

# Wycombe Friends of the Earth

## Minutes of Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 4th July 2012, 7.30pm

at The Friends Meeting House, 25 London Road, High Wycombe.

**Present:** 11

**Apologies:** 1

### **1. Welcome and apologies**

### **2. Ecotip of the month** July's Ecotip will be:

Fed up with over-packaged salad? You don't need a garden to grow your own salad and it's really easy to do. Some salads can be grown all year round. Grow them on your windowsill or by your front door. It's not too late to sow radish, lettuce, chard, French beans or runner beans.

### **3. Forthcoming events**

- Aylesbury Vale FOE – local groups gathering – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2012
- *Growth Busters film – Hooked on Growth*, on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2012
- National FOE conference 2012, 14-16 September 2012, at Imperial College, London

### **4. Finance**

- Membership fees are coming in and we are now in profit.

### **5. Agree future meeting venue**

- It was agreed that we should change our meeting venue to The Environment Centre, Wye River Studios, 17 West Wycombe Road, High Wycombe, HP11 2LG with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2012.
- The website and email ring will be informed.
- 2 members will just stay for 15 minutes at the Friends Meeting House next month, in case some members attend there by mistake.
- Parking at the Centre is limited but members can park in car parks and roads round the corner in the Desborough Avenue area.

### **6. Possible stall at Notcutts**

- A date in September will be agreed with Notcutts with a view to having a bee awareness stall there. Also to find out the rules of the stall and what, if anything, we would be allowed to sell.
- A member will make up some bee 'hotels' to sell at some point for WFOE funds.
- There is a wild flower area planted at Bucks New Uni.
- It is possible that we could plant up the roundabout at the end of Sunters Wood Close, perhaps next spring.
- There will be a meeting about the bee campaign and wild flower planting on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm.

### **7. Decide on our involvement at Wycombe Harvest 2012 – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> August, High Street, High Wycombe.**

- It will involve local food businesses and any organisations to do with food from an environmentally friendly point of view.
- We could have a WFOE stall to promote bee awareness.

## **8. Nikki Packham's continued offer of support to Group**

Nikki may be available to help with setting up stalls. She will be contacted.

## **9. FOE Motions process**

- Local groups can put forward a motion to conference.
- Some local groups have been less than happy that their chosen motions have not appeared at conference.
- Therefore there is a new process (3D). Three motions will be chosen for local groups to consider, and the top idea will be put forward as a national campaign or the local group putting it forward may get funding to carry it forward itself.
- A member will look at the motions hub ('3D proposals and motions hub') as he is signed up already.
- This is a one year trial to see how it works.

## **10. Update on Bassetsbury Allotments.**

Bassetsbury Allotments was threatened with closure because of contamination. WDC were on the point of recommending closure but the cabinet member responsible has been approached, resulting in WDC planning to carry out another in depth risk assessment endorsed by The Town Council.

It is possible that heavily contaminated bits may be closed and cleaner areas opened to allotments again but this is by no means certain.

## **11. AOB**

A member has two more matches of gardeners to gardens.

Bucks, Berks and Oxon Wildlife Trust is proposing to buy a site for the planting of a meadow and they need to raise the money, so if anyone would like to donate to that cause, extra funds would be gratefully received.

**12. Next meeting** will be on Wednesday 1st August 2012 at 7.30pm at:

**The Environment Centre, Wye River Studios, 17 West Wycombe Road, High Wycombe, HP11 2LG**

Please note new venue.