

# Wycombe Friends of the Earth – Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2008, 7.30pm

The Environment Centre, Holywell Mead, High Wycombe

**Present:** 10 members

**Apologies:** 2 members

## **1. Eden Centre – Plastic bag-free zone.**

- The larger businesses have now received letters encouraging them to offer shoppers an alternative to free plastic bags.
- Leaflets to inform the public about the dangers of waste plastic to the environment will be planned next week.
- It is hoped that the film 'Message in the Waves' will be shown in High Wycombe soon. This highlights the dangers of plastic waste.

## **2. Local Groups Conference**

- 2 members attended this conference and reported positive feedback about our achievements as a new group. It was reported that local groups are making a huge difference.
- The members attended workshops/ discussions on The Big Ask, nuclear power and bio fuels.

## **3. Format of future meetings**

It was decided that our meetings should include some information element, perhaps every third month. Members were asked to consider contacts/ideas for speakers, films etc. so that a plan can be drawn up. Possible areas of interest could be the River Wye project, bio fuels, nuclear power, wind, solar power and other renewables that might work locally, domestic solar water heaters, desert solar energy plant, local university, sharing ideas from other groups, speakers from 'green' companies.

## **4. Finance**

The group is in credit.

## **5. The Big Ask**

Local MP, Paul Goodman, will be contacted regarding the Big Ask photo campaign on April 5<sup>th</sup>. More details next month.

## **6. Schools wastage.**

- An email and pupil survey, noting energy wastage in schools, eg doors left open, lights left on, level of recycling of materials etc., will be sent out to secondary and junior schools again shortly.
- This survey was originally distributed to schools last November but had a disappointing response.

## **7. Sports Centre**

- Progress regarding the location of the new sports centre in High Wycombe is being monitored.
- Environmentally friendly power should be encouraged through Wycombe District Council.

## **8. Wycombe FOE Website.**

The new Wycombe FOE website, [www.wycombefoe.org.uk](http://www.wycombefoe.org.uk) will shortly be available to the public and will include information on our campaigns plus eco-tips for use by the public.

## **9. Other areas.**

Parks and wild areas, land behind Priory Road, illegal dumping, local farmers' market and the Wycombe District Council's Carbon Management Plan are further areas of interest being monitored by the group.

**10. Next meeting will be Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at 7.30pm** at the Environment Centre, Holywell Mead (behind open air swimming pool). Meetings are scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month and anyone interested will receive a warm welcome.