

Wycombe Friends of the Earth

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 4th November 2009, 7.30pm at
The Environment Centre, Holywell Mead, High Wycombe

Present: 11

Apologies: 4

1. Ecotips of the Month will be:

- Support. Show your support for strong action to prevent runaway climate change, by joining The Wave - a giant protest march in London on 5 December, organised by the Stop Climate Chaos coalition. The march will coincide with the start of the Copenhagen international talks, so it's a great time to show your support. Click here for details of how to join the march.
- Mouthwashes may give you minty-fresh breath, but their environmental impact could leave a bad taste in your mouth. Many contain ingredients such as formaldehyde and sodium lauryl sulphate that harm aquatic life after going down the plughole. Try rinsing your mouth with salty water after brushing to achieve the same effect without polluting waterways and save money at the same time.

2. Events Calendar

- A copy of the events calendar was available and will be accessed on line by clicking on the calendar icon on the top right corner on the home page of the website.
- Updates will be put onto the calendar for the website.
- The number of hits there are on the website will be ascertained for the next meeting.

3. Promotional Materials

- Any promotional materials will be put on the table at meetings for people to take.
- Members updated the places they could place the materials.

4. The Wave – London pre Copenhagen Rally – 5th December.

- The UK's biggest ever demonstration in support of action on climate change.
- FOE is asking local groups to join this event. More details at www.the-wave.org.uk.
- 12 noon to meet, 3pm encircling of parliament. Suggest a train at about 11.04am, 11.20 am.
- Dress code is blue. Make own banners if we want them.
- chilternwoodrecycling.org can be contacted for bits of wood etc. for banners etc.
- MPs are due to be visited to reinforce Copenhagen Rally.
- Bucks Free Press coverage will be sought.

5. Planet Friendly Farming Event.

- A video of the event is being made and could be uploaded onto You Tube and then accessed via the Wycombe FOE website. Permissions will be checked.

6. Schools

- Child-friendly material will be sought on this to supply to schools that wish to use it.

7. The Age of Stupid

- This film will be shown at the Environment Centre on 25th November at 7.30pm by Transition Towns
- Wycombe FOE members have been asked to publicise this event and details have been added to our website
- Extra posters for printing out will be on our website and on the Transition Towns website.

8. The Handbook

- The draft handbook was passed round for perusal. It is a reference guide to introduce members to the way we operate and is in 3 parts:
 1. Targeted at newcomers
 2. The formal constitution
 3. Processes and procedures
 - Thanks to those who worked on this.

9. Partnership Working between Local Environmental Groups and Plastic Bags

- Wycombe FOE has been invited to join with the Wycombe Partnership on reducing usage of plastic bags, but there are no definite plans co-ordinated at present.
- There was a discussion to suggest environmental topics to suggest to the Wycombe Partnership for follow-up, eg house insulation, public transport and public transport fares.

10. Next meeting will be on Wednesday 2nd December at 7.30pm at the Environment Centre (first Wednesday of each month).