

Wycombe Friends of the Earth
Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday 2nd February 2022 at 7.30pm.
Held as Zoom meeting

Present on Zoom: 14

1. Ecotip will be: Local milk deliveries.

2. Finance

- WFoE is in credit. There has been little change.
- The Treasurer has contacted those few who have not paid membership.

3. Jo Sharp (Jo's Terracycling) – presentation

- Based in Walters Ash.
- Takes various 'hard to recycle' items to raise money for charity, collecting 25 items including crisps packets, biscuit wrappers, bread bags, packaging, rubber gloves.
- Items are sorted and sent off to Terracycle who shred them into pellets and they are then used to create items such as children's play equipment and park benches.
- Points are received for local good causes including schools.
- Teenage Duke of Edinburgh candidates help to sort the items.
- Each scheme is sponsored by a company, eg crisps - Walkers, so items have to be sent off separately. The company who sponsors pays for the shipping and UPS come to collect.
- Collection points at:

Lacey Green - Village Hall

Walter's Ash - Private address (Private message Jo on her Facebook page below for details)

Loudwater - Private address (Private message Jo on her Facebook page below for details)

Totteridge - Private address (Private message Jo on her Facebook page below for details)

Hughenden Valley - The Harrow

Speen - Village Shop

and Downley (coming soon)

- See www.facebook.com/JosRecyclingHW

4. Buckinghamshire local plan

- 11th February is the deadline for the consultation.
- It is the first local plan for Bucks as a whole and will cover the next 20 years so it is important that climate change issues are considered alongside other decisions.
- **All members** please contribute to the consultation, which is in first stage - 'Discovery and Exploration':

<https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/planning/local-plan-2021/>

5. Housing (environmental quality)

- This campaign is looking at the environmental quality of local housing especially social housing whose residents cannot afford extra heating, insulation etc.
- Red Kite are the major suppliers of social housing in High Wycombe and Marlow.
- There seems to be issues of damp which is linked to insulation etc.
- Our contact with Red Kite is no longer in post but the Coordinator will contact Red Kite and a similar organisation in Aylesbury Vale to encourage use of insulation, energy efficient heating, etc. for existing dwellings as well as new builds.
- Those who need this help most are those who can least afford it themselves. This could be raised when responding to the local plan - **all members**.

6. High Wycombe 2050 Transport Plan and the High Wycombe LCWIP

There is no consultation for this as yet but it is thought to be in the pipeline.

- The plan should reduce carbon and improve air quality.
- It will focus on transport in central Wycombe and improving walking and cycling routes into Wycombe which includes usage of the old railway and along the A40.
- There may be more emphasis perhaps on cycling than walking but cycling might be problematic because of the hills, although electric bikes are becoming more popular.
- Walking routes should also encourage people to walk to work. Current pavements are often too narrow or are blocked by parked cars.
- A local Living Streets group might be advantageous.
- The plan needs to involve local communities.

7. Air quality in Buckinghamshire

- The most recent report covering the Wycombe area was circulated among this group.
- Hopefully Bucks Council will take the best practice from each area but the plan is not yet formulated.
- This could also be raised in the local plan consultation - **all members**.

8. AOB - none

9. The next meeting, possibly a blended Zoom/in person meeting on Wed. 2nd March 2022.