

GROUNDWORK WEST MIDLANDS EBS



Environmental Action Plan

For the Birchmeadow Community Centre, Broseley



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The Joint venture is administered through Groundwork Black Country. Company Registration 2395334 Charity Registration 702917 VAT Registration 655 1315 51. Registered Office Groundwork Environment Centre, Dolton Way, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 9AL.

Introduction

Groundwork are working with the Birchmeadow Community Centre as part of the Inside Out project, commissioned by Groundwork UK.

Groundwork Black Country is an environmental regeneration organisation working in the Black Country. It is one of 50 Groundwork Trusts in the UK. Themes of work include land, community, education, youth, employment and training. Groundwork West Midlands EBS provides support and training to organisations in the region to improve their environmental performance.

Groundwork staff have held discussions with the management committee and users, and done an initial environmental review of the building. Possible measures for improvement were listed. The Centre management committee meeting of Thursday 26th February 2009 prioritised them into “short,” “medium” and “long” term measures.

Groundwork staff then produced this draft Action Plan for consideration at the Centre management committee of Thursday 9th April 2009. The measures have been given a one, two or three star rating according to the relative impact they are expected to make.

The Inside Out grant funding will pay for some of the measures to be put in place. These will be agreed between Groundwork and the Birchmeadow Centre committee.

Disclaimer

Groundwork West Midlands EBS and its advisers will make every effort to ensure the information provided through this initial environmental review and Action Plan is appropriate and accurate. However, only the courts can authoritatively interpret the law and only acts and regulations have force of law. The final decision regarding any advice/ information provided by Groundwork West Midlands EBS is the commercial responsibility of the client. Groundwork West Midlands EBS cannot accept responsibility for errors and/or omissions within this document or loss occasioned to persons acting or refraining from action as a result of the material in this document

Environmental Action Plan

Measure	Supporting information	Comment from Birchmeadow Committee; decision whether to implement or not	How and when will action be implemented?
Short term – immediately to 6 months *** <i>High risk / potential saving or benefit</i> ** <i>Medium risk / potential saving or benefit</i> * <i>Low risk / potential saving or benefit</i>			
*** Insulate back of stage wall and roof above. Any insulation needs to reduce heat <u>and</u> sound losses.	Review OBS7 Back of stage wall is single brick. The roof is a thin corrugated material. This area is very cold and draughty. Noise from events disturbs neighbours in the caravan park. <u>Comments from meeting 18 Feb 09</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Add another skin or add soundproofing</i> • <i>It needs battening out and then insulate the wall and then plasterboard</i> • <i>An absolute necessity to save energy and prevent noise pollution to neighbours!!</i> • <i>Needs money</i> 		Groundwork are arranging for a technical advisor to visit the Centre and advise on measures and costs towards the end of April. Groundwork will then arrange for any work which is within budget to be done.
*** Zone heating system.	Review OBS5 Zoning of heating system would prevent heating of areas not in use.		Groundwork will get quotes for this, and assess likely cost-benefit.

	<p><u>Comments from meeting 18 Feb 09</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All areas where heat is escaping need to be sealed to stop the loss of heat • Turn radiators down, flush systems out, service every year 		It is not likely that both zoning and insulating the stage wall can be done, so options and costs will be put to the May or June Centre committee.
<p>***</p> <p>Turn down heating in main hall.</p>	<p>Review OBS 12 It seems that users surveyed are happy with the heating in the main hall, and radiators could be turned down a notch.</p> <p>This is a no-cost measure. Can easily be reversed if building becomes too cold.</p>		
<p>***</p> <p>Improve drainage in car park.</p>	<p>Review OBS 22 After heavy rain water enters the lobby area from the car park.</p> <p>Drainage needs to be improved / installed.</p>		Groundwork are investigating the best option here. Proposals will be put to May committee meeting.
<p>***</p> <p>Draught proof external doors.</p>	<p>Review OBS8 Front door, the fire door at the bottom of the stairs and the fire door in the upstairs office have significant draughts around the frames. It was reported that the downstairs fire door is going to be repaired.</p> <p>Adding draught proofing to these areas would be relatively inexpensive.</p> <p>Many user comments on draughty lobby areas.</p>		Groundwork will be working on this in April, in consultation with Dave Platt.

