

Wycombe Friends of the Earth
Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday 4th May 2022 at 7.30pm.
Held as Blended Zoom meeting

Present on Zoom: 7 **Present at the Meeting House:** 1

Apologies: 7

1. Finance - no change.

•If **any members** haven't paid membership for this year, it would be appreciated if they could do so, if possible, by next month's AGM.

2. Ecotip will be:

Plant a Wildflower patch

Wildflowers provide pollinators and insects with food from leaves, pollen, nectar, shelter and places to breed. Pollinators then return the favour by transferring pollen, enabling the wildflowers to develop seeds that produce more flowers. You can get FREE wildflower seeds from collection points all over High Wycombe to sow a square metre of wildflowers by the end of May. See the poster below for more details. (Poster to be supplied on website).

3. Wycombe Climate Conference

Andrew Douglas, the instigator of this project, outlined the project.

- Steve Baker Watch leaflets have been distributed.
- Bucks Council are not treating the Climate Emergency with the necessary urgency.
- Andrew is proposing a Wycombe Climate Conference, perhaps during the summer at Wycombe Arts Centre, perhaps crowd funded. It is about giving Wycombe a voice as it often gets ignored in Bucks Council and lumped together with other areas who are not as urban or as big, so Wycombe's problems, e.g. air quality, are not represented.
- A member is considering a Bucks Climate Conference through Bucks Climate Action Alliance with Buckinghamshire Community Energy and Bucks Council, to encourage home energy efficiency and reduction of energy usage. He will send Andrew details.
- The conference would not be aligned to a political party.
- Wycombe is particularly in need of raising public awareness.
- WFOE could do publicity and help on the day and attend.
- Andrew has been looking at what other areas have been doing and would invite speakers, who may not be present but could join online.
- All WFOE members** - are you interested in this? Please respond.
- Maybe Andrew could be invited to our AGM to talk about the Wycombe Climate Conference in order to energise our own membership.

4. Steve Baker Watch (Gemma) -

- This organisation is campaigning to raise awareness of Steve Baker's stance against there being a climate emergency.
- The organisation holds a weekly peaceful vigil outside Steve Baker's office, 10-11am usually, on Fridays, 150 West Wycombe Road, taking photos, holding placards etc.
- If **any WFOE members** can help with this at any time, please contact WFOE.
- They would welcome a robust discussion with Steve Baker.

5. Pann Mill – any last-minute arrangements for this coming Sunday.

Rota is set up and display panels ready.

6. Housing (environmental standards)

- No change. Need more ideas and more involvement from members.
- There was some discussion about how to keep WFoE members energised and active.
- **All members** - please speak up about what you would like to see WFoE doing - whether it is a housing campaign or something else.
- Links with Bucks New Uni green group were discussed. Perhaps we can keep tabs on what they are doing and assist where possible.

7. Forthcoming events

AGM - 8th June

8. AOB - none

The next meeting, probably a blended Zoom/in person meeting, will be on Wed. 8th June 2022 **and will be the AGM.**