

## Wycombe Friends of the Earth

### Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday 3rd September at 7.30pm at The Friends Meeting House, 25, London Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1BJ

Present: 9

Apologies: 4

#### 1. Finance

The group is in credit.

#### 2. Ecotips will be:

1. September is a good time to plant bulbs for next Spring. Check that they are good for pollinators as early spring flowers support pollinating insects.
2. If you have spare crops, don't forget that Wycombe Food Hub will be happy to receive any surplus.
3. There are great Pride of Place activities throughout September. Free or minimal cost, donations welcome. See what's on offer at: [Pride of Place: Events — RefreshWycombe](#)

#### 3. Social media

| Posts              | Comments | Reactions | Most viewed                                                                       | Least viewed                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------|----------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1-20 Aug 41</b> | 5        | 50        | Wycombe Food Hub - Can you spare fruit and veg from your allotment or gardens (L) | Ethical Supermarket Guide to heatpumps, solar panels, energy suppliers (GL)<br><br>Treasury blocks schools solar power deals (GL) |

#### 4. Events coming up

- 18th Sept at 7pm in Wesley Methodist Church, Oxford - Climate Matters: Making Politics Work. Conversation between Lord Deben, Dr Peter Sudbury and Roz Savage MP . Organized by MP Watch Witney. By Donation.
- 26th Sept at Univ of Bedfordshire 8am -5pm - International Conference on Human Rights, Sustainability and Climate Change. general admission price is £11.55
- 27th September Climate Fresk at Refresh in Chillterns Shopping Centre, Wycombe, 10 am - 13.00. By donation.
- 28th September - Milton Keynes Climate Action Connect and AGM - Stalls, Stories and Sustainable Futures. 1400-16.30 . MK9 2ES
- 11th October - Community Climate Action Workshop Wendover and Villages (organized by Community Climate Action UK). 10 am - 3pm. Free.
- 16th October - Screening of A River Sings at The One Climate Centre, between Bledow Ridge and Chinnor. Focus upon flood risks. Free entrance . Donations welcome.
- 23rd October - Sustainable St Albans - Book Club discussing Mike Berners-Lee's A Climate of Truth.
- 18th Nov - Wendover People, planet, Pint meeting at 7pm at The King and Queen Pub, South Street.

## **5. WfoE stall at Repair cafe and 13/9**

- Pann Mill 14/9 - rota and children's activities organised.
- Repair cafe 13/9 - with WfoE stall.

## **6. Food Hub roof allotment**

- A member has been contacted about new premises for Wycombe Food Hub. They hope to put a garden, pots or mini allotment on the roof. They have food waste which they hope to compost. They would like general support for this from Wycombe Friends of the Earth. The building is expensive to rent but they hope to sublet to offset this cost. They are applying for funding.
- The member will find out more about it and report back before we endorse the project but members are generally in agreement pending more information .

## **7. Speaker event**

- Unfortunately, Hannah Richie can't commit to a date at the moment, but we could ask again next year.
- The Univ of Bedfordshire Event above, may have someone taking part who could be interested in our event. The MK event may also have some useful ideas/links as it seems to be in line with what you were planning ie. stalls etc.
- Wildfires are a current issue. The speaker event planning group will meet to discuss this as a possible speaker subject. Local river management might also be a speaker subject.
- A member will arrange a meeting in September for the sub-group.

## **8. Meeting MP and reply re Clean Air Day**

- A member wrote to Emma Reynolds, MP, about air pollution in High Wycombe and the importance of clean air. He has had a reply from Emma R. about Clean Air Day. He will reply back and ask for another meeting with Emma Reynolds.
- The member will send her reply to the Wfoe google group.
- It was thought an advantage to maintain contact with Emma Reynolds so that she is made aware of how local HW concerns feed into national concerns in parliament.
- The member will reply and request a meeting for further discussion perhaps in early 2026.

## **9. Bucks Council and glyphosate - follow up?**

- Bucks Council's use of glyphosate: reply from Simon Coultas, Operations Manager parks and Green Spaces (mostly around High Wycombe) (thanks, Liz):

*The short answer would be no we have not used Glyphosate since I have been in post which was from 2023.*

*We make use of mechanical methods like strimming, scrapping, and edging up, but weed growth is not a huge problem in Parks. I think you will find it more relevant to Highways and Street Scene operations.*

*We also make use of mulch combined with weed matting cover to suppress weed growth in planted areas.*

- A member is awaiting replies from Streets and Highways
- A member wrote to Red Kite - they do use glyphosate on pavement edges. Members thought this a danger to waterways through run off and danger to residents who live nearby. Nevertheless, physical methods to clear 'weeds' where necessary is time consuming and potentially expensive but Marlow doesn't use glyphosate on their pavements and edges.
- A member will write to Marlow Town Council and Wild Marlow to find out how they clear Marlow's pavement weeds etc. without using glyphosate with a view to suggestions to Bucks Council.

## **10. Pride of Place/WEP/WEC activities**

- Bulb planting destined for grass verges on Red Kite land in the Disraeli area is planned for the weekend of 11/12 October. Offers of help welcome .
- Many Pride of Place activities are available throughout September and into October, see: [Pride of Place: Events — RefreshWycombe](#)

## **11. AOB**

- Dan Glasheen, Hazelmere Climate Action, is producing a leaflet re his Evolution Gardening initiative. A member can collect from him for our Pann Mill stall if the committee agrees.
- Dora Hargirtal's project - Local Net Zero Accelerator Programme (LNZA) is a pioneering initiative designed to support local authorities in achieving net zero.  
[www.gsenetzerohub.org.uk](http://www.gsenetzerohub.org.uk) Dora is willing to present to us.  
[https://www.gsenetzerohub.org.uk/local-net-zero-accelerator/?fbclid=IwY2xjawL6m9lleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHuaL3rHTtc533u5g0zjEjAK2aWIWEDZukiBXWa7IMkhHxANi12-7jxZVbfiE\\_aem\\_R1DZl3cFeGfOJh6-MyU7Nw](https://www.gsenetzerohub.org.uk/local-net-zero-accelerator/?fbclid=IwY2xjawL6m9lleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHuaL3rHTtc533u5g0zjEjAK2aWIWEDZukiBXWa7IMkhHxANi12-7jxZVbfiE_aem_R1DZl3cFeGfOJh6-MyU7Nw)
- A member will ask Dora to speak to the meeting.
- A member will back up the info on plastics disposal on the WFoE website but much of it could be now out of date. The member will send a proposal to the wfoe group for updating or deleting the information on plastics disposal.

## **12. Next Meeting**

- **This will be a Zoom meeting** on Wednesday 1st October at 7.30 pm.