

Wycombe Friends of the Earth,
Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday 5th April 2017 at 7.30pm, at
The Friends Meeting House, 25 London Road (on corner of Stuart Road).
High Wycombe, HP11 2LG

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: 11

Apologies: 2

2. Air Quality

The second batch of diffusion tubes has been sent off for analysis. Reporter from BFP asking about pollution levels on London Road, following up on a question asked by a Councillor at a WDC meeting. WDC says the levels on London Road corridor are varied. Close to 40 µg/m³ close to town (safe limit). But slight improvement at Wycombe Marsh end over last few years. 2016 results waiting for "national calibration levels" - unclear what "calibration levels" are.

It was discussed whether we want to get BFP involved at the moment but decided to wait for latest sample returns. Interesting article in the The Guardian about illegally toxic air around schools, including map showing toxic areas. Theresa May has said she empathises with those who bought diesel cars and will take account of previous governmental encouragement of diesel ownership when they issue new plan for tackling emissions.

3. Pann Mill

Suggest include something on air quality - maybe with Guardian article and local (our own) air tube results. Local map of Wycombe and area with high pollution areas marked would be good. Alongside any new Gov't initiatives on this subject.

Some ideas:

Any studies on relationship between emissions and health?

Include what we can do to help ourselves?

Pinpoint places people think are bad?

Just ask people what they think. Get them to talk about air quality. Engages them on the subject. e.g. I am concerned about air quality because.....

With post-its for people to add to page. Acquire a flip chart stand... (from Quakers?)

Still time after May meeting to finalise plans.

4. Clean Air Week of action June 24th - 2nd July.

Theme: Clean Air everywhere. Create clean air zone. Get maximum pressure on local MPs, invite press etc. What do we want to do? Not close off a street, but perhaps a stand/stall for one Saturday. A member offered to find about permission for a stall from HWBIDCO - either Frogmoor or by

church, either on June 24th or July 1st. When will we have props, and what will they be? A member to enquire of FoE about this.

5. Wycombe Sound

A member went along ready to be interviewed. Told would not be live, then told would use some clips. When he listened on broadcasting day, there was no mention of his interview. Ivan mentioned that John Laker has been invited to talk on Population Matters so it will be interesting to hear if his interview is transmitted. Perhaps offer short interviews on special events to keep in public eye (if accepted). It was suggested we could make our own programme and offer it to them as they are all volunteers and may be seeking programme material. We will ask about his clips and whether they are interested in local environmental info. and projects.

Other Local Media? BFP already in our sights. A member had sent an article to BFP in past, not published. Send again? Facebook - reliant on one member. Here in your Area, local publication mentioned by another member who will bring copy.

6. Forthcoming Meetings

Chris Church from Oxford FoE to come in May. He is on National Board and deals with local group issues. Do we wish him to bring anything other than air quality into discussion. "Lessons from other groups" How to attract people?

7. AGM 7th June

In June. Suggested speaker: New Co-ordinator of Chiltern Green Party Peter Sims. **Ivan** to ask. Subject? Green party politics in future?

We ask Jean to send out formal invitation if possible please before next meeting.

8. Upcoming events

Chinnor & Thame Green Living Fayre 6th May. Info on facebook pages. Friends of the Wye AGM on May 13th.. (Revive the Wye is not quite the same, though associated)

8. AOB

- Population matters film was very good. Good audience. Member used Meet Up.?? Had request to rescreen in July sometime.
 - National FoE: time for national and governance motions. Any topics we want to request? Make it known if so. Can vote if you want.
 - Someone at film evening had stated that UK had met its electricity requirement through renewables on some days, but we were not able to verify this.
- Bee beer from Brakspear - 10 p to bee conservation site.

9. Next Meeting - Wednesday 3rd May at Friends Meeting House