Environment and Sustainability Committee

10/28 A meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Committee was held on Monday 15 November 2010 in Committee Room 2, Whiteknights House.

There were present:

- Professor R.H. Ellis (Chair)
- Mr F. Beck
- Mr A. Brand
- Mr I.J.T. Cruickshank
- Mrs C.A. Derham
- Dr A. Elmualim
- Miss S. Johnson
- Dr S. Musson
- Mrs J.L. Pich
- Mr C. Robbins
- Mrs D.A. Shearman
- Mrs M.E. Simpson
- Mr A.G. Tooley
- Ms L.V. Sharman (secretary)

Apologies were received from Miss Lazarczyk and Ms Prior.

10/29 Minutes of the last meeting

The Committee approved the minutes 10/22 to 10/27 of the last meeting held on 22 September 2010.

10/30 Travel

Report from the Transport Forum
The Committee received and noted a summary of the Transport Forum held on 28 October.

It was noted that the Forum had been established in response to a planning requirement. The Forum had met on three occasions and was very well attended with broad representation from across the University.

It was reported that membership of the Hertz Car Club now stood at 110. Branding of Reading Buses had taken place to advertise the University of
Reading new bus pass at £99 per term. Meetings were continuing to negotiate improved bus timetables especially for links from Bulmershe to Whiteknights.

Parking on campus had been discussed at some length. It was generally agreed that there was a change in perception taking place; it was more accepted that a parking permit was a licence to hunt for space and not a guarantee. Data had been collected from other Universities which show that permits elsewhere were more limited with costs ranging from £200-£500.

There was some discussion amongst the Committee on what arrangements were being put in place for parking at London Road following the Institute of Education move off Bulmershe Court. There was a concern that parking was more limited than at Bulmershe. In addition many students on teaching placements used cars to visit schools. The Committee noted that various initiatives were being looked into to ease parking on the site, including:

- Discussions were being held with Reading Buses on the possibility of locating bus stops closer to the site.
- A potential park and ride service from Bulmershe.
- Expansion of the Hertz by Connect scheme.
- In the longer-term the contractor’s car park on Queen’s Drive would be turned in to a 200 space car park.

The Committee discussed at length issues with parking both at London Road and Whiteknights. It was noted that double the number of parking permits were issued compared to parking spaces available on Whiteknights. The permit to hunt for a space was becoming increasingly unrealistic. It was agreed that the University needed to consider a fair and equitable way of distributing parking permits amongst staff and students.

The Committee discussed the possibility of using an Automatic Number Plate Recognition System to monitor traffic movements onto campus. It was also noted that Campus Services would be undertaking a survey of where staff lived and their methods of transport. The data collected would be used to understand the scale of the problem.

The Committee agreed that a paper setting out potential options and what would be affordable at different levels of parking charges should be brought to the next meeting of the Committee for consideration.

**Action: Mrs Shearman**

**10/31 Environmental Issues**

*Green Week*  
The Committee noted that Green Week had been a great success. The Students’ Union would hold a People and Planet week in the Spring.

*Sustainability Matters*  
The Committee received and noted issue 4 of Sustainability Matters.

*Biodiversity Policy*  
The Committee approved the Biodiversity Policy.
10/32 Higher Education Carbon Management Programme

It was noted that the University had joined the Higher Education Carbon Management Programme (HECMP). The aim of the initiative was to reduce University carbon emissions over five years; a target of a 35% reduction against a baseline target had been agreed.

The initiative would:

- Scope and establish the baseline carbon footprint for the University.
- Generate a carbon project registry
- Develop a strategy to engage, communicate and implement carbon management throughout the whole institution.
- Produce a carbon management plan with clear governance and review procedures.

The Committee noted that it would have oversight of the carbon management plan once produced. It was intended that the plan would be finalised by February 2011.

10/33 Environmental Management Review Group

The Committee received and noted a summary of the Environmental Management Review Group held on 2 November.

It was noted that the Eco Campus Bronze Award was achieved in July 2010. The Silver award was at development stage with the aim of achieving this in February/March 2011. It was noted that the Environmental Policy would be brought to the next meeting of the Committee for approval.

**Action: Mrs Shearman**

10/34 Disclosure of Interests and Risk Register

The Committee received and noted the Disclosure of Interests and Risk Register. It was suggested that in the next iteration of the Risk Register a risk on breaches of environmental legislation should be included.

**Action: Ms Sharman**

10/35 Dates of meetings in 2010-11

Wednesday 23 February 2011 at 9.30 am
Friday 17 June 2011 at 2.00 pm
**ACTION LIST: Environment and Travel Sub-Committee – 15 November 2010**

**Key:**

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<th>RHE</th>
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<td>RUSU</td>
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<td>SL</td>
<td>Professor Lee</td>
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<td>10/30</td>
<td>Paper on parking to the next meeting</td>
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<td>10/33</td>
<td>Environmental Policy to the next meeting</td>
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<td>10/34</td>
<td>Risk on environmental legislation to be included in the risk register</td>
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