**London HECA Forum Committee**

Thursday 25th February 2016

10.30-12.00

Café 171

Jerwood Space

171 Union Street

London

SE1 0LN

Present:

John Kolm-Murray Islington Vice-Chair

Natalie Sansom Harrow Treasurer

Fran Evans Camden

Toby Morgan Islington

Martin O’Brien Lewisham

Rachael Mills SE2 Secretariat

1. **Constitutional Changes**

* JKM talked everyone through the draft changes to the constitution, which were met with unanimous approval.
* RM to write up and circulate to all London HECA Forum members no later than 4 weeks before the next meeting & AGM.
* It was also agreed to circulate the updated constitution (and details of our name change) to organisations such as LBEG and LECF, as a matter of courtesy.

1. **AGM**

* All committee members agreed to stand for re-election at the AGM.
* MO agreed to seek internal approval to become the Forum Chair. JKM to send him the Chair job description.
* RM to encourage other HECA Forum members to put themselves forward for election. It was thought that Tim Taylor (Sutton) and Ieman Barmaki (Enfield) might be particularly interested.

1. **Finance**

* NS updated the committee on our financial position. 32 membership invoices were issued in 2015-16 and all but four have been paid. Two of these are Boroughs and it was agreed that we won’t pursue them. The other two are Associate Members: if they don’t pay by the end of March then their membership will be cancelled. Total receipts so far have been £5450: our outgoings for the year have been £3,450. NS will also provide a financial update at the AGM.
* It was agreed to undertake a recruitment drive for Associate Members, once the constitutional changes have been voted.
* It was also agreed not to change the bank account name at the current time. Instead, we’ll use ‘trading as ALEO London’: this will save a considerable administrative workload by not having to re-register with each Borough’s supplier list.

1. **Speakers for next meeting (22nd April, Camden)**

* RM to invite:
  + David Weatherall, Future Climate re flats research for Westminster
  + Mareike Schmidt, Bristol City Council re Bristol Energy
  + Qbot – contact needed
  + Someone from DECC to talk about the Bonfield review (if time)
* Emma Adams has requested a slot for SHS to update the group on their work in Barking & Dagenham. FE could also ask for / provide an update on Camden’s solar project.
* The agenda will also include time for a round table update from all Boroughs, as well as the AGM business.

1. **Letter to Mayoral Candidates**

* The bullets for the letter to the five leading Mayoral candidates (Conservative, Labour, Lib Dem, Green & UKIP) were discussed. It was agreed that Borough examples should be given wherever possible, for example Camden’s planning guidance, Lewisham’s able-to-pay research and Newham’s landlord accreditation scheme. The letter will also stress that many Boroughs are already doing good work: the new Mayor must work with us, not impose new schemes upon us.
* JKM to write and send letter ahead of the elections.

1. **Policy Update**

* National energy efficiency funding up is in the air, with changes to ECO and uncertainty regarding a successor to the Green Deal.
* ECO will increasingly focus on the fuel poor. Local advice agencies may be able to refer residents directly in to ECO funding. London may miss out on any fuel poverty funding as the new definition underestimates numbers.
* The Warm Homes Discount will be the same in 2016/17 as it was for 2015/16. From 2017/18, less money might be given to more people. The core and wider recipient groups may also be merged.
* LB Harrow won an NEA Community Action award for their Warm Healthy Home scheme

1. **AOB**

* Internal LB Islington politics were discussed. The Borough currently has one conduit for information to/from the HECA Forum, but others within the Borough want this to be widened and to receive communications directly. It was agreed that this is an internal matter for Islington and that there will be no change to the current arrangement whilst Islington officers await clarification of roles from managers.