

# Wycombe Friends of the Earth

Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday 4th November 2020 at 7.30pm  
online via Zoom

**Present through Zoom:** 16

**Apologies:** 1

## 1. Ecotip was agreed

An eco Christmas - see WFoE website.

## 2. The climate campaign

- Several members attended the Environment and Climate Change subgroup of the High Wycombe Community Board meeting.
- On the transport subgroup of the Beaconsfield and Chepping Wye community board meeting, several decisions were agreed to be put forward and costed.
- It was thought beneficial for members to be part of community board groups, whether aimed at environment and climate issues or not, to provide an opportunity to influence decisions with regard to environment and climate change.
- Hazlemere Parish Council is creating a neighbourhood plan.
- Bucks CC consultations such as school transport and budget are currently running. Members are asked to look at these and contribute as they don't seem to take account of climate issues.

The budget consultation ends on 8th November - see

<https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/corporate-services/budget-2021-22/>

The home-school transportation consultation ends on 7th December - see

<https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/schools/htst-2021-consultation/>

- A member will circulate information on consultations - eg how to get notified when they begin.
- A member asked how we can reach all councillors, not just the like-minded ones, and get them to understand the emergency and that it is relevant to all policy areas?

## 3. The Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill and meetings with MPs

- Two meetings with MPs have taken place. A member attended a zoom meeting with Joy Morrissey (Beaconsfield).
- 2 members + others from other organisations met with Steve Baker (High Wycombe). Steve Baker will not sign the bill he was aware of areas of poor air quality in High Wycombe and ecological and environmental issues were discussed.
- Conservative Environmental Network has some committed members.
- There is a 'Peers for the Planet' group. A member will find out more.

## 4. A green and fair recovery. No update.

## 5. The Planning White Paper

- The Co-ordinator contributed to this on behalf of WFoE and gave particular detail about carbon neutrality and social housing.
- Joy Morrissey is working with Bucks CC to encourage more local decisions.
- There is a lot of opposition to the White Paper and it is unlikely to happen.

## **6. Forthcoming Events**

- 'One Year to COP26' CEN (Conservative Environment Network) webinar on Monday 9th Nov. 4-5pm. See:

<https://www.cen.uk.com/events/2020/11/9/one-year-to-cop26>

- 'Planet in Crisis' is running a number of interesting online events over the next few days, eg 'The Threat from Arctic Methane', (5th November), 'Sustainable Economy Day' (6th November), 'Nature Day' (7th November), 'World Scientists Warning of Climate Emergency and COP26 Action' (8th November).

For more details and to register tickets, see:

<https://www.planetincrisis.com/>

## **7. AOB**

- A member is on the panel of The Chiltern Society online conference on Saturday - towards a greener Chilterns. More at:

<https://chilternsociety.org.uk/event/cleaner-greener-chilterns-on-line-conference/>

- A member would welcome anyone knowledgeable on trees to contact him as he is involved in a group re: tree planting but there is a problem with young trees being vandalised or not cared for. Solutions for this are being sought.

The next meeting of Wycombe Friends of the Earth will be on Wednesday 2nd December 2020, 7.30pm, via Zoom.