



Meeting Minutes

Time and Date	Monday 2nd October 2023, 4 - 5 pm
Attendees	Daniel Thwaites (student), Olivia Christodoulou (student), (student), Lydia Gibbie (student), Emily Gater (student), Lucy Flanagan (student), Jon McLeod (staff / Eco Schools Co-ordinator), Nick Andrews (Head of Estates), Danny Topping (staff)
Apologies	Gemma Cassidy (Blackpool Council)



Key Points

1) 'Cut Your Carbon' campaign from Eco Schools

It was decided that we should run this campaign in college through November (college restarts on 6th November).

It was felt that although we might need to adapt some of the materials which are more primary/lower secondary focused, the main materials, including the social media post designs are good for our student age group. The Committee liked the catchy phrasing and the general accessibility of the whole campaign.

It was agreed that we should run the campaign in college in the following ways:

- Through social media and the @blackpoolsixtheco Insta account (which Emily and Lydia are taking over)
- There will also be a Google Form for students and staff to record when they carry out one / some of the actions (this can be done multiple times in the month).
- The electronic form will be linked to by QR codes on posters (copy for each classroom) / on social media / on screens and via a link sent on email.
- Jon will approach Tom Holland about having a brief launch in PM groups asap at the start of the half-term.



- An inter-PM group competition was proposed to see which group had recorded the most actions, with a suitable price tbc.
- At the end of the month we will total up the actions and submit the data to Eco Schools nationally.

2) Eco Schools Action Plan

The Committee discussed how best to proceed to the stage of creating action plans for three projects linked to 3 different Eco Schools themes. This is a key requirement of the Eco Schools framework. It was agreed that consultation with the wider college was important but this had to be balanced with the need to get on with the planning and the actions. Also, it was acknowledged that there are already projects taking place which relate strongly to the Eco Schools framework e.g the gardening / wildlife habitat work (Schools Grounds and Biodiversity) and work on cutting single-use plastics and improving recycling (Waste).

The decision was to take forward the two project areas mentioned above and form action plans on these, but to leave the third to a consultation process with the wider college community (possibly linked in to the 'Cut the Carbon' campaign).

It was felt that this was a good compromise between consultation and pressing forward with key actions.

After the half-term break (in collaboration with the Eco Action group) the Committee will develop its action plans for the two agreed project/theme areas.



3) National Education Nature Parks

Jon informed the group that the college was now officially part of this nationwide initiative which aims to make use of school/college grounds for biodiversity and for nature connection for students/wider community.

Linked to this, we are expecting the delivery of 400 saplings from the Woodland Trust sometime between 4th and 17th November. There are plans for a 'tree-planting day' with involvement from across all college departments.

4) Lancashire Youth Climate Conference 2024

Jon is the Chair of the steering group which is working on holding a Lancashire-wide conference for 16-19 year olds focused on climate action. He is seeking some representation from college students on the steering group. The first meeting is Friday 20th October 2 - 3pm. There was some interest in this from students at the group. Jon will share the link and further dates of meetings (when agreed). He will also bring proposals back to the Committee and to wider groups of students in the college to ensure that young people do have an input in the plans.



Next Steps

- 1) Get everything ready for the 'Cut Your Carbon' campaign. Jon will liaise with Tom Holland and ensure that PMs have a brief presentation to use. He will ensure that there are some initial social media posts on the main college account over the half-term period and will work with the marketing team to make sure there are posters ready to be printed / display and that other channels are used to promote the campaign (screens, Staff / Student Weekly). Emily and Lydia will work on restyling the @blackpoolsixtheco account and do some initial posts. Everyone needs to promote the campaign and encourage others to take part and log their actions.
- 2) We will start on the action plans for the School Grounds and Waste themes in the next meeting. This may involve splitting into sub-groups according to particular interests/roles.

Next Meeting

Monday 6th November, 4 - 5 pm,
Committee Room.