

Wycombe Friends of the Earth

Minutes for Zoom meeting on Wednesday 1st February 2023 at 7.30pm.

Present: 12

Names in **bold** indicate action by those persons.

1. **Ecotip** - will be carried over from last month as it is still relevant.

2. **Finance**- unchanged from last month. There are 18 paid up members.

3. **Vacant Coordinator position**

- Members read through the WFoE Handbook together to define the roles and duties of coordinator so all attendees were clear. The main duties of the coordinator is to be a link between national FOE and the local group and to encourage the local group to be as actively involved in campaigns as possible, given the size and commitments of the group.
- A member will be prepared to take on the role of coordinator with certain limitations.
- He will ask members which environmental issues interest them most - food for thought for the next meeting perhaps.
- However, he will resign from treasurer if he takes over the coordinator role.
- The treasurer role is not arduous, comprising taking membership fees, paying out website fees and a few other things that crop up from time to time.
- It was agreed to advertise the role of WFoE treasurer to the wider membership of WFoE first to ascertain interest, then other environmental groups.
- However, another member offered herself as a reserve for the role of treasurer again, but only if all other options have been explored and no-one else comes forward.
- Other members have offered to chair meetings and help with social media etc. Thank you very much to those members. A member will contact them.
- Two members will coordinate over roles of coordinator with National FOE.
- There are other roles that could be shared when the above main roles are consolidated and any paperwork relating to them completed.

4. **Friends of the Earth partnership agreement**

- The target date is the end of February to sign up but FOE may extend this deadline for us while we secure officer roles .
- Going through it reminded us what it means to be a local FOE group and what the coordinator role is.

- Main points:
 - Point 4 needs at least one named coordinator to be the main point of contact between FOE and the group to be responsible for ensuring the local action fits in with national FOE.
 - The role contains a few requirements, several values and expectations.
 - National FOE will provide support and public liability insurance, resources, grants etc.
 - The local group must act within the law and in line with FOE policies, be politically impartial, and take account of safeguarding and non-violent protest etc.
- The majority of the meeting attendees agreed that the agreement can be signed.

5. Any other Business.

- Personnel from the Climate Cafe in High Wycombe have organised a memorial walk for Steve Morton on Sunday 26th February at 1pm (anyone to attend) for a 1-1.5mile walk around Hughenden Manor. Email already distributed with details.
- Warm Homes. It would be desirable to continue this as Steve was looking into it. A member will help if necessary. We will return to this at a later date.

6. The next meeting will be a Zoom meeting on Wednesday, March 1st, 2023, 7.30pm.