

MINUTES

Greensand Ridge LAG Steering Group

16 October 2009

9:45-11:15 am

Community Room, The Old School, Cardington

Present: Joel Carré, BRCC
Fiona Bryant, EEDA
Bridget Smith, Forward Gamlingay
Helen Shore, Central Bedfordshire Council
Leanne Bacon, Gamlingay Parish Council
Richard James, Haynes Parish Council
Mark Smith, CVS
Jon Boswell, BRCC
David Morgan, Beds and Cambs Rural Support Group (Chairman)
Gill Welham, Greensand Trust
Diane Budd, Business Link
Sue Norman, BRCC (Part)
Caron Kendall (minutes)

		Actions
1.	Welcome and apologies	
1.1	The Chair welcomed Fiona Bryant - EEDA, Caron Kendall – project Manager; and Sue Norman –facilitator for the Gamlingay project.	
1.2	Apologies: Sara Hind	
2.	Register any conflicts of interest	
2.1	None recorded	

3.	Minutes of last meeting	
3.1	Minutes of 21 Aug 2009 were agreed and signed as a true record.	
3.2	Ref. Minute 6.1 The chair explained that whilst this meeting was meant to consider the Working Woodland Centre (WWC) stage 3 (full business case) project appraisal report, the appraiser Gill Eden, hadn't been able to complete the appraisal of the full business case, due to time constraints.	
3.3	Two critical dates for the Greensand Trust were discussed 23 October 2009 (project steering group) and 28 October ratification by Greensand Trust.	
3.4	It was therefore agreed to find a date within the next week to hold an extraordinary meeting of the LAG to receive the appraiser's report.	Joel/Caron
3.5	The chair explained the background to why there was only one suitable assessor in the LAG area	
3.4	Helen suggested that there were other trained project appraisers in Central Bedfordshire Council who could be utilised. Names of assessors to be emailed to Joel.	Helen
4.	Update from accountable body	
4.1	Joel Carré and Caron Kendall took members through the written update report which had been previously circulated ahead of meeting.	
4.2	Fiona informed the group that spend can happen after 2013 as long as it has been approved.	

5.	Stage 2 Concept application Gamlingay Eco Hub project	
5.1	Bridget and Leanne gave a PowerPoint presentation and tabled a hard copy handout on the Gamlingay Eco-Hub Project submission.	
5.2	The Group considered that the project met the provisions of the Local Delivery Strategy and was very well presented. It was agreed that they should be invited to submit a full business case for consideration	
5.3	The Group suggested that the number of objectives for the project should be reduced and to emphasise the economic benefits and outputs that the project will deliver.	
5.4	The group proposed that the applicant should consider ways to strengthen the green credentials of the project and would therefore consider extra RDPE funding for green initiatives if they could be justified.	
5.5	Joel to draft a letter inviting the applicant to progress to stage 3 (full business case) with the above conditions as recommendations.	Joel
6.	3 year delivery plan 2010-12	
6.1	Joel Carré informed the group that the team were working on a draft delivery plan which he would email to the group once complete. Responses would be needed by the end of October.	Joel All
7.	Any Other Business	
7.1	It was agreed that Amanda Crack from the RSPB should be invited to join the LAG Steering Group	David
7.2	Bridget to present the Gamlingay Eco-Hub project to the LAG meeting of 4 December	Bridget
8.	Date of next meeting	
	Tuesday, 17 November, 2009, 9:45-11:30am at Cardington.	