

# Wycombe Friends of the Earth

## Minutes of Zoom meeting on Wednesday 1st November 2023 at 7.30pm

**Present:** 8

**Apologies:** 1

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

### 1. Finance

£790 in the bank. October and December's room hire have yet to come off that total.

### 2. Ecotips will be:

**Eco-friendly mince pies.** According to Ethical Consumer magazine, the most climate conscious mince pies are supplied by Co-op, M&S and Mr Kipling, in that order. The ones to avoid are from Iceland, Aldi, Tesco and ASDA. Other supermarkets are about average.

**Eco-friendly Christmas.** As you prepare for Christmas, consider these online retailers for a more eco option (also sourced from Ethical consumer). Best are <https://veo.world/> and <https://onlineshop.oxfam.org.uk/> You can also find local Oxfam shops [www.oxfam.org.uk/shops/](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/shops/). The one in Wycombe closed down but there is one in Marlow and Beaconsfield. Try not to buy toys/items that require batteries, try to get recycled wrapping paper or save brown paper to wrap up presents and decorate it yourself with a spray of leaves (pressed?) or painted or cut out holly or Father Christmas.

### 3. Consultations

Active Travel. The cabinet item has been deferred until December so no update.

### 4. Campaigns

The coordinator has contacted Maureen, coordinator of Chinnor and Thame FOE. There is a day of action for warmer homes on 18th November coinciding with a Marlow Energy Group event at Court Garden in Marlow 9:30am to 4:30pm. A group will ask for signatures for a petition by United for Warmer Homes. The coordinator might attend to help.

### 5. Petitions

Chinnor and Thame FOE is running a Christmas Green Fayre where they will have the above petition on Sat 25th Nov 10am-3pm. The coordinator will share details of the petition. Bassettbury Triangle Housing was raised as a possibility.

### 6. Social media

Landscape format photo for a member to put as profile. A member to try and find a Pann Mill photo. A member says that there have been 30 posts in October and the reactions to those posts have been high (likes etc). Comments based on the posts have been pretty good but not as high as the likes. Have tried to stick to the Warmer Homes Issue but have included plastics and posts from BBOWT, Chilterns Society.

## **7. Membership and fees updates list**

Total of 16 paid up members. A member has sent out reminders.

## **8. Events**

- a. United for Warmer Homes Day of Action 18th Nov 23. The coordinator will try to put a paragraph about it in the Bucks Free Press.
- b. Chinnor and Thame FoE Christmas Green Fayre 2023, 25 Nov, 10:00 – 15:00. OX9 3DP. Entrance free, including complimentary mulled wine and mince pie!
- c. 'Kiss the Ground' Film Screening. Wild Amersham are hoping to screen the film, probably early next year in Elgiva Hall in Chesham. Richard is prepared to be on a panel to answer questions from the audience. The coordinator will make further contact.

**10. Letter templates** - no update on this at present.

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

A member shared her WFoE folder with two other members. Both can access it.

## **12. Air Quality**

Sands are quite engaged in this and Mill End School has a monitor. Bucks Council has a kit for each community board area for one year. This may then be moved on to another school. Wycombe Environment are hoping to contact other schools to encourage parents not to leave their cars idling outside school but schools are rather resistant due to lack of time and some parents reacting badly. Next Clean Air Day is on 15th June 2024.

## **13. AOB**

- a. A member rang Tesco to ascertain where their recycled soft plastics go. Last year they were recycled in Poland. If it is any different this year they will ring her and leave a message. Members will ask Co-op, Morrisons, Sainsbury's and Waitrose about their recycling.
- b. Event at Hughenden for environment groups last week informed people that behind The Harrow pub in Hughenden Valley there is a Terracycle hub for hard to recycle items.
- c. A challenge for next year? To list local recycling centres for hard to recycle items.

## **14. The next meeting**

This will be in person at the Friends Meeting House on 6th December and will be a 'social'. Members to bring a small amount of Christmas food to share (Ivan to bring Co-op mince pies) and there will be tea and coffee.