



**SOUTH WESSEX WASTE MINIMISATION GROUP: 20th June 2018. RNLI College,
Poole**

MINUTES OF MEETING

1. Present

(see attached)

2. WeDoEthical (Kelly Levell)

Kelly founded We Do Ethical in 2009 to inspire people to be the change for a sustainable future. They have grown to become one of the leading ethical living organisations in the UK.

Kelly went on to explain:

My consultancy business finds creative and economical solutions to get our clients sustainability on target. Through procurement and corporate social responsibility strategies, we work to improve the Corporate Social Responsibility of companies.

My not for profit organisation run's four community programmes to care, nurture, unite and love ethical living.

I work closely with the Miss England contest, judging the Miss Eco award for the past 5 years. We Do Ethical also runs the Miss Dorset regional heat alongside the annual Love Dorset community festival; taking place during Fairtrade fortnight. The winners of the contest become ambassadors for positive change and help to tackle community issues and raise funds for local, national and international charities throughout the year.

Kelly discussed fashion and sustainability explaining that fashion supply chains have many violations of human rights including child and slave labour. 97% of clothes are made overseas, there are 40 million garment workers who are very low paid and 85% are women.

She discussed the Modern Slavery Act of 2015 and how organisations need to be structured to address these issues in its business and supply chains.

The Social impact of clothing pollution was discussed with garment workers in Bangladesh earning £44/month (a quarter of a living wage), in China garment workers often undertake over 150 hours of overtime each month with 60% having no contract.

The Environmental impact of clothing was also discussed. 300,000t of clothing was binned in the UK in 2016. Textile dyeing is the second largest polluter of clean water after agriculture. Each wash in a washing machine releases 700,000 microscopic plastic fibres into the environment (source: Plymouth University). Acrylic is the biggest offender.

2720 litres of water is used to make one T-shirt. 95% of discarded clothing could be upcycled/recycled.

Kelly explained the main principles of WeDoEthical:

We Care: waste reduction

We Nurture: We Do Re Do workshops

We Unite: Economic and social growth

We Love

There was then a short video of the Plastic Ocean Rescue fashion show at the Hilton in Bournemouth where girls had created their own dresses from waste items.

Kelly finished off with explaining about the Puritii water bottle which basically cleans water using a filter – water purification.

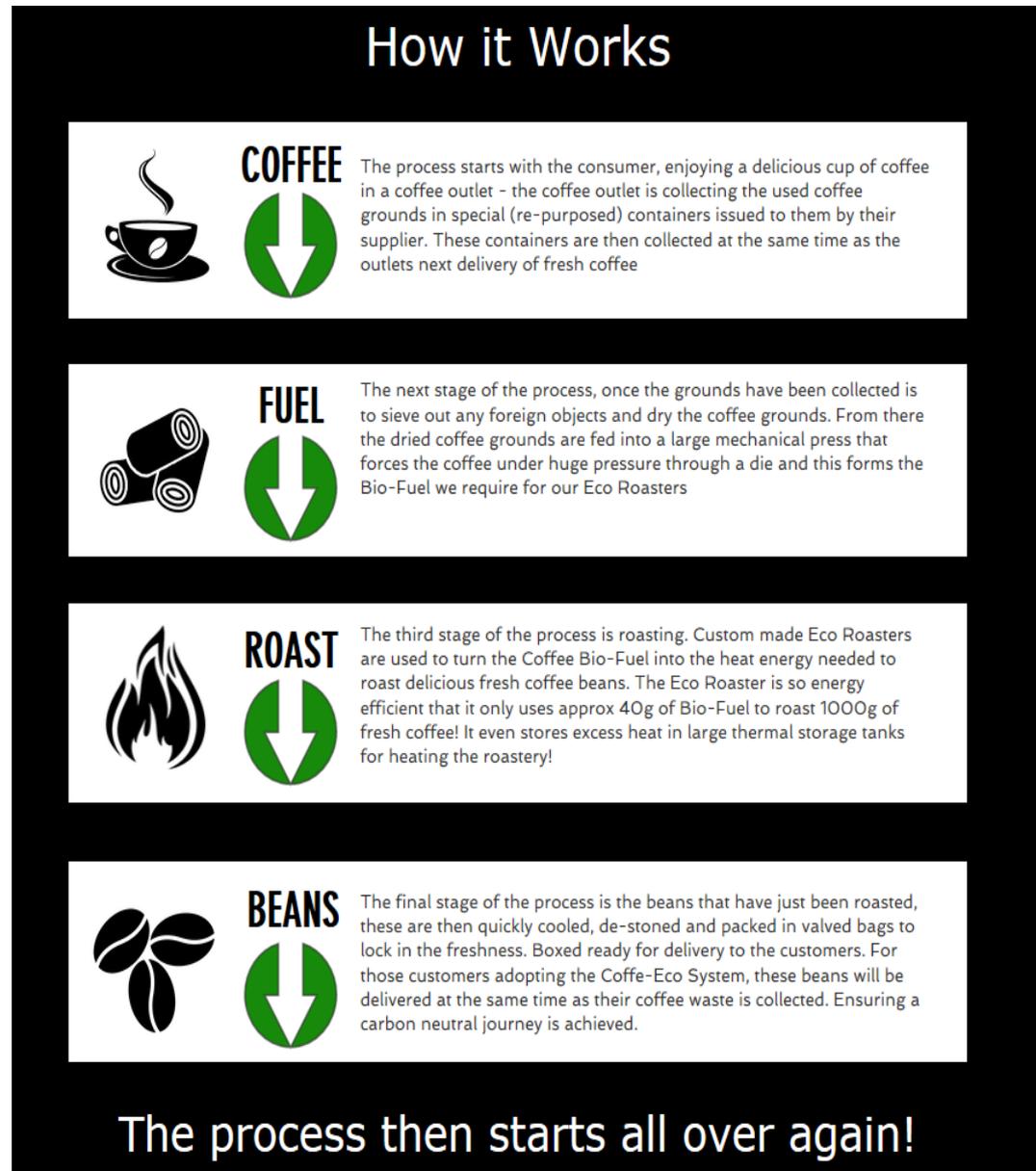
For further details go to:

