

Wycombe Friends of the Earth
Minutes for Zoom meeting on Wednesday 2nd August 2023 at
7.30pm.

Present: 7

Apologies: 4

1. **Ecotip:** Improve air quality in the home. Some of the worst air quality is to be found in the home: fumes from paints and cleaning products can lead to a build-up of chemicals like benzene, a known carcinogen. Plants filter out many air impurities and give off oxygen, so why not grow a few indoors? The African daisy, green spider plant, peace lily and philodendrons are particularly good air filters. FB team will post this. (done 3/8/23)

A member noted that indoor air pollution is under researched and will provide some points that can help us to inform people more widely.

2. **Finance:** No change recorded from last minutes - bank balance healthy.

3. **Consultations: Active Travel** - The Coordinator will use google groups to report on the findings of the High Wycombe Travel Review that took place on 20th June 2023. [done 5/8/23]

4. **Campaigns: Warmer Homes (FoE)** - A member will keep us informed on this campaign. [done 3/8/23]

5. **Petitions** - The Coordinator will link petitions deemed of interest via the wfoe google group.
Suggestion to use the subject line in google group emails to highlight content quickly i.e. PETITION - MARINE LIFE (Agreed)

6. **Bucks Council**

a) **Climate Change group hiring staff** -

The Bucks Council Climate Response Team have advertised to recruit staff (application deadline dates were in July). All agreed that this is an encouraging sign.

b) Local Nature Recovery Strategy mtg 20th July.

Link: <https://bucks.mknep.co.uk/nature-strategy/overview/>

7. **Social media** - The Whatsapp group has 8 members at present. Suggestion is that the google group be used for general group information and Whatsapp used for specific arrangements i.e. covering stalls at events; last minute changes etc. All members are asked to provide feedback about the WhatsApp group. **All**

Two members will review the google group mailing list to identify how many paid up members are on the list.

Discussion around how to improve our social media presence - the importance of attracting more people to the group.

Activity on Twitter will be reviewed. A member will tag WFOE in relevant threads on Twitter and will look at our website to identify a focus.

One of the FB team will direct focus more clearly upon current campaigns -i.e. Warmer Homes

8. **Letter templates** - useful in providing a prompt for those who wish to write to MPs local councillors etc. Bullet point format agreed with the writer's own words used for the body of the text. A member will investigate formats.

9. **Online location where shareable and important files could be kept.**

Google Drive is accessible. Letter templates could also be accessed in this way. Two members will investigate and check with the Secretary.

10. **Stalls** - 2 events in September and a shortage of volunteers. Unsure whether we can we cover both?

Pann Mill Sunday 10th Sept - Our commitment will be checked by the Treasurer and the Secretary. Two members are willing to take part.

Marlow Carnival, Saturday 16th Sept in Higginson Park -The Coordinator has committed to be there. More volunteers for both events will be requested via google groups .

11. **Air Quality** - Annual Status Report was published in June 2023

https://buckinghamshire-gov-uk.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/Buckinghamshire_Council_Annual_Status_Report_2023_ASR.pdf

The Annual Status Report was published in June 2023 (see link above). To be discussed at the next meeting if there is sufficient interest.

12. **AOB** - Engaging with the community via Tesco Community Champion, Wycombe. A member will try to identify whether there is a Tesco Community engagement Officer in HW.

The next meeting will be in person on 6th September at 7.30 pm at The Friends' Meeting House, London Road, HP11 1BJ. We will endeavour to make this a hybrid meeting, but it will depend on access to the FMH wifi.