



## Meeting Minutes

<b>Time and Date</b>	Monday 15th January, 4 - 5 pm
<b>Attendees</b>	Daniel Thwaites (student), Emily Gater (student), Lydia Gibbie (student and minute-taker), Jon McLeod (staff / Eco Schools Co-ordinator), Danny Topping (staff), Gemma Cassidy (Blackpool Council)
<b>Apologies</b>	Nick Andrews (Staff)



**Key Points**

**1) Minutes and matters arising**

No matters raised.

**2) Action Plan - update from project teams**

**College grounds project: Daniel and Jon**

- Using the polytunnel area we should grow more plants and vegetables (so the college catering staff can use them) and put more seating outside in the greener areas/ possibly create a quiet area outside for students and staff
- Further tree-planting planned in March
- Further development of wildlife areas - bird boxes, bug boxes, wildflowers
- Keep control of litter and the awareness of the problems litter cause

**Waste project: Nick and Lucy**

Neither Nick nor Lucy were at the meeting. Here is an email update from Nick:

“Lucy and I are going to start thinking about signage for recycling bins and I will be asking catering to separate out food waste so that it can be recycled - that should have a big impact on the % of waste we recycle.”



## Healthy Living: Emily, Lydia and Danny

Healthy living - the catering staff seem quite keen to start introducing more healthy and meat-free options. A survey is going to be carried out - possibly in Pastoral Mentor sessions to get a good sample, so we can gain people's views on what foods they want to see being sold and so the catering staff can get a gauge on how many people would be interested in buying meat-free products at college.

Other points/ideas:

- Look to set up Meat-free Mondays
- We can ask catering if they will be able to have a sampling stall
- Advertise it as 'healthy, planet-friendly' food instead of just saying vegan
- The project group will create the survey to send out to a pm group- the target is to send it and collect data by the end of January
- Plant-based 'bake-off'

Example of survey questions:

- Do you follow a plant based diet?
- Are you interested in trying plant based food?
- Would you buy healthy planet friendly food options at college?
- Are there any particular plant based foods that you would like to see being sold in college?



### 3) Communications

We have a 'digital' noticeboard for Eco Schools on the college website. This meets the basic requirements of the Eco Schools programme but Jon asked for further ideas on how to improve it and how else to communicate the action plan progress and other aspects of what we are doing. Some suggestions were:

- Have a 'physical' noticeboard as well and make it as eye-catching as possible without being too much work to maintain.
- Put posters about our actions / key messages in the toilet stalls / inside of toilet doors - this works well for what the FYi do.
- Continue to use social media (Eco Schools / Eco Action Insta account and main college accounts).

### 4) Recruitment of new student members (lower sixth)

It is important that we recruit new members to the Committee and the project groups. We specifically need new L6 members as all the students on the Committee currently are U6.

Lydia and Emily said how being part of the Committee had helped them with UCAS personal statements / CVs for the areas they want to pursue at university i.e. environmental science and marketing respectively. We need to use this message more and also emphasise the skills students can acquire through the group e.g. public speaking, running meetings, organising events, negotiating, decision-making, research.



	<p>It was agreed that getting more staff involved in promoting the group would be extremely helpful, especially in the subject areas which link the closest with sustainability e.g. geography, biology/chemistry, business/economics.</p> <p>We also discussed the idea of changing the meeting times to within main college hours but this is very tricky as there is no single point in the week when everyone is free on their timetable. If new members join though with a particular project in mind, they should be able to meet about that project as the timings for those meetings can be more flexible around individual's availability. There is also plenty to do outside the meetings.</p> <p>Jon will share with the Committee the publicity material which was used at the start of the academic year to promote joining the Committee and if people have any suggestions for changing/improving this, then we can get it out.</p> <p>Emily, Lydia and Daniel will speak to their teacher about promoting the Committee with their classes / department.</p>
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### Next Steps

These are the main actions agreed:

- 1) The project groups will press ahead with work on their projects.
- 2) Each project group will send Jon a few suggested questions for a survey to go to PM groups so that we are consulting about what they want to see done as part of the project. This needs to be done by next Monday (22nd January) and Jon will arrange for the survey to go with a brief summary of the action plan.
- 3) Jon will work with Marketing to produce some posters for toilet doors to promote the action plan and our key messages. He will also investigate us having a physical noticeboard.
- 4) We need to recruit new L6 members to the Committee and project groups. We will update the materials for this and spread the word through all available channels.

### Next Meetings

We need to re-arrange our next scheduled meeting (Monday 5th February) due to a clash with a college event. We also have cancelled the meeting on 19th Feb as it now clashes with a whole staff briefing.

Jon will try to secure a meeting for us on another day in w/c 5th Feb. The next meeting after that is 11 March. We can keep in touch via email and through smaller project meetings.

The meeting dates for the rest of the year are here:

[Eco Schools Committee Meeting Dates 202...](#)