<http://wedoethicalfashion.org/#sthash.jDfTWcfY.uEtH6nBP.dpbs>

3. Waste Minimisation and environmental action at the RNLI College (Detlef Turk)

Detlef explained some of the initiatives that have been introduced at the RNLI College.

He explained they use the 918 Coffee Co which uses the Eco-Roast system:



Cups are then collected and recycled by Simply Cups.

Elimination of plastic cups across the RNLI campus:

- Across Poole HQ we use approximately 16,000 NON-RECYCLABLE cups and 12,000 lids **PER MONTH** from the 17 vending machines across the site
- This equates to 192,000 cups and 144,000 lids thrown away each year!!
- This non-recyclable waste ends up in landfill and uses up valuable resources. This change will help to work towards a zero waste to landfill target

The Anti- Plastic Fantastic Group

(The focus lies on revisiting the need of single use plastic on site)

- Removed plastic cups throughout campus and replaced with paper cones in the college, ALC and Sea Survival breakout areas
- Water coolers have been exchanged so staff can refill their bottles
- Replaced plastic straws with paper straws in the bar
- Replaced plastic cups in all bedrooms with small glasses tumblers
(eliminating to use of over 12600 plastic cups/year in the rooms)

Aqueous Ozone system – reduction of cleaning chemicals used on site. O₂ from the air is turned into ozone and infused into tap water/ozone picks up germs/bacteria. Widely used across the NHS.

Other Changes include:

- Scottish fine soap in all bedrooms <https://www.scottishfinesoaps.com/Our-Collections/18/Sea-Kelp>
- Water refill station in the college reception
- LED lights upgrade in the college
- Working with the local business community (Food & Drink festival, Summer fete, Xmas market)
- LSC third floor carpet – made from plastic fish nets
- Part of Fairtrade Poole Steering group

4. Ethical Choices: interior design (Helen Winter)

Helen Winter runs Coral Interiors, a specialist in vegan interior design.

Helen talked about the rise of the vegan and how there has been a massive increase in veganism. But to most vegans it's not a diet it's a lifestyle.

Leather:

In India, slaughter of cows is banned in many states - what this means is that it goes underground and completely unregulated. Goats, calves, pigs, dogs even cats are farmed just for their skins, especially in China. Meat is the by-product of the huge leather industry. Tannery workers (including children) are exposed to highly toxic chemicals.

Down:

China is by far the biggest exporter of feather and down and has no restrictions against live plucking of birds, often leaving them with gaping wounds which may be stitched back up without anaesthetic.

Not all down and feather is live plucked, but it's hard for manufacturers to prove the provenance and supply chain.

Rabbits are also live-plucked for angora.

Some high street shops are now moving away from selling down products i.e. Fat Face.

Furs:

Fur is a huge industry and relies on billions of animals kept in metal cages they can barely move around in. Real fur deliberately mis-labelled as faux is common online and on the High Street.

Norway is phasing out fur farms to ban them within 2 years
Synthetic furs are generally much softer and silkier than the real thing and easy to wash.

Stella McCartney and Gucci are designers who strongly oppose the use of furs.
There are now many luxury cruelty free brands a new breed of sustainable materials such as Pinatex (pineapple leaves) made into handbags, shoes etc. Cork (used to make handbags) and Tesla have vegan leather interiors in their cars.

