

Wycombe Friends of the Earth - Minutes of Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 6th February 2013, 7.30pm at The Environment Centre,
Wye River Studios, 17 West Wycombe Road, High Wycombe, HP11 2LG

Names in bold denotes action required by that person.

1. **Who's here:** 11

Who's missing: 2

2. **Tonight's facilitator**

3. **It's your meeting** – (agenda setting)
FOE merchandise,

4. **The business bit** – (finance)

- Finances are in the black, due to £10 membership
- FOE merchandise was shown which we could use for fundraising. A catalogue was circulated. We would buy it at a discount and sell it to make a small profit. We could join in with an open day at the Environment Centre to raise awareness and funds. However, should we be promoting purchase of goods not really needed?
- A member also mentioned buying hedgehog houses for fundraising. It was decided that **all members** would look into the cost and viability of selling any of the above for fundraising from the website - <http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/>
- The Coordinator informed the group about the motions process for the FOE conference. He will circulate this by email. The annual event replaces the conference and will be in Hartington, Derbyshire, in July this year.

5. **What's on**

- Transition Towns Film – 13th February at the Environment Centre
- Climate Change week – March 4-8th National Climate Challenge Week – groups are invited to undertake a challenge revealed on the day – 1 day (judged at a local level initially). The EC will act as host for local groups to participate 10am-3pm, with prizes. Also there will be a 1 hour challenge which we could do at our next meeting – the coordinator will enquire further from Frances.

6. **Green living** – Ecotip – Baregardens. Fancy trying growing your own veg and have no space to do it? It's the start of the growing season etc.
Wording will be arranged for the website.

7. **What we've been doing**

- Bee Walk Leaflet – The Bee leaflet group updated members on progress. Members viewed the draft leaflet so far which includes illustrations from Susan. It is anticipated that the leaflet will be ready for distribution by the end of March. Printing costs and conditions are being investigated. A £150 fund application is being compiled. Members present approved of the leaflet, commended the group for their work and agreed that approximately £100 from WFoE funds to aid the project would be reasonable. It is hoped that the fund application will be finalised in the next week.

- Roundabout wild flower planting –
A member reported that there has been no response from WDC.

Perhaps other places should be considered. **All members** to inform the group of places they have noticed that could be planted up with wild flowers. The coordinator will contact Red Kite Housing to enquire if we could join in with some new building re planting.

- Fracking talk – a member has arranged a talk on fracking. It will be a public event. There was discussion about how extensive to make this event and it was decided that a possible date would be 1st May and if not, 5th June to coincide with our meetings.

- Thermal imaging update
Three members will carry this out soon.

8. What's happening out there: (What we're going to do)

- Bare Gardens

More gardens are required for this project. A member reported that WDC are hoping to appoint an allotment and green spaces officer. The coordinator will find out the relevant council meeting so this issue can be raised.

- Clean Energy photos. A member will send these on for possible inclusion in an Energy exhibition at Wycombe Library.

- Wycombe's New Local Plan Comments

The coordinator submitted comments that he had distributed to the WFOE group by email.

- Many members contacted MEPs to urge them to vote for an enlightened Common Fisheries Policy and it has got through the first stage at the European Commission.

9. Campaign ideas – as above.

10. Anything we've forgotten (AOB)

The coordinator contacted the discussion group which invited us to join the group, located in a pub. Members are welcome.

11. Date of next meeting will be on 6th March 2013 at The Environment Centre.

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