

05Green Impact
22/7/16

Action

16 Attendance

16.1 Present

Linda Collett
Susan Dickenson
Georgia Elderkin
Jo Harbrow
Sarah Johnson
Leigh Rooney
Jamie Smith
Guy Stepney

16.2 Apologies

Grace Anderson
Fiona Caslake
Charlie Hinch
Tom Manville
Kat Younger

16.3 Absent

17 Acceptance of previous minutes

17.1 Accuracy

OK

17.2 Matters arising

All actions from the previous meeting had been completed.

LC introduced the meeting for the benefit of the new officers and requested their support throughout the year. LR agreed to take the lead on green issues on behalf of the officer team.

LR

18 Items for discussion

18.1 Green Pitch 2016-17

LC gave some background on the Green Pitch competition and noted that, as it now appears in the University's Sustainability Strategy, the SU was committed to continuing with the competition. She presented the suggestions which had so far been made and asked for feedback and input.

It was agreed that the suggestions gave more scope for creativity and tied in well with societies. It was also agreed that it would be good to celebrate by having an award presented at the SU Awards ceremony.

Although the SU would be trying to implement as many ideas from students as possible in the coming year, many of which had an environmental theme, it was agreed that it was

necessary to keep the competition element of the Green Pitch, although the winning idea could be voted by a panel rather than by a student vote. It was suggested that any green ideas should be filtered to the Green Impact group.

After some discussion it was agreed that the best way forward would be to meet with the organisers of the Big and Little Pitches, and with the GSI to establish how they might be able to assist.

LC/JH

18.2 ISO14001 internal audit

LC explained that the audits had taken place on both campuses and that an improvement had been recorded over last year's audit. However, there had been some opportunities for improvement: to measure, record and monitor energy consumption at specific events and to set targets to demonstrate delivery of environmental policy.

It was agreed that the Freshers' fairs would be interesting events to start with and that energy and printing could be measured. JH to look at acquiring plugs and GS to ensure that recommendations on printing quantities from the Freshers' committee were brought to this meeting.

JH/GS

18.3 Review of Environmental policy

It was noted that the existing policy had not been reviewed since its inception in 2012. It was also noted that the University had updated their policy to make it more engaging, including the use of graphics. It was agreed that LC would look at both policies and draft a revised policy for the SU. This would then be circulated for feedback before asking CH to provide suitable graphics. It was also agreed that the policy would have a project plan attached to it setting out the objectives/targets for the year.

LC

18.4 Review of environmental activity action plan

The environmental activity action plan was taken to the Board of Trustees twice a year. It was agreed that in future, this would dovetail with the project plan (see 18.3). It was agreed that sustainability should be built into the staff induction process, and that there should be a staff policy in the staff handbook outlining how staff should consider the environment in the course of their work, but particularly when considering purchasing.

LC/SD

18.5 Review of Fairtrade policy

It was noted that the University would need to re-apply for Fairtrade status this year and that, as one of the five goals states that both the SU and University should pass a Fairtrade policy, the SU policy would need to be reviewed. It was agreed that this would be done after the re-writing of the environmental policy and project plan.

SJ

19 Any other business

19.1 Green Impact

It was noted that ARU Students' Union had achieved a Gold standard for the first time in this year's award. This was a huge achievement and it was important that this standard be maintained. It was noted that support from all staff and officers would be needed in order for this to happen.

19.2 Green Gown shortlist

SJ reported that the application to the Green Gown awards that the University had submitted on the Green Fund scheme had been shortlisted. The next stage would be the production of a ten-minute video, which would be required by October. SJ requested assistance in the production of the video.

Date and time of next meeting

Friday 9 September – 10.00-12.00 – video conference