

Minutes of NRS Staff Council Meeting – 14th March 2007 - 10.30 Conference Room

Present: Chris Quine (Chair)
Glenn Brearley
Martin Abrahams
Evelyn Hall (Minutes)

Absent: Steve Osborne

Agenda

1. Minutes of meeting of 3 October 2006.

Minutes of meeting of 3 October 2006 were accepted as a true record.

2. Matters arising:

- a. FR vehicle policy;

Mechanical Engineering Services (MES) have recently indicated that our 04 plate Ford Focus Estate was due for replacement and it has been agreed to replace it with another Ford Focus Estate. Although there have been no adverse comments about the Ford Fusions the intention is to keep the current balance between hatchbacks and estates in the pool vehicles.

Action: Discharged

- b. Transport Infrastructure – Bush Estate;

Chris Quine said there were continuing concerns regarding roadside parking and more recently concerns were raised from our Greening Committee regarding more efficient modes of transports e.g. public transport. Chris Quine would continue to look for opportunities to raise this with the other groups on the Bush Estate.

Martin Abrahams said that plans for the development of a new vet building had been received and that our Area Land Agent had been asked to look at the plans on our behalf. The need for provision of sufficient car parking spaces for the new build would be discussed. However it was agreed that with the increase of new buildings on the Estate there could be a good prospect of the bus companies increasing their services.

Action: Discharged

c. Smoking area;

Martin Abrahams reported that no action had been taken on the smoking shelter to date. However he is aware that the current structure does not fully comply with the law and has been in discussion with our joiner to rectify this. He said there were two options available to us – either adapt the current structure or rebuild. He was confident the current structure could be adapted to comply with recommendations and that action would be progressed in the next financial year.

Action: Martin Abrahams

d. Toilets;

Concerns had been raised about dispersal of steam in the shower in the main gents' toilet. Because of increased use it has been suggested that a more powerful fan should be fitted. However, it was proposed that priority be given to renovating the toilets and shower cubicle in the corridor behind the Workshop. We can then consider if any action is required in the main gents' shower cubicle.

Action: Martin Abrahams

e. Naming rooms.

It was agreed to withdraw the suggestion of naming rooms. An alternative of dedicating a seat in the court yard area would be taken forward.

Action: Discharged

3. Staff Awareness of Staff Council Meeting Minutes.

It was suggested that to raise awareness a link should be sent via email to all staff after the minutes had been posted on the intranet. It was agreed that Glenn Brearley, as web publisher, would liaise with Evelyn Hall to ensure this happens.

Action: Glenn Brearley/Evelyn Hall

4. Staff Educational Outing.

Glenn Brearley asked if it was possible for more notice to be given to staff of the date of the outing. Martin Abrahams said that plans were in hand to organise the event. Staff will be notified of the date by the end of April.

Action: Martin Abrahams

5. No smoking notice at front doors.

Glenn Brearley asked if the make-shift piece of wood advertising the smoking shelter opposite the main door could be replaced. Martin Abrahams said that this notice had been removed. Staff hosting a meeting or visitors should make them aware of the smoking facilities at NRS.

Action: Discharged

6. Any other business

None.

7. Date of next meeting.

Date of next meeting will be Thursday 11th October at 10.30 am in the Meeting Room.