

## Wycombe Friends of the Earth

Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday 1st May 2019 at 7.30pm at  
The Friends Meeting House, 25 London Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1BJ

**Present:** 14

**Apologies:** 3

### 1. Finance and Ecotip

- WFOE is currently £335 in credit.
- The Ecotip will be:

Pollinators. April and May are ideal months for sowing seeds and planting out, so bear in mind that some plants are much better for supporting pollinating insects and go for those whenever you can. Many plants now have a 'good for pollinators' logo on the label. Or you can buy a packet of 'good for pollinators' seeds and sprinkle on a patch in your garden. Let's help out the pollinators together.

Plant Pots. Also bear in mind when buying plants that black plastic cannot be recycled easily and some garden centres are moving over to different coloured plastic pots for this reason so go for these if possible and then reuse and recycle them. Of course, if you sow your own seeds you won't need a plastic pot at all! If your supplier is still supplying black plastic pots, you might like to email them and ask why! (The Walled Garden in Great Missenden will take plastic pots for re-use). Some garden centres are using biodegradable pots so look out for those.

### 2. Climate change

a) in relation to Pann Mill (and any other Pann Mill planning) Sunday 12th May

The rota is set up.

The display board will concentrate on climate change and WFOE information.

b) in relation to the new FOE campaign

Chinnor and Thame FOE held a well attended meeting on climate change that included local councillors etc. Two WFOE members attended.

The co-ordinator outlined some of the FOE publicity on climate change.

### 3. Air quality

- In the Wycombe Times, an anti-idling policy was highlighted. Offenders could be fined for allowing cars to idle in certain locations, eg outside schools, where notices will be put up.
- Buses can be refurbished to reduce emissions.

### 4. Plastics

- Re-showing of 'Plastic Ocean' film, Transition Town Marlow have identified a free venue, which will take half the proceeds from any donations. TT M would handle publicity but no dates yet.
- Someone known to WFOE has had contact with the director of the Plastic Ocean and is in contact with Rowers against Rubbish. She hopes to bring all these together to produce an event, maybe a film show plus discussion. It was decided to put her in touch with the above venue and keep WFOE in the loop for help if and where necessary.
- She has set up a date, 1<sup>st</sup> June, for the supermarket plastic attack. Details to follow.
- Two people have contacted WFOE wishing to be involved in the plastic waste campaign. The co-ordinator has directed them to the Facebook page which will have such information.

**5. Any items from Groundswell** (FoE regional gathering) not covered under climate change.

The co-ordinator attended – venue was impressive. Mainly climate change focussed. Craig Bennett, chief executive officer of FOE, was present.

**6. Action network (FoE campaign tool)**

- This is a method of organising petitions, actions and ticketing events online. There is a webinar for local groups to use. It's free and we could trial it. The co-ordinator will look into this.

**7. Planning for the AGM.**

- The treasurer will request the big room.
- Speaker – Aaran Kiely, from FOE head office, will speak on FOE climate campaign (Campaign leader on FOE Climate Ambition Team).
- Publicity – Facebook, Chinnor and Thame, our contact list, BFP.
- The co-ordinator will ask Craig if there is an electronic version on his presentation for future use.
- 5<sup>th</sup> June is also Environment Day.
- Election of officers.

**8. AOB**

- The co-ordinator has been contacted by a parent from a school in Beaconsfield who would like to do a fundraiser for WFOE as a mufti day, and would like a presentation for her junior school by one of our members. We will follow this up.

- Thame and Chinnor FOE Green Event is on 11<sup>th</sup> May.

- A trustee of Wycombe Environment Centre, said it's not currently very active. They are planning to operate in one of the secondary schools, re energy efficiency.

- A member gauged reaction about forming an Extinction Rebellion High Wycombe group. There is a Marlow group which includes people from HW. There was some discussion about this. It was felt that Marlow, including HW members, would be sufficient at present. There are groups in Cambridge, Milton Keynes, Reading, Oxford etc. already. They are talking to FOE.

**9. The next meeting** of Wycombe Friends of the Earth will be the AGM on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30pm at The Friends Meeting House, 25 London Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1BJ.