<p>**</p> <p>Fit reflective foil panels behind radiators.</p>	<p>Review OBS 11 Fit reflective foil panels behind radiators to reduce heat loss into walls. Adding these would be relatively inexpensive.</p>		<p>Groundwork will be working on this in April, in consultation with Dave Platt.</p>
<p>**</p> <p>Investigate lower energy bulbs for stage lights.</p>	<p>Review OBS3 Investigate lower energy bulbs for stage lights</p> <p><u>Comments from meeting 18 Feb 09</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Change the lights</i> • <i>Usage, cost and safe installation</i> 		<p>Groundwork will investigate and liaise with BROADS committee.</p>
<p>**</p> <p>Fit energy efficient light bulbs throughout.</p>	<p>Review OBS4 Use of energy efficient bulbs should continue as existing bulbs fail</p>		<p>Groundwork will be working on this in April, in consultation with Dave Platt.</p>
<p>**</p> <p>Place Hippos or bricks in all toilet cisterns.</p>	<p>Review OBS 14 Place Hippos or bricks in all toilet cisterns.</p> <p>Very low cost measure.</p>		<p>Groundwork will be working on this in April, in consultation with Dave Platt.</p>
<p>**</p> <p>Draught proof bar windows.</p>	<p>Review OBS9 Windows in bar are draughty, as the sealant has crumbled out. Adding sealant to these areas would be relatively inexpensive.</p>		<p>Groundwork will be working on this in April, in consultation with Dave Platt.</p>
<p>**</p> <p>Repair open windows in gent's toilets.</p>	<p>Review OBS10 Two small windows in gentlemen's toilets are stuck permanently open. Correcting this would be a minor carpentry job.</p>		<p>Groundwork will get in-house and external quotes for this job.</p>

<p>**</p> <p>Investigate cardboard recycling.</p>	<p>Review OBS 19 Cardboard could be recycled to reduce waste volumes. This would mean a less frequent collection of the general waste Euro bin. Currently Veolia collect the general waste and the glass for recycling.</p> <p>Contact Council / Veolia to get price for extra cardboard bin and estimate saving from less frequent general waste collection. Decide if viable.</p> <p><u>Comments from meeting 18 Feb 09</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find out how to do it. 		
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Medium – six months to one year

- *** High risk / potential saving or benefit**
- ** Medium risk / potential saving or benefit**
- * Low risk / potential saving or benefit**

<p>***</p> <p>Fit control device to urinals</p>	<p>Review OBS13 The gents urinal flushes as soon as the cistern is full, regardless of building occupancy.</p> <p>Estimating a 9L flush every 10 minutes, costing £0.60 to £1.60 per cubic meter (1000L), gives a cost of £0.78 to £2.07 per day.</p> <p>Adding a control would cost around £110.</p> <p>Payback would be 2.5 to 6 months. This can be checked against actual costs of water stated on the bills.</p>		<p>Groundwork will get in-house quotes for this job.</p>
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	<p><u>Comments from meeting 18 Feb 09</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Funding or time</i> 		
<p>***</p> <p>Reduce the high electricity demand of cooling the beer cellar.</p>	<p>Review OBS2 Air conditioning unit in cellar is probably the largest electricity consumer in the building. Room is not insulated and doors leak cold air from gaps. As it is essential beer and bottles are kept cool, is it possible to insulate or reduce the size of the space they are kept in?</p> <p><u>Comments from meeting 18 Feb 09</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would benefit from insulation, and a new cooling system Divide the room to make the space smaller 		<p>Groundwork are arranging for a technical advisor to visit the Centre and advise on measures and costs towards the end of April.</p> <p>Groundwork will work on draught proofing in April, in consultation with Dave Platt.</p> <p>Groundwork volunteer will look into other ways to reduce this cost and keep the beer cool.</p>
<p>**</p> <p>Environmentally themed films for the cinema.</p>	<p>Review OBS 16 The cinema club could potentially show environmentally themed films to raise awareness of members.</p>		<p>Groundwork will supply a list by email to the cinema club by end April.</p>
<p>**</p> <p>Promote the Friendly Bus.</p>	<p>Review OBS 23 Promote Friendly Bus as a better social and environmental option than arriving by private car.</p> <p><u>Comments from meeting 18 Feb 09</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Literature in the centre</i> <i>Press publicity</i> 		<p>If Centre are keen, Groundwork's publicity advisor could help.</p>

<p>* Spray fittings for taps in ladies' toilets.</p>	<p>Review OBS 15 Taps in the ladies toilets has a fast flow of water. They could be fitted with inserts to create a spray tap, which uses much less water while still being suitable for hand washing. This is not the case in the gents toilet, where water pressure is lower, or kitchen where a fast flow of water is required.</p>	<p>Groundwork will look into the option and get in-house quotes for this job.</p>
<p>Long term – one year or more, or not currently feasible *** High risk / potential saving or benefit ** Medium risk / potential saving or benefit * Low risk / potential saving or benefit</p>		
<p>** Obtain cycle parking racks</p>	<p>Review OBS 24 Obtain cycle parking racks to encourage users to arrive by bike. <u>Comments from meeting 18 Feb 09</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycles are currently parked at the front of the building. This is where bike racks could be installed. • Need money to buy racks and shelter. 	<p>Groundwork volunteers will look into this.</p>