

Wycombe Friends of the Earth

Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday 15th January 2020 at 7.30pm at
The Friends Meeting House, 25 London Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1BJ

Present: 15

Apologies: 4

Names in **bold** indicate action required by that person/persons.

1. Finance and Ecotip

WFOE is currently in credit

The Ecotip for January will be:

If you don't already know this, the Body Shop will accept ALL cosmetic containers - glass, plastic, (apart from combustible stuff like paper), perfume bottles, shampoo bottles, tubes of make-up...ALL OF THEM. Doesn't matter what make of produce, they will go for recycling. The company they are working with will send nothing to landfill. BUT..... if no-one uses this facility, it will be scrapped, so please use it and tell your friends and family.

But don't forget, going forward, the less we buy of this stuff, the better.

2. Climate Emergency

- A member has registered WFOE as a Climate Action Group rather than being part of Wycombe Climate Action Group. WCAG has set up a Facebook discussion group.
- There was a meeting organised by Aylesbury Quakers on Fossil Fuel Divestment in Bucks. Oxford meeting explained how they were doing this. Bucks County Council, eg through their pension fund, has not been active in such divestment so far. Bucks CC investment portfolio review is coming up in May, so there is an opportunity to try and influence this as well as exerting influence on the new unitary council in environmental issues in general.
- A member will circulate his communication proposing the declaration of a climate emergency to various parish councils.
- In our February meeting, WFOE will put together a list of possible climate emergency actions, to propose to the new unitary council. After some discussion, it was decided that WFOE would invite people from other like minded groups to participate. It would be a meeting hosted by WFOE but the resulting list would not necessarily be 'owned' by WFOE. Members should do some research so that there will be thoughtful input at the meeting. Such a list could help, and be helped by, other councils/meetings.

3. Air quality – Draft air quality supplementary planning document

- This supplements already adopted policy and is under the auspices of planning. Re electric charging points for new housing, it is proposed that there should be requirements for electric vehicle charging points - 1 private charger per dwelling and 1 additional public charger for every 10 dwellings. For non residential building - 10% of spaces should have a 32amp charger. Larger non residential developments should have rapid charging for every 50 spaces or more, with a 1 hour parking limit.

Layout of larger developments should include green infrastructure and take account of air quality, and require an air quality report which would include input from organisations reporting on cycling/walking routes etc.

- A member submitted comments about the tree canopy supplementary document on behalf of WFoE, after collating comments from the group.

4. Politicon. 6-8pm on Thursday 13th February at John Hampden Grammar School.

- This will involve a stall and a discussion. 6th form students are invited to attend. Two members will attend.

5. Any Other Business

- A member has approached a school inviting the emergence of a 'Greta Thunberg' figure. This could take the form of an online competition with a 3 minute video on their 'pitch'. Those on a shortlist could be invited to speak to an audience, perhaps with a panel to choose an area representative. Further investigation will be done.
- The stream at Morrisons has a lot of litter. Members are invited to write to Morrisons to suggest they clear it up. A member will enquire from Revive the Wye if there is likely to be any action from them. A member will investigate any link to such action, under biodiversity, through the new Morrisons exit plans at The Spindle and Thread end.
- TV Programme of interest: 21st Jan 9pm, Horizon, BBC 2, with Chris Packham, on population .

The next meeting of Wycombe Friends of the Earth will be on Wednesday 5th February 2020, 7.30pm at The Friends Meeting House, 25 London Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1BJ.