For further details go to www.vegandesign.org

5. EA Update: Illegal Waste sites and waste exemptions (Tessa Bowering)

Tessa provided details in regard to the rise of illegal waste sites in the UK and the waste crime consultation which is looking at review of waste exemptions.

Waste criminals cost the English economy over £600 million in 2015
More than 850 new illegal waste sites were discovered by the EA in 2016-17

The government has announced a review into serious and organised crime in the waste sector in England.

The review will enable a wide group of people to have their say on ways to crack-down further on Organised Crime Groups (OCGs), who profit from waste crime.

Environment Agency given new powers to tackle the problem of illegal waste sites (March 2018)

Powers include ability to lock up sites and force rogue operators to clean up all waste

Body worn video cameras will be rolled out to all waste enforcement officers

The Environment Agency has also been granted the power to require rogue operators to clear all the waste at a problem waste site, not just the illegal waste.

Tessa went through some examples of waste exemptions that have been registered for various activities that have been abused and created large illegal waste sites. She also explained how landowners need to be especially vigilant as waste deposited illegally on their land will be their responsibility to clear.



6. A New Technology for Biological Process (Ray Long, Citadel Environmental Solutions)

Carbon fixation or carbon assimilation is the conversion process of inorganic carbon (carbon dioxide) to organic compounds by living organisms. The most prominent example is photosynthesis, although chemosynthesis is another form of carbon fixation that can take place in the absence of sunlight. Organisms that grow by fixing carbon are called autotrophs. Autotrophs include photoautotrophs, which synthesize organic compounds using the energy of sunlight, and lithoautotrophs, which synthesize organic compounds using the energy of inorganic oxidation. Heterotrophs are organisms that grow using the carbon fixed by autotrophs. The organic compounds are used by heterotrophs to produce energy and to build body structures. "Fixed carbon", "reduced carbon", and "organic carbon" are equivalent terms for various organic compounds.[1]Crenarchaeota represents 35% of the worlds biomass discovered in the late seventies by Dr Carl Veiss USA

Prior to Dr Carl Weiss's discovery biologists referred to five kingdoms: Bacteria, Protozoa, Fungi, Plants and Animals. After the discovery the academic's divided the five kingdoms into 3 domains: Prokaryotes (bacteria, viruses), Eukaryotes (protozoa, fungi, plants, animals) - Crenarchaeota (BioCat)was allocated as a single domain. This was literally a new era of biology.

The technology has many applications: biogas plants, groundwater decontamination, soil and sludge remediation etc.

Some Facts:

- Crenarchaeota are the world's shock absorber.

- Interesting that crenarchaeota is 35% of global biomass.
- Grows and divides when things get so bad that nothing else can grow.
- Needs a few unique nutrients.
- Crenarchaeota and these nutrients make up the unique biocatalyst BioCat+

Roy explained that waste breakdown is accelerated with the use of BioCat. He provided an example of an AD plant that had odour issues. With the use of BioCat this was rectified with the use of BioCat to stabilise the biology of the plant and speed up the process.

Digestate becomes a more valuable product after the addition of BioCat – greater root structure and nutrient uptake.

It can also be used to breakdown contaminants in soil and water – remediation process.

Further details can be found at: <http://www.citadel-biocat.com/>

7. AOB

- **Ideas to Action Awards:**

NOMINATIONS FOR IDEAS2ACTION RECYCLING AWARDS 2018

Do you have a group of employees/volunteers in your organisation who, through their own efforts, take action on waste and recycling and encourage their colleagues to do so too? Or perhaps your organisation (this does not include those where their main business is waste/recycling) encourages your employees/volunteers to get involved in recycling initiatives which help the community or good causes? If so, local charity Ideas2Action would like to hear from you. They are calling for nominations for their Third Recycling Awards event to be held on Friday 28 September 2018 at Poole Civic Centre. See <http://www.ideas2action.org.uk/recycling-awards-2018/> or for more information call Monique 07771 705662. Nominations close 18 August 2018.

- **30 confidential paper bins available from the RNLI.** Please contact Anna for further details at Anna_Frizzell@rnli.org.uk
- **Aluminium can recycling** - . Please contact Anna for further details at Anna_Frizzell@rnli.org.uk
- **2nd October 2018 – The Big Green Event Expo – Hilton, Aegeus Bowl, Southampton**
- **CHANGE OF DATE FOR DECEMBER MEETING: TUESDAY 11th DECEMBER, THE CROWN HOTEL, BLANDFORD**

8. Date and Venue of next meeting:

Wednesday 19th September 2018, Merley House, Wimborne