

MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE GLOVER ROOM AT 13:30 ON THURSDAY 19 JANUARY 2023

<p>Present: Prof Andrew Balmford (Chairman) Lee Corke (Catering Manager) Dr Jo Costin (Secretary) Dr William Foster (Fellow) Deborah Hoy (Estates Director) Haley Huang (UCS Rep 2022-23) Dr André Cabrera Serrenho</p>		
Item	Summary	Action
1 Apologies for Absence	Lizzie Ashworth (Conference and Marketing Associate) Prof Andrew Friend (Fellow) Isobel Greenhalgh (MCR Rep 2022) Shreya Patel (Clare Goes Green)	
2 Declarations of Interest	There were no declarations of interest.	
3 Minutes	The minutes of 13 October 2022 were agreed.	
4 Committee Matters	Staff Representative: Jo Costin to contact Sally Hodges about joining the Committee. MCR Representative: Isobel Greenhalgh has withdrawn from the committee. The committee thanked her for her work while in post. A new MCR rep is to be elected, Jo Costin will confirm with the MCR President.	
4 Green Impact Update	Remaining Actions: As far as possible all actions currently being done as a matter of course to be updated by the 31 January, to give a clear picture of what remains. Platinum Award will be difficult to achieve. Student Role: There is support for a 3 hour/week student role to cover Utilities and Sustainability, but this has not been fully confirmed yet. Travel: Travel actions are being looked at, these cover staff travel funded by the College. The University Travel Policy includes guidelines but the offsets will not be available for College use. Using part of travel grant money for offsets may be difficult to sell to students if it means a reduction in the size of the grant. However, the cost of offsets are still minor in comparison with the cost of the journey overall. Choir Travel: Jo to follow up on the previous proposal of a Choir project to monitor and offset Choir travel with the new Head of the Chapel Office. Excellence Project: Jo to circulate the diagrams from the Memorial Heating Project.	

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<p style="text-align: center;">5 UCS Update</p>	<p>Staircase Competition: To run from Monday for 3 weeks – 23 Jan to 10 Feb. Due to the heating project, the focus will be on turning off lights, unplugging devices and closing windows. Lee has agreed free formal tickets, probably to tie in with the Veganuary Formal (assuming places remaining). Haley will follow up once the winning staircase is known.</p> <p>Veganuary: Running during weeks 1-4, with a mailing list to share vegan recipes and events around Cambridge. A vegan formal and pot luck will also be held.</p> <p>Student Loan Scheme: Haley is planning to get in touch with the May Ball committee to organise an inventory of I basement. The loan scheme should then be fairly straightforward to set up.</p> <p>Composting: Not much progress on this item.</p> <p>Mailings: General sustainability information has been integrated into the Veganuary emails. Jo will circulate the sign up link to staff and fellows to say that it is available from Clare Goes Green and invite people to sign up.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">6 Buildings</p>	<p>Memorial Court Heating Project: Flow temperature testing was carried out in Memorial Court before Christmas, some of this was successful, some less successful in the cold snap. All data was sent to the specialist M&E advisors, and they have used this in system design. As the temperatures in rooms were too low during the cold period on the lower temperatures, two sets of compressors are required, but an ASHP is viable with a double array. This will enable the project to work without any fabric upgrades. The College is also looking at double glazing the sash windows, which would make the system more efficient. A draft report has been received and will be circulated. Although heat pumps are an existing technology, they have not been widely used in historic buildings. The main issue is around the really cold days – the current boilers have been built with so much redundancy that they are able to manage. Andrew and Andre to be invited to future meetings with the M&E consultant.</p> <p>Flow Temperatures on Other Sites: A student project to do similar work on other sites would be very valuable.</p> <p>Net Carbon Zero Route Map: Taken to Estates last year, but did not progress further within the College. Further understanding around costs of implementation are required. Some items have been picked up in the 10 year programme (double glazing, boilers to sustainable solution when at end of life), but more detailed information is needed to create a plan for implementation. Strategic adoption of key route map actions beyond Estates Committee is also needed.</p> <p>Student Rental Licenses: Proposal for an eco-licence is being discussed. Care is being taken to avoid picking the ‘worst’ buildings for this scheme. This would involve asking students planning to stay up over vacations not to occupy these buildings as the heating would be turned right down, but belongings could be left in situ. Consideration will also be given to moving students.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">7 Gardens</p>	<p>Wild Walk: Jo to confirm a date with Kate and Ed.</p>	

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<p>8 Catering</p>	<p>Meat Figures: Circulated prior to the meeting. These show that following discussion at the Catering Advisory Committee, the removal of beef and lamb from the Buttery Dinner and Fellows' Lunch menus has already resulted in reductions in purchases. There has been no negative feedback. Lee hopes to provide data on the relative sales of meat, fish, vegetarian and vegan meals in due course</p> <p>Change in Footprint: Michaelmas 2022 had the second lowest meat purchasing (only one that was lower was Michaelmas 2020, when few people were in residence). This shows data for half a term of the switch only, and it is anticipated that a substantial difference will be visible in Lent term, as beef has five times the footprint of pork, and chicken has an even smaller footprint.</p> <p>Sustainable Meat: The Irish Meat Board claims that their meat is more sustainable than average. A report has been received from Alliance Farmers (New Zealand) who say that their product is carbon neutral. The report has been checked by AB's postdoc who raised several queries, which Lee will raise with the group.</p> <p>Veggie Mondays: These are ongoing, and Lee has been asked Veggie Mondays by another College.</p>	
<p>9 Dates for Next Meetings</p>	<p>4 May 2023</p>	

Distribution:

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 Lizzie Ashworth (Conference and Marketing Associate)
 Lee Corke (Catering Manager)
 Dr Jo Costin (Secretary)
 Dr William Foster (Fellow)
 Prof Andrew Friend (Fellow)
 Isobel Greenhalgh (MCR Rep 2021-22)
 Kate Hargreaves (Head Gardener)
 Deborah Hoy (Estates Director)
 Hayley Huang (UCS Rep 2022-23)
 Shreya Patel (Clare Goes Green)
 Jackie Searle (Accommodation Manager)
 Dr André Cabrera Serrenho