

Wycombe Friends of the Earth

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 3rd November 2010, 7.30pm at
The Friends Meeting House, 25 London Road, High Wycombe

Present: 13

Apologies: 1

1. Welcome and apologies

A new member was welcomed.

2. Ecotip of the month will be:

To find out how much money you are spending on your house appliances, go to www.energytariff.co.uk. The website calculates the kW/h and the cost of running your fridge, freezer, TV, dishwasher, tumble dryer and oven/hob.

Members green ecotips

The meeting was informed that plastic food bags, like those containing frozen peas etc, can be placed in the recycle bin for plastic bags at supermarkets, like Sainsbury's, if the plastic is a bit stretchy.

3. Members Pack

The latest version of the members pack was produced. The new attendee will give feedback. Other members are also invited to comment.

4. Finance

Paperwork for a third signatory is being actioned.

The rent for the meeting room will be paid and takes us up to December.

5. Eden's Green Credentials

A member has drafted a letter to three people involved in the running of Eden, pointing out the sustainability charter and a reply has been requested. The meeting agreed that the letter should be sent.

6. Local Authorities' Plastic Recycling Practices (Mike)

WDC has been asked which plastics they recycle. There is potential to extend it to more plastics. A new waste collection programme is planned with other authorities and if this does happen, there will be further discussion about recycling more materials and input from environmental groups will be welcomed. They will be contacted to encourage more recycling.

7. Report on meeting / other communications with Steve Baker MP and other MPs

- Several members had received replies from MPs contacted by email/letter.
- National FOE has suggestions for replies to these if anyone interested.
- Re: meeting with Steve Baker; he talked about how the economic system worked and the Food Bill was briefly discussed. He will not support the Sustainable Livestock Bill. He is potentially willing to talk to us and/or Transition Towns on the 'Big Society'.
- A follow-up meeting with Steve Baker will be attempted with Transition Town, High Wycombe.

8. Forthcoming events including possible social

- 9pm Channel Four on Thursday 4th November – Where the Green Movement Got it Wrong.
- Sunday 7th November – Marlow Farmers Market will be started up again in Dean Street. First Sunday of every month. See website for more details.
- 4th December – National Climate march in London.
- A social will be arranged with Transition Towns.

9. Engaging with new audiences: BNU / Facebook

The Face Book page will be enlivened as we are missing out on an audience. A volunteer co-ordinator at Bucks New Uni will be contacted. She encourages students to get involved in voluntary organisations, such as ours.

10. Community Food Growing - ideas for suitable land

- If anyone is aware of a piece of land available for a local community to grow some food, the Council will encourage this.
- If any members are interested in taking on the 'bare gardens' scheme, please contact us as the present organiser is moving away.

11. "Incineration" or "Energy From Waste" - discussion

Two members introduced the topic of incinerators by producing basic pros and cons. The topic was discussed with a view to deciding on a view from Wycombe FOE. However, it was felt that we needed more figures for consideration.

12. AOB

There was no AOB.

13 Next meeting will be on Wednesday 1st December (regular meetings on the first Wednesday of each month) at 7.30pm at **the Friends Meeting House**, 25 London Road (on the corner of London Road with Stuart Road). **This may take the form of a social with Transition Towns - to be confirmed.**