate feedback and suggestions from members. This worked well at our Autumn Meeting, at which the consensus for our Spring Meeting was to take advantage of the longer evenings and have a guided walk over Bentley Priory Open Space, the Site of Scientific Interest, a valuable Harrow site for staff & pupils.
- Spring Meeting as above, to be held on **Thursday 19th March**, with Peter Peretti, the Priory warden acting as guide.
- Summer Meeting - **Thursday 25th June**, where following requests, Three Valleys Environment Centre and Waterworks will host a follow up to our previous summer trip.
- Schools received copies of the HA21, part sponsored, autumn edition of Environmental Education magazine produced by the NAEF which focused on Harrow schools.

Work to be done before the next EC meeting

- Liaise with Rupal so that Spring Edition of Newsletter out, mid January
- Liaison with Peter Peretti re format for 19th March

Issues

As Before

- Clarify future costs to schools of recycling and bin collection
- Try to get these costs cancelled as schools not a business (given in one budget & removed by another!)
- Funding for Lunch/Afternoon Clubs