

Wycombe Friends of the Earth

Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday 2nd July at 7.30pm via Zoom

Present: 7

Apologies: 2

1. **Minutes from June meeting**– agreed
2. **Finance** - (no details assume things are the same) *

*Suggestion that membership secretary send reminders to members who have yet to pay subs for the year.

3. **Ecotips for July:**

- Watering gardens in July and August - try to water in the cool of the evening or the very early morning so that less water is lost immediately to evaporation. Use "greywater" (used kitchen or shower water, unless it is softened water).
- Keeping Cool in hot weather - place a bowl of ice cubes and cold water or an ice pack in front of a fan on the same level as the airflow. The room will cool down quickly as the fan circulates the ice-cold air and creates a refreshing breeze. You will create a cost effective, energy-efficient mini air conditioning system.

4. **Social media** – FB: 42 posts, 6 comments and 51 reactions. Most viewed – One Climate Heat Pump Event. Least viewed Blackbirds in Decline Join Survey by British Ornithological Trust. * **Members views – 28. Visitors' views – 14**

5. **Feedback on Recent Events:**

- **Friends of the Earth Regional Event on** – two members attended. Interesting event but opinion was that far too many things were covered. Ironical since emphasis was on delivering a clear and single message when campaigning –a useful tip for our own group planning. FoE campaign focus for the next 2 years – The big Climate Plan and Planet Over Profit
- **A member is willing to order FoE resources and to set up a table locally to promote the national campaign and to try to attract new members.** Members expressed willingness to help when a date has been arranged. Suggestions included using local artisan and craft markets, Bourne End Community Market, Marlow Transition Town events, Climate Cafes and that August could be a good time to capture the attention of families during the school holiday period. Andrew felt that these resources could be used at Pann Mill in September. **A member will investigate options.**
- **A member met a member of the Oxford FoE group** which is in the process of "re-grouping", thus could be worth us keeping in touch with.

- **A member reported on Chinnor and Thame FoE's organization of their annual events.**
Key seems to be that the events are at the same time each year and in the same venue. Community organizations that attend are aware of these events (as are local people) and thus contact has been established. The coordinator allocates jobs for the day and friends and family help with baking cakes, refreshments. Essentially, the events are organized by a small team based upon past practice and experience. One of the events includes a bike exchange which is very popular. Chinnor and Thame FoE also run a Climate Cafe on the second Thursday of each month during the day - this may keep the "core of the group" in contact as it must exclude working people.

6 Events Coming Up

- **Climate Coalition Mass Gathering in London on 9th July and meet your MP.**
- A member had planned to attend but having received no reply to her message to her MP, has changed her plan. ** South Oxfordshire MPs are attending; no confirmation from Wycombe/Chilterns MPs.
- **Climate Action Now Risborough** – Sunday 13th July - 5 local Eco Homes can be viewed, questions asked etc.
- **Hazlemere "Re-home" trees/bushes** being saved from the Terriers Farm planning development. Meetings on 4th Saturday of the month at 10am in the Hazlemere Community Centre. This will run alongside the Repair Café.

7 Speaker Event Updates"

- Prof Kam Bhui can no longer attend due to health reasons. He is willing to talk in 2026 and he has provided two other names for our autumn Event. Other speakers have been suggested. Emma Reynolds' Secretary has not responded to an invitation to the event. No reply from Andrew Collison, Bucks CC Environmental Health. **Action** The Working Party will meet on 10th July to discuss and provide feedback. A member will contact Mike Childs, Head of Science and Policy Research, FoE.

8 Pride of Place Events in Wycombe

- Refresh has lots going on during July and August. Includes a Climate Fresk (5 July) The Community and Climate Cafe Walking the Rye (24 July) and visit to the Community Allotment (28 Aug). Details are on our FB page.

9 Any Other Business:

- **FoE Campaigns Planet Over Profit and The Big Climate Plan – A member will circulate Resources.**
- **Letters to MPs** – Share responses via google groups to inform and to help others to do the same. Current suggestion – write about the amendment to the Planning and Infrastructure Bill.

10. Next Meeting – Zoom on Wednesday 6th August at 7.30 pm.