

### **The Meeting Notes:**

- The University plans to become ‘Carbon Neutral’
- The University already sources 100% of its energy from renewable sources
- All new buildings and refurbishments of current buildings in the University are already undertaken in as environmentally sensitive a manner as possible, with the inclusion of such features as motion-sensitive lighting
- The University has commissioned a number of audits of various aspects of its environmental performance, and endeavoured to act upon their findings
- Bradford University has recently declared itself an ‘ecoversity’, undertaking proactive work on factors such as carbon management, travel planning, biodiversity and landscaping, resource management, waste management, education for sustainable development and achieving environmental management standard ISO14001
- HEFCE (The Higher Education Funding Council for England) is urging universities to become more sustainable: “Our vision is that, within the next 10 years, the higher education sector in England will be recognised as a major contributor to society's efforts to achieve sustainability - through the skills and knowledge that its graduates learn and put into practice, and through its own strategies and operations”<sup>1</sup>
- That the University plans to employ additional staff to help environmental performance in specific areas within the next three months
- People and Planet has identified four key goals that are required to achieve Green University status:
  1. The active, public support of senior university management
  2. Full-time staff dedicated to environmental management
  3. A written, publicly available environmental policy
  4. A comprehensive review to investigate all the environmental impacts of the institution
- That the university has already met item 3

### **The Meeting believes:**

- Environmental change (such as climate change) is a significant threat to mankind
- The University is making admirable progress towards environmental betterment, but can still go further

- That although University staff overseeing the environmental performance of the University have indicated a desire for an increase in environmental performance, they are already overstretched

**The Meeting resolves:**

- That the Union shall lobby university management to achieve the four goals as set out above
- That the Ethics and Environment Officer and Communications Officer be specifically mandated to do this

<sup>1</sup> Source: <http://www.hefce.ac.uk>