

MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE GLOVER ROOM AT 13:30 ON THURSDAY 13 OCTOBER 2022

<p>Present: Prof Andrew Balmford (Chairman) Lizzie Ashworth (Conference and Marketing Associate) Lee Corke (Catering Manager) Dr Jo Costin (Secretary) Prof Andrew Friend (Fellow) Isobel Greenhalgh (MCR Rep 2022-23) Kate Hargreaves (Head Gardener) Deborah Hoy (Estates Director) Haley Huang (UCS Rep 2022-23) Shreya Patel (Clare Goes Green) Dr André Cabrera Serrenho (Fellow)</p>		
Item (a)	Summary (b)	Action (c)
1 Apologies for Absence	Jackie Searle (Accommodation Manager) Dr William Foster (Fellow)	
2 Committee Matters	Jackie Searle Retirement: The Committee thanked Jackie Searle for lots of innovations for reducing Clare’s footprint, implementing many ideas from the committee, and stalwart input over the long term. The start date for the new Accommodation Manager was not known. It was important to meet with the incoming Accommodation Manager as early as possible.	
3 Declarations of Interest	There were no Declarations of Interest.	
4 Minutes and Matters Arising	Minutes: The minutes of 5 May 2022 were agreed. Staff Representative: Andrew Balmford will follow up with William Foster on appointing a new Staff Representative. Website: The new website has not gone live yet, however the web pages for the Environment Section have all been updated. Key Points from Carbon Footprint Report: The key areas where the College’s carbon footprint could be reduced were: student composting; drastic reduction in ruminant meat consumption; more efficient use of heating. These were discussed at a pre-meeting on 4 October.	AB
4 Green Impact Update	Sustainable Travel: New items on Sustainable Travel; Andrew Balmford was able to assist with this. The University has introduced a new travel policy and offset strategy.	

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	<p>with additional Ground Source Heat Pumps (GSHP), with the ASHP located in the skip compound. More detailed work commissioned, with the 10 year plan including for some of the work to start next year. Surveys carried out of the buildings, and at present it looks like existing emitters can be retained and only the windows upgraded, with potential in the future to add wall insulation as staircases are refurbished.</p> <p>Old Court: There was scope for an engineering student to carry out heating trials in Old Court, where a Water Source Heat Pump is being considered (long term).</p> <p>69 Alpha Road: Over the summer, the College's first ASHP was installed at 69 Alpha Road. The building was also insulated. The ASHP is up and running, though there have been some controls issues.</p> <p>Braeside: Started on site. As part of the expansion from 17 rooms to 19 rooms, an ASHP will be installed on the edge of Castle Mound. This is a much larger project.</p> <p>Net Zero Strategy: This has been loosely translated into the 10 year programme, to note the technology requirements as buildings are refurbished.</p> <p>Staircase Heating Project: To be carried out in Memorial Court later in Michaelmas term. Staircases will be switched to different settings (normal, heat pump equivalent, half way between) for a week at a time, with temperatures monitored in selected rooms and a weekly survey sent out. Students will not be told which setting their staircase is on at any given time, but will be told the trial is happening.</p> <p>Vacation Heating: Last year students were asked whether they were in residence or not, and as soon as everyone in a building was out the heating was turned down. Moving people was possible in Memorial Court, but more difficult at Castle Court as the licence would need amending. To look at this for next year. Deborah Hoy is discussing further with the Bursar before Christmas. Other Colleges do routinely move students over the vacation period. Andrew Balmford will raise with Ian Burrows (Rooms Tutor). <i>[Post Meeting Note: A meeting has been held to review moving students and changing the licence for future years.]</i></p>	JC
<p>8 Gardens</p>	<p>Machinery: Additional battery powered equipment has been purchased and the department is gradually moving away from petrol machinery.</p> <p>Wild Walk: Ed Turner's Wild Walk was well received, and a write up went out on the University's Greenlines newsletter. Ed has agreed to do another on the borders next year.</p> <p>Wild Areas: More natural wild areas have been planted, and enough seeds were produced to get a good display next year. Additional drought tolerant seeds being looked into, as some flowers died early.</p> <p>Biodiversity Report: University report in progress, Clare section has been received in draft but full report not yet released.</p> <p>Allotments: Two beds in the Braeside area lost to provide the contractor with a site compound, and another space has been identified in the interim. This is a temporary measure and will be</p>	

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	reinstated once the project is complete. The majority of the allotment is still available (1.5m taken off).	
9 Conferencing	<p>Christmas Dinners: Crackers with plastic wrappings will not be used at Christmas, investigating alternatives which will not produce plastic waste.</p> <p>Recycling: Over the summer, new recycling bins used with pictorial signage, which helped with recycling at larger events.</p> <p>Menus: New Autumn / Winter menu has additional vegetarian options. ARM were prepared to look at alternatives to ruminant meat, but it was difficult to get away from it entirely (particularly for BBQ events). Generally finding not as much red meat is being chosen, although lamb remains popular.</p> <p>Meeting with ARM: Tastings take place in February, happy for Andrew Balmford to discuss sustainable menu options with ARM at the same time.</p>	LA / AB
10 Catering	<p>Kitchen Gas Use: Looking at changing the Memorial Court kitchen spaces to electricity (induction hobs). Not currently on the 10 year programme. Main kitchen will be on gas.</p> <p>Green Formal: Next Green Formal is next Tuesday. Fellows to be informed of when these come up.</p> <p>Buttery Food: Trial removal of ruminant meat / issue of ruminant meat more generally to go to the next Catering Advisory Committee. Concern that if a survey was put in first, a large number of complaints would be received. There was also concern about adding more pork to the menu, preference was for chicken to avoid restricting what people could eat.</p>	LC LC
12 Dates for Next Meetings	<p>19 Jan 2023 – Glover Room</p> <p>4 May 2023 - TBC</p>	

Distribution:

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MCR President
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