

Wycombe Friends of the Earth

Minutes of Monthly Meeting on Wednesday 3rd May 2017 7.30pm at
The Friends Meeting House, 25 London Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1BJ

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: 13 Apologies: 1

2. Finance – Website and room hire costs are to be paid. 2 members paid subs.

3. Green Living tip of the month will be:

Clearing out the garage or shed?

WORKAID is a charity based in Chesham, Buckinghamshire with a network of Tool Collection Points all over the UK. It is run by an ever growing team of volunteers who refurbish tools and then send them to vocational training projects in Africa and the UK and have received the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. Change lives by donating your unwanted tools and equipment. Each year 80 tonnes of tools are saved from landfill, refurbished and sent to vocational training projects in East Africa and the UK. More information can be found at: <http://workaid.org>

4. Air Quality campaign – see below.

5. Pann Mill on 14th May

• It was decided that the display board would contain:

Panel 1 – about WFOE

Panel 2 and 3 – space for people to express their opinions ie

1. I am concerned about air quality because.....

2. What I think should be done about it is

Panel 4 – Air Quality information.

- A second batch of air quality monitor readings was sent to WDC. Results:
Princes Risborough is not exceeding the safe limit at the moment but that does not mean air quality should not be improved there, as it is still rather high.
High Wycombe – highest reading had reached, but not exceeded, the EU limit in the area around Tesco local in Chapel Lane. The other levels were lower (outside FMH in London Road, Hazlemere crossroads and Cressex).
- Wycombe District Council was waiting for calibration levels to be taken into account.
- We could make councillors aware of pressure to be active about air quality so any public pressure we can bring to bear, eg through Pann Mill, would be advantageous.
- BFP published a report and quoted replies from a member and WDC.

6. Clean Air Week (June 24 to July 1)

- Various possibilities regarding running a stall on one of the above weekends were discussed, with regard to cost, effectiveness, liability requirements, position etc.
- It was thought that we could run a stall perhaps from 10am-1pm which would be much the same as the Pann Mill stall.
- The co-ordinator will enquire about the liability for the Church Square. Eden Centre is likely to be more expensive and it was thought there would be fewer people who would be willing to stop if they are shopping.

7. Hamilton Fair (8 July). It was decided not to run a stall at Hamilton Fair this year.

8. AGM arrangements (7th June)

- Speaker – The co-ordinator has contacted WI but has received no decision so far but Chris Church from National FOE can speak at our AGM on 7th June. The co-ordinator will ask WI to come back to talk at a later date and will send out Chris Church's 'CV' for members on the email ring to decide on topics for Chris to talk about eg. local group network, perhaps climate change, air quality.

- The co-ordinator will invite Chinnor and Thame FOE and WI to the AGM to hear Chris. A member will also invite like-minded people eg Environment Centre personnel etc.
- The co-ordinator will prepare a report. The joint co-ordinators and the Treasurer are willing to remain in post.
- Two members will provide simple refreshments.
- The Treasurer will book the larger room at the FMH.

9. Forthcoming events

- Saturday 6th May – Chinnor and Thame FOE's Green Fayre with swapshop at Chinnor memorial hall 10am-2pm. The co-ordinator to send out details by email.
- Saturday 13th May – Friends of the Wye event 10am-12 noon at Trinity United Reform church, HW. HP11 1BJ.
- 1-9 July a week of action - Climate Change coalition
- 5th June – World Environment Day

10. AOB

- A member mentioned the possibility of submitting an environmental report into Hiya which is a local magazine covering Flackwell Heath, Loudwater, The Wooburns, Bourne End and Marlow (www.hiyabucks.com). The idea was received favourably.
- The Treasurer mentioned changing to a green energy supplier and recommended Octopus and a member recommended Green Energy (who are linked with RSPB and FOE).
- Wycombe Sound – sent out an invitation for past users to contribute to programming and content. The co-ordinator would be willing to go along in principle.
- All members – subscriptions of £10pa are due (from April).

11. The next meeting will be our **AGM** and held on **Wednesday 7th June**, 2017 at 7.30 p.m. at the Friends Meeting House, address above.