

# Wycombe Friends of the Earth

Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday 2nd September 2020 at 7.30pm  
online via Zoom

**Present through Zoom:** 7

**Apologies:** 5

## 1. Campaigning and our MPs (including lobbying)

National FOE has circulated access to information about lobbying MPs. We could invite Steve Baker at some point soon, but not for the AGM, to ask him for his vision for the future re climate change. Questions welcome, indeed encouraged, from members. One question has already been submitted.

## 2. The climate campaign

- BCAA (Bucks Climate Action Alliance) had a meeting last week and discussed how to expand the group, how to communicate and increase influence.
- One area to pursue is to try to engage with community boards. These are 16 committees set up by Bucks Council to provide some localism, Each board made up from local people, parish councillors etc. They intend to encourage local participation, which is harder at present because of covid.
- The climate change motion which the council agreed upon did have a section to encourage climate action in the local community board. BCAA would like at least one person to attend each of these boards to ask questions re climate change.
- A member is happy to go on the Beaconsfield and Chepping Wycombe area board. It would involve attending meetings over the next month or so. Would need to contact the co-ordinator and prepare the way to ask a question that pushes the climate change discussion. Another member will try and get onto his area community board meeting. Another member will email a question to the Wycombe community board meeting,
- There is an MP lobby in September with 10 specific spending asks. WFoe to send an email to Steve Baker.
- Members please note that there is also a week of action starting 5th October relating to Climate Action and Build Back Better.

**3. The future of Nature campaign** is also 22 and 24th September - Zoom meeting

## 4. Finding Greta update.

- The October venue has been cancelled. It has been mentioned on local radio etc. and on the WFoE Facebook page, but difficult to circulate it widely.
- After discussion it was decided that a Youtube channel can be set up to promote Finding Greta. Also, perhaps there is a similar initiative in other areas through Youtube that we could use to promote/give ideas for ours? If you have a google account, you can access your Youtube channel by clicking your profile button from YouTube. For info, there is a FOE UK channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/friendsoftheearth>.

## 5. AGM

- The coordinator will let the membership know by email that anyone can propose an item for the AGM by email. The coordinator's report and the financial report can be sent out previously so people can read them.
- The coordinator will put out an email ahead of the AGM saying that we need people to come forward to fulfill the roles of Treasurer, website master and secretary.
- A member will send email contacts so that the coordinator can inform everyone.

## 6. AOB

- Face to Face meetings,

it was decided that WFoE meetings will continue by Zoom until at least the new year, when the situation will be reviewed. The wording on the head of the website will be changed to say that our meetings are continuing by Zoom and anyone not on the membership email group wishing to join a meeting, should send an email to WFoE through the website.

- Parking charges for Handy Cross Car Park.

The council is consulting on introducing parking charges at the Handy Cross Park and Ride because some people use the free car park but not the Park and Ride. It is not evident whether they intend those using the park and ride to have a reduction/discount due to parking charge. This will not encourage people to use the Park and ride and therefore potentially will raise carbon levels in the town, although there is no mention of taking carbon levels into consideration, which is disappointing. Members can submit comments by email through:

<https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/communities/osppo-2020-amends/>

**7. The next meeting** will be via Zoom on Wednesday 7th October 2020 and will be the AGM.