

Wycombe Friends of the Earth

Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday 2nd May 2018 at 7.30pm at
The Friends Meeting House, 25 London Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1BJ

Present: 14

Apologies: 1

1. Finance and Ecotip

The bank account is in credit, after room hire expenses and membership income.

The Ecotip for May will be:

Try Hills Cafe on Micklefield Rd, a nonprofit social enterprise. Their menu is based on locally sourced, seasonal and sustainably produced ingredients. Outdoor seating and free wifi available. Closed Monday and Sunday. Address is 162 Micklefield Rd, High Wycombe HP13 7HA. See www.hillscafe.co.uk for more info.

2. Plastics Campaign

- A member has contacted the 'plastics waste' person from FOE and he is willing to come and speak on the topic at one of our June meeting provisionally – confirmation awaited.
- It seems that there is scope for much more recycling in Heath Centres/hospitals and companies. Companies have to pay for a certain amount of recycling and once recycling containers get filled, paper goes into the general rubbish. If there is a way to suggest to companies that they could reduce their waste, their costs for disposal could also be reduced.
- Schools – younger children taking milk every day generate a lot of waste, also lunchboxes. We could: write to schools with suggestions for reducing and recycling, write to schools which are successfully recycling or going plastic-free for ideas, supply a presentation etc.
- The website could contain positive stories, such as some magazines being wrapped in potato starch bags rather than cellophane.
- Two members will draft a letter to schools with a questionnaire. A member will talk to her children's school and will liaise about the letter.
- WDC has a councillor responsible for the environment – they could be contacted in order to further this campaign within the town. The Town Centre Partnership is a good avenue for such a message. The co-ordinator will write to these people as a starting point about aspects of recycling, reducing and also water fountains to reduce the use of disposable cups.
- Other organisations to contact and combine information and resources for this campaign, could be contacted.
- A member will research to what extent recycling is successful in Bucks,

3. Pann Mill

13th May. The rota is arranged.

The main focus will be the air quality campaign and the plastics waste campaign.

4. Greenpeace Meeting feed back

This (during our April meeting) was well attended. Several people came through our newly assembled wider contacts list. Also a member's contacts reaped a benefit. It was an interesting talk. The extra cost of the larger room hire was covered by donations.

5. Data Protection

Not many people on the wider contacts list have, as yet, responded to the request, to confirm permission to contact them by email. The treasurer will send out another reminder nearer the deadline. We need to use a GDPR compliant form to get people's contact details for Pann Mill etc. A member will circulate this form.

6. Morrisons streamwork.

Two members have written to Morrisons about clearing up the river but had no replies. Ideas discussed for furthering permission to clear up the river bed. A member will liaise with Friends of the Wye.

7. AGM plans

Speaker will be the FoE plastics waste person hopefully (see above under item 2).

Notice will be given of the AGM when sending out the minutes and Chinnor and Thame FOE will be invited.

The treasurer will arrange to hire the bigger room at the Friends Meeting House.

Reports to be done by the co-ordinator (review of the year) and Treasurer (finance).

Those on the wider contacts list will be invited to the AGM before 25th May (GDPR deadline).

One of the joint co-ordinators announced his intention to stand down as joint co-ordinator at the AGM. The remaining co-ordinator will welcome any offers to share the co-ordinator role with him.

8. AOB

Chinnor and Thame Swap shop is on Saturday 12th May at Mill Lane School, Chinnor, 10am-2pm.

Air Quality – no further update of note.

National Air Quality Day is 21st June.

9. The next meeting will be the AGM on Wednesday 6th June 2018, 7.30pm.