

GREM Member Meeting – Wednesday 24th February 2016

Room 1 at RISC – 8:00 pm

Agenda

1. Welcome, introductions, and apologies;
2. Minutes of last member meeting held on 10th October 2015
<http://www.grem.org.uk/resources/151007GREMMembersMinutes.pdf>
3. Updates from GREM Officers and Committee:
 - Chair - PC
 - Treasurer – AC
 - Secretary – JB
4. Updates from GREM representatives on other bodies:
 - Cycling Forum – TR
 - Reading Climate Change Partnership – JB
 - Social Value in Public Commissioning Project - TM
5. GREM Climate Change Seminars
 - Funding from RCCP agreed – need to discuss topics and speakers with ‘steering group’ – *see Notes 1 below*.
6. Should GREM respond to Local Plan ‘Issues and Options’ consultation www.reading.gov.uk/newlocalplan ? – comments needed by 7th March – *see Notes 2 below*
7. Possible GREM ‘Hustings’ for the local elections in May
8. Members’ Forum – Networking Opportunity
 - JB to mention campaign against M4 widening
 - Any other topics most welcome - please let us know beforehand or at the meeting
9. GREM's future activities – what else should we be doing? - how can GREM help you or your organisation?
10. A.O.B.
11. Date and location of next meeting.

Notes 1: GREN Climate Change Seminars

Discussion at GREN AGM in November 2015 concluded GREN could run a series of talks if RCCP did not want to.

RCCP members consulted in January 2016 preferred GREN to take a lead on this.

Application to RCCP for £300 grant to run 4 talks in first half of 2016 was accepted at end January 2016, subject to:

- RCCP to be acknowledged in publicity and at meetings.
- Steering group of GREN Committee + Dr. Rayner Mayer + Daniel Fernbank + Chris Beales
- Report, suitable for publication on RCAN, on each talk to be submitted to RCCP.

Notes 2: Issues and Options for Reading 2036:

Development of the new plan is expected to take until 2018 – with a consultation stage on a draft Plan in 2017. The Consultation page <http://www.reading.gov.uk/newlocalplan> - includes links to the 'Issues and Options' document and the 'Sustainability Appraisal'.

RBC Planning Policy page <http://www.reading.gov.uk/readingldf>

The Sustainability Appraisal takes climate change mitigation and adaptation as the first two of twenty 'Sustainability Objectives' against which proposals and options are assessed, and gives many issues negative scores. The 'Issues and Options' document is structured around 37 questions (listed in its Appendix 2). We should identify a sub-set of the proposals, options and questions to concentrate on.

As well as the Issues and Options Document and its Sustainability Appraisal we should consider how climate issues have been taken account of in the Berkshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment (referred to in 3.5 of the document) and the Thames Valley Berkshire LEP Strategic Economic Plan (referred to in 3.23 of the document) – the documents from which Reading's housing and economic development numbers are derived.

Berkshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment - 2016 version is awaited – Stakeholder Meeting Report with numbers is at http://www.reading.gov.uk/media/4104/SHMA-Presentation-Stakeholder-Event/pdf/SHMA_Presentation_Stakeholder_Event_201015.pdf

Thames Valley Berkshire LEP Strategic Economic Plan
http://thamesvalleyberkshire.co.uk/Strategic_Economic_Plan

Version: 7th February 2016