

## Wycombe Friends of the Earth

### Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday 1st April 2026 at 7.30pm at The Friends Meeting House, 25, London Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1BJ

**Present:** 9

**Apologies:** 3

Names in bold indicate action agreed by that person.

#### 1. Finance

- £1050 in the bank.
- 3 membership fees have been received this month and £36 from film and donations.
- There was some discussion about the membership fees. It was decided to increase them to £15 from this April (as they have remained the same for some years) but £25 per couple and £5 for students. This will enable us to have a greater buffer in order to run events and stalls.
- The Treasurer will send out a reminder for membership renewals.

#### 2. Ecotip will be:

##### • Litter Picks

Join a local litter pick or organise your own community litter pick. You can get the equipment from Bucks County and they will collect the litter you have collected if you let them know where it is. More details can be found here:

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/street-cleaning/organise-a-community-litter-pick-information/>

Details of local litter picks will be added when they become available.

- **Earth Day, 22nd April.** 2026 theme - Our power, Our planet. Depends on individuals doing their bit locally. [earthday.org](http://earthday.org).

#### 3. Social media - thank you, Liz.

12 people have joined since January - 340 members.

**Wycombe Friends of the Earth.** (Ivan will discuss stats with Liz and Damon for joint comment)

6- posts (2 av per day).

Members 60 posts

Visitors 0 posts

18 comments

17 comments by members and 1 comment by visitors

159 reactions (Feb = 134) 151 Reactions by members 8 Reactions by visitors

There was a lot of "traffic" around the screenings of Six Inches of Soil and Power Station. Also around the Water Pollution protest in Wycombe.

### **Posts - One week in March 10th - 17th : 12 posts**

By us - 3 posts and 1 comments

Posts by other groups - 9

Wycombe Food Hub, (3) , Save Energy Coop (2), Eco Action Hub Windsor and Maidenhead (1), Sustainable Chesham (1), Energise Hazelmere (2)

### **Most viewed posts**

Water Pollution Protest in Wycombe

Power Station Screening by Hazelmere Energy

### **Least Viewed (less than 20 views)**

Climate Emergency Centre - webinar on weather extremes

Wycombe Food Hub - waste food feeding farm animals

## **4. Review on '6 Inches of Soil' film** (plus G. Monbiot's review).

Monbiot's point is that cattle farming is mentioned etc. implying that they were part of the solution but they are not, environmentally. However, the film was about soil and regenerative practices so it was felt, overall, that it was a good message. It was rather longer than perhaps necessary but it was good that such a film was about British farms and soil rather than American. Basically, it was thought that it was a positive experience.

## **5. Events coming up**

- WFoE 20th anniversary 2026 (around Nov)

- > A member is in contact with a representative from National FOE who is willing to visit us for our 20th anniversary, plus the new CEO might also be willing to talk. A member will confirm with FoE that the group would like both to attend and will enquire about dates (maybe early October if possible) so that venues can be considered.

- > Perhaps combine it with our plastics campaign and invite other local environmental groups, such as WEC to have a table at such an event.

- > Also, it was decided to invite our MP, Emma Reynolds; she may be willing especially if the FOE CEO can attend.

- Pann Mill, Sun 10 May

- > Perhaps have a 'plastics' board to encourage people to clean their plastic and put the right plastic in the right place.

- > A member to prepare some information for the board and organise the rota.

- > It was felt that a trip to view the recycling plant at High Heavens in Booker would be good.
- > There is a plastics 'button' on the WFoE website.
- > A member will look into what info there is about plastic pollution.

## **6. Matt Winning event** - update by sub-group

- There was a lot of discussion by su-group about the ticket prices and the poster. Decision - £12 advance tickets, £15 on the door and £10 for concessions.
- We could sell tickets at Pann Mill. A member might have the WEC Zettle link on her phone and two other members can probably do the same. However, for the Pann Mill stall, it was decided to refer people to the Eventbrite site/QR code on the poster instead as simpler.
- **Members** are asked to advertise the event where possible.
- A member will put anything relevant on the Whatsapp group for people to send on.
- Grow Together and WEC will have a table.

## **7. Website - Mycelium map**

- A member said that there used to be an events calendar on our website but now there is a Mycelium map generally available, the events calendar has been discontinued on the website.
- A member will put details of the Matt Winning event on the WFoE homepage plus a link to the Mycelium map.
- Eco days/ anniversaries are not on WFoE website but A member will put on a link to Wikipedia which has such days and anniversaries.

## **8. Earth Day - 22nd April**

- 2026 theme - Our power, Our planet. Depends on individuals doing their bit locally. [earthday.org](http://earthday.org). A member to add on as an Ecotip then A member will add it to the website.

## **9. Meeting with Emma Reynolds** - ongoing.

- Invite her to WFoE anniversary as we will have local env groups, the National FOE CEO.

## **10. Glyphosate - Bucks Council** - Marlow

- The contact at Marlow Council said that Marlow uses a mixture of vinegar, salt and detergent and manual weeding, using any personnel availability and community pay-back. This contact did not reply to a further enquiry. Chesham and Beaconsfield also don't use glyphosate.
- A member will contact Red Kite again. They use glyphosate.
- This will hopefully lead to encouraging Bucks Council to drop the use of glyphosate. At present they don't use it for parks and gardens but do use it for pavements and highways.

## 11 AOB

- National Emergency Briefing film. It was thought that we should view it somewhere else before considering showing it ourselves. Perhaps combine with The Climate and Community Cafe for a showing.
- 'Planet over Profit' film is available from National FOE
- A member mentioned the Wycombe Wanderer Grow Lights. Tim Davies, the Chief Financial Officer is looking into the complaints re: light pollution and the Sands Bank Nature Reserve. He is in contact with the manufacturers to investigate changes to the angle of the lights and is asking Chiltern Rangers for advice also.
- A member mentioned the Council's decision to reduce air pollution monitoring. There was some discussion. A member said that a study has discovered that there is no correlation between asthma and air pollution but there is more correlation between asthma and deprivation. Air quality levels have quite a high bar nationally (higher than WHO) before it is considered a problem, so the standard probably needs to be lowered.
- A member will ask Trevor Snaith if he knows who will loan out the air quality kit.
- A member mentioned that Stuart King is delivering amusing stories about Wycombe on 10th April, The Patch, 6.30pm. Also, on Wed 8th April 7.30 at Trinity Church there is a talk about water in the Chilterns and why people settled there and how they used it.

## 12. Next Meeting

**This will be a Zoom meeting** on Wednesday 6th May.