

Wycombe Friends of the Earth

Minutes of Monthly Meeting on Wednesday 7th December 2016, 7.30pm at
The Friends Meeting House, 25 London Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1BJ

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Steve Morton, Monica Harris, John Harris, Jean James, Rod James, Mike Chadwick, Sally Jay, Mike Jay, Ivan Cicin-Sain, Alison Cicin-Sain, Paul Field, Gemma Rogers.

Apologies: 0

Names in **bold** denote action required by those persons.

1. Finance – over £300 in credit.

2. Green Living tip of the month will be:

Spread the love

When buying Christmas presents, consider buying

- 1. items that do not require batteries,*
- 2. fewer items (are they likely to end up in landfill all too quickly?),*
- 3. recycled/sustainable paper and cards.*
- 4. only food you are likely to use up to reduce waste.*

3. Future Events,

Wednesday 12th December, 10am - Morrisons stream litter pick.

Saturday 10th December – Chinnor and Thame Christmas Green Fayre, 10am-3pm.

Sunday 11th December – Haddenham Village Hall, Greener Living Christmas Fayre, 2pm.

Wednesday 11th January – WFOE social, 7.30pm in The Robert Loosely. .

4. Air Quality

- Karl Griffin at WDC has been appointed to be responsible for air quality in the district.
- **Mike Ch** and **Jean** will attend a meeting with him on Thursday 5th Jan, 10.30am.
- Four monitoring tubes have arrived to test for areas of high concentration of traffic emissions. They should be placed at the site for between 2 and 4 weeks before being sent to the lab to be tested and the results sent back to us.
- Potential sites: Outside *Ruby Moon*, someone's house in Marlow that Mike Ch knows, a shop that Ivan has contacted in Marlow, outside Paul Field's house.
- **Mike Ch.** and **Paul** will put up the tubes as soon as they can arrange it.

5. How/When to use the film 'Before the Flood' – length 90 minutes.

We will show this film at the February meeting (Wednesday 1st February 2017)

6. Help Build the FoE Network 0 national FoE initiative

This involves working with other groups who might be interested in affiliating to FoE.

Chilterns Low Carbon is considering affiliating. Such affiliations may be advantageous for legal reasons.

7. Coffee cup recycling – McDonalds and their recycling plans

Ivan has been researching. Some McDonalds outlets are trialling a cup that can be recycled (in 150 branches) but McDonalds in High Wycombe do not recycle paper cups at the moment. Costa Coffee will recycle their own and other cups where possible.

The general trend towards fully recycled paper cups is an encouraging one but Monica raised the point about drive-in and take-away customers. There should be an incentive for recycling cups.

8. Global Crisis meeting in Oxford – was interesting. Tony Juniper was perhaps more hard-hitting than Craig Bennett, but both were good speakers.

9. WEC and Empower to Cook status

Ivan reported that WEC are finding premises in order to work with 'Empower to Cook', with cookery and gardening classes.

10. AOB

•Viridor operates the waste separation plant that WDC uses. Mike Ch has contacted them to ask about their recycling rejection rates. **Mike Ch** will chase this.

11. Mince Pies and other contributions were shared with festive enjoyment.

The next 'meeting' held on **Wednesday 11th January, (not 4th)** 2017 at 7.30 p.m. will be a social event at The William Robert Loosely, opposite Marks and Spencer, High Wycombe.