# **Wycombe Friends of the Earth**

# Minutes of Monthly Meeting on Wednesday 1. August 2018 7.30pm at Wycombe Lido, The Rye, High Wycombe.

# 1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: 9 Apologi<u>es:</u> 5 A new attendee was welcomed to the meeting.

- 2. Finance no change.
- 3. Green Living tip of the month will be: 'Ways to save Water'.

## 4. Air Quality

A member reported on an item in the Bucks Free Press, about a public health report stating that pollution levels in High Wycombe were worse than last year. This will be used as a hook to contact the council about air quality, further to his previous meetings.

#### 5. Plastic waste

A member sent a collated list that members filled in about favourite ideas for tackling this issue.

It was agreed:

- to show the film 'Plastic Ocean' in October/November on a day when we don't have a meeting. A member will look into obtaining the film by next meeting.
- to organise a plastic-free picnic, probably on The Rye, in early-mid September possibly to coincide with Pann Mill Open day on 16th September. Two members will liaise and organise this. A member will find out pros and cons from another group who have done this and liaise with Gemma and Emma.
- to coordinate with other groups, where appropriate.
- to send letters to local papers. They have sent such letters before on various green issues.
- A member will take on encouraging schools to reduce use of plastic and has contacted Wycombe and district schools. Further contact will be made in September.
- A member will make up pledge cards, and plastic waste display for Pann Mill stall.

A member circulated recycling and other waste information issued by Wycombe District Council. WDC is opening a consultation on how to streamline their waste recycling arrangements at their recycling centres in order to save money. Waitrose have introduced reusable coffee cups and phasing out one-use plastic cups for their free coffee to members.

### 6. Collaboration with Wycombe Environment Centre

Two members met with Chairman of Trustees of WEC. They are talking to WDC on air quality too, so we are keen to collaborate and not duplicate work.

They discussed running a green fayre for nature and environmental groups at a venue such as the university perhaps in the form of an exhibition. This is a possibility if we can link up with WEC and together use their links with the university and the student body studying such areas. WEC see themselves as a hub for communication for like minded groups. We could brainstorm a list of organisations to invite to the fayre. Could have green educational activities, engage students in welcoming and co-ordinating perhaps.

Two members to let Anthony know of groups we have had contact with/know about and tell him that we are enthusiastic about the idea.

#### 7. Pann Mill on Sunday 16th September 11am-5pm

A member has booked a stall and will organise the stall display.

A member will organise the rota - A member agreed to go on the rota.

#### 8. AOB

1. Calendar items:

Car free day - 22nd August.

Recycle week - 24-30 September.

Chinnor and Thame Green Fayre - possibly October 6th.

- 2. Peter Sims, Green Party, is willing to talk about divestment and possibly also the Green Party, during part of a WFOE meeting in October/November.

  A member will invite him to the October meeting.
- 3. We have renewed our membership of Marinet.
- 4. Local Food Directory needs updating and A member will look at it.
- 5. A member reported that fracking will be started at Preston New Road in Lancashire the first well that will start production by Cuadrilla.
- 6. National FOE sent information about an organisation who will come out and repair/renovate old electrical equipment.
- **9. The Next Meeting** will be on Wednesday 5th September, hopefully back at The Friends Meeting House, 7.30pm, 25 London Road, HP11 1BJ. To be confirmed.