

Wycombe Friends of the Earth
Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday 1st September 2021 at 7.30pm.
Held as Zoom meeting

Present: Online: 10 At the Friends Meeting House: 1

Apologies: 7

1. Ecotip will be:

Organic September 2021 - give it a try.

In the face of climate change, diet related ill-health and widespread decline in wildlife, the need to change our food systems has never been greater.

Organic September is a month-long campaign to raise awareness of the many benefits of organic food and farming, which include:

Supporting biodiversity and wildlife

Helping to combat climate change

The highest standards of animal welfare

Reduced exposure to pesticides

2. Accounts

- Richard has received membership from 19 members - thank you.
- We have received the grant for Bee Squared and are getting the payments to those who need them. Then there will be a £376 surplus. Penelope will check the community board/town committee for other expenses. **Richard** will continue to finalise the payments.
- Last month's hiring of the room was not charged as we couldn't get the online link working.

3. Pann Mill (12 September, 11:00 to 5:00)

- Arrangements have been made.
- In addition, we could have a flipchart asking visitors to the stall if they have heard of COP26, are you concerned, are you optimistic etc. Could then take a photo of the results and post on social media. An opportunity for a conversation.
- **Jean** will ask WFoE members for a flip chart and paper.

4. COP26.

Look here: <https://cop26coalition.org/resource/local-hub-assemblies/>

- There is to be a Day of Action focussing on local actions on 06 November (in the middle of COP), so anything we do before then, whether with others or alone, could feed into that.

- Steve has spoken with BCAA members - nothing decided as yet as BCAA have a lot on at present.
- Any action on Day of Action on 6th November, would be to raise awareness in local press.
- There is a training webinar on 7th September 5.30-7pm by FOE on engagement re COP 26 on social media. See:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/using-social-media-for-cop-and-the-global-day-of-action-registration-166146172675>
- There was some discussion about what any action would want to achieve and who the target audience is. It would be advantageous to link it with other local action. Perhaps have messages from the public to COP 26.

5. The Great Big Green Week, 18-26 September 2021.

- Some groups are putting on small events.
- Solar Streets (Ellen)- 48 enquiries and 8 surveys/quotes are on-going, so it's starting to gain some momentum. Press will hopefully be invited to the first installation in a couple of weeks. Looking encouraging.

6. Bucks Council and Community Boards

- John attended the Transport community board meeting where he heard of a bus strategy. There are individual spots where there are parking problems. A questionnaire has asked the public about their use of buses, pre- and post- Covid onset, but it is not widespread and it is feared that it is a box-ticking exercise by the Council with possibly little resultant effectiveness.
- If **members** have not completed the Bucks public transport survey, please do so as soon as possible - consultation ends on Friday 3rd September. Link is on the WFOE Facebook page and here:
<https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/integrated-transport/busstrategy2021/>

7. Forthcoming Events

Local events for Green Week.

11th September - Wycombe Environment Repair Cafe.

13th September - Andy Sherwood to join WE meeting re verges.

8. AOB - none.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 6th October 2021.