

## **EERF Steering Group: Minutes**

**11<sup>th</sup> April 2011 at 3pm**  
**Event Planning Voice Conference**

### **Present**

Pat Holtom (Chairman & Norfolk)  
Suzanne Harris (Vice Chairman & Essex)  
Martin Collison (Vice Chairman & L&S Subgroup)  
Anne Marie Hamilton (Bedfordshire)  
John Simmons (EEDA)  
David Wood (Secretariat)

### **Apologies**

Frances Bedding (Suffolk)  
Kate Belinis (Hertfordshire)  
Kirsten Bennett (Cambridgeshire)

### **1. Meeting to plan members events**

#### Food and Farming

Martin gave update which included observation that other regions were keeping separate forums for rural affairs and F&F.

Martin would be providing secretariat for EE Food and Agriculture Board (FAB).

SG confirmed idea for joint meeting in autumn, when RDPE would be settled into new Defra home.

#### LEPs

Still forming & storming phase of their creation and too early to plan meeting around them

#### Health

This would be useful topic when GP Consortia legislation is completed and future situation more clear.

#### 8<sup>th</sup> June

Topic confirmed as Broadband, especially in light of plan for new sub-group on topic.

Ideas:

- Fran to describe BB UK Delivery Programme, £354m for 3 years followed by further £150m/yr for two years
- Business/Community perspective of need and benefit. **FB** to advise on Andy Wood or Nicola Currie
- Real practical experience – Richard Dix, Norfolk farmer case study. **MC** to send contact details
- Use of RDPE funds (Songbird) by Stephen Smith. **JS** to discuss and arrange
- Local success in Maldon, Essex. **SH** to contact Lloyd Fenton

*Action Point:* **Pat/John** to discuss with Fran at their meeting with her tomorrow (12<sup>th</sup> April)