

# Wycombe Friends of the Earth

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2013, 7.30pm at The Environment Centre,  
Wye River Studios, 17 West Wycombe Road, High Wycombe, HP11 2LG

### 1. Welcome and apologies

Present: 10

Apologies: 3

Previous AGM Minutes were agreed.

### 2. Review of the year, April 2012-April 2013

The complete review was distributed with the agenda but main points are:

- A change in meeting venue to Wycombe Environment Centre.
- An increase in subscription fees to £10 per annum.
- Help from Nikki Packham from National FOE in the way we operate at meetings and run stalls.
- Website, discussion email ring and links with the Environment Centre are working well.
- Campaigns undertaken relate to bees and the management of local green spaces for biodiversity.
- 5 stalls have been run over the year to raise awareness of campaigns.
- A local bee leaflet for families has been produced by 5 members. It is aimed at families with children, has craft activities, bee information, ways to help, wild flowers to look for and when, links to related websites and organisations, links to WDC for local walks.
- 3 members have had meetings over the year with Red Kite with a view to leaving un-mown areas near their housing and potentially planting up such areas with bee friendly flowers.
- Group and member contributions have been made to WDC Local Plan and lobbying of MPs.
- There have been talks on Population Matters and Fracking.
- Monthly meetings usually attract around 11 members.]
- Officers: Co-ordinator, Treasurer, Minutes and Membership secretary were thanked for their various and valuable contributions over the last year.
- The Review was agreed as representative.

### 3. Financial report

- Income: membership (£195) and income outweighed expenditure so is sustainable. The increase in subscriptions contributed to this as the previous year's income/expenditure was not sustainable.
- Main expenses: meeting room hire (£118), FOE registration fee (£20).
- Balance - £268.49 + cash in hand £177.60 = £446.09, with £260 due to be paid soon for printing of the bee leaflet.
- There were no questions about the finances.

### 4. Election of Officers

The following officers were agreed for the next year:

- Treasurer Co-ordinator

In addition, the following points were raised and discussed:

## **5. Bee Cause Campaign and other activities - further updates**

- Stalls. Hamilton School Fete, 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 12-4pm – 14 members to help. Others welcome. Other stalls proposed are at the Pann Mill open day 14<sup>th</sup> July 11-5pm. Also Notcutts in September
- 3 members have made progress with their meetings with Red Kite and have some green spaces potentially earmarked for planting with (wild)flowers. There was some discussion about how best to do this and next steps. Red Kite representatives are open to suggestions and they are willing to explore the possibility of creating bee friendly flower areas. There will be another meeting in early July to progress this. Another member will join the group. One member has found a piece of land near her home, which WDC has given permission for her to plant with flowers. Also there is a possibility that an area on Downley Common could be planted up.
- Islamic environmentalism evening – on 21<sup>st</sup> June at The Environment Centre. The EC have asked for leaflets to inform the attendees and we will provide any relevant leaflets.
- Since the above review period, a public Fracking talk by Paul Mobbs was successfully undertaken with approximately 40 attendees. There was a fair trade stall and a WFOE plant and card stall. The possibility of another talk in September/October was discussed. Suggestions for topics are welcomed.
- Other ideas for campaigns were discussed, eg anti-consumerism, reduced meat consumption.

Refreshments, accompanied by chat, then followed and the meeting was then closed.

**6. Next meeting** will be **on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2013** at 7.30pm at The Environment Centre, Wye River Studios, 17, West Wycombe Road, High Wycombe, HP11 2LG