

Sustainable Farming and Food Action Group
Minutes of meeting
Friday 23rd September 2005 at Coaver Club Reading Room, County Hall
at 2.00pm

Present:

Dominic Acland ~ Chair
Mary Rosevear
Carol Trant
Greg Davies
Liz Bowles
Sarah Colquhoun
Kate Wright
Jonathan Smye
Charlotte Reynolds
Julia Proctor
Kate Harris

1. Apologies:

Layland Branfield
Mel Hall
Jim Skelton
Lynne Kenderdine
John Sheaves

2. Contact Details and membership

A number of action group members have yet to pay their membership to DRN for the current year. Please could everyone ensure that this is done asap.

3. DRN web site

The web site is now up and running and will shortly have a section dedicated to Sustainable Farming and Food.

If members have any events or news that they would like posted on the web site then please send details to Sarah Streeter

(sarah.streeter@devon.gov.uk)

All members should have links on the web site to their organisations, reciprocal links to the DRN web site would be much appreciated

(www.drn.org.uk)

4. Terms of Reference

All of the DRN action groups are to have their own terms of reference. KH has drafted TOR for the SFF group and sent out to members.

A number of comments were made in the meeting, particularly in reference to the objectives of the group, membership and links to the regional SFF work.

Action KH to re draft incorporating agreed changes and circulate final copy.

DA suggested that it would be beneficial for the group to have a vice chair to deputise on behalf of Chair in their absence – Mary has agreed to take on the role of vice chair.

Other comments: Would be helpful for a diagram to be produced to see where DRN and the action groups fit in with other organisations both locally and regionally **KH/HH**

The group feel that it would be beneficial for all the action groups to meet to be able to discuss planned activities, particularly in reference to the Rural Renaissance bid **KH/HH**

5. Focus groups and taking forward the action plan

A number of discussions have taken place as to how best to take forward the action plan following the recent review. It has been decided that the current group may be too large to effectively take on the actions and therefore it has been suggested that 6 smaller focus groups will be formed with reps from the action group plus other key reps. These group will meet to action plan and ensure delivery and report back to the whole group at quarterly meetings.

Actions: All members to sign up to focus groups – please sign up to the groups that you think you can have the most input into. If you are able to sign up to more than one group then please do so – **ALL**

KH to organise first focus group meetings, Focus group 1 (Developing markets for local food and increasing awareness) will meet on Wednesday 12th October at 2.00 at Killerton House, Exeter – **KH**

6. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 7th December 9.30 at Killerton House, Broadclyst, Exeter