

## Notes from an open Meeting of Transition Wirksworth 19/1/18

**Present** Keith Orford [Facilitator], Sandie Weeks, Alastair Clark, Nick Bristow, John Horak, Roger Green, Hilary Hebron, Rosemary Blenkinsop, Jane Tresidder, Mary Ann Hooper, Peter Walton, Ivan Dixon, Judith Green, Michele Simms, Suzanne Clark, Fran Hanna, Kate Gard Cooke, Gus Ashley, Fash Ashley and Brian Hebron [Minutes]

**Apologies** Bob Ledbury, Glennie Kindred, Moira Knowles and Cathy Cook  
The evening began with a Bring and Share supper.

### Business meeting

**1. Annual gathering** Held 15th Nov at Memorial Hall. Notes were circulated.

**2. Communications** Michele can give about 2 hours per month, which would provide time to create the newsletter. Nick will support but has less time over the summer. Glennie will continue to support the communications group, at least for now. There is also a need to consider how we communicate with other groups in the town. This leaves web-site maintenance and e-mailings and meetings to cover.

**ACTION ALL** Please can we have at least one more volunteer to help with communications?

**3. Future Direction** Mary Ann discussed her report.

[here is an extract from the report re proposals:

#### Tasks of a Steering Group per year:

- Three meetings a year, alternating with public and open mtgs, not Jul-Sept.
- Organising 3 Public Meetings per yr, incl speakers, venue, publicity, hospitality.
- Organising 2 Open TW Meetings & the Agm per yr; To have local speakers OR ted talks OR youtube videos, book eco centre, notify TW e-mailing list (maybe just in newsletter), chair, minutes, hospitality/social.
- Newsletter (how often? Monthly? Bi-monthly? Sporadic?)
- Website. Develop it further if possible with more info about Sustainable Wirksworth? (Meanwhile, Mary Ann has created a Steering Group page which can be password-protected (*security not critical so password can be distributed to many*) for keeping records of who does what, minutes and documents on it, for reference.)
- Wirksworthti@gmail account (& setting up MailChimp for Contacts database.)

#### Possible named roles:

- Reps from Specialist Groups (4 people)
- Co-ordinators; organising tasks for total of 3 public and 3 all-TW meetings (2 or 3 people)
- Communications co-workers: (1 for newsletter; 1 for gmail/mailchimp; 1 for website (1 with responsibility for each medium but providing back-up to the other 2, total 3 people, 4 better.)
- Treasurer (John Berry)
- Minutes secretary (Brian Hebron, also to make sure the Rolling Chair knows what to do.)
- That would make steering group of 12: one meeting per month for 9 months but not everyone having to go to all the meetings, plus on-going work. Is it doable? If not, reduce number of public meetings to 2 and All-TW meetings to 2?"

Minutes cont.: The 4 autonomous groups are growers, energy, activists and waste. She suggested the formation of a steering group to facilitate communications with other folk and that the events group is incorporated into the steering group.

**All Agreed.** We will form a steering group, which will organise public meetings and open TW meetings. Each group should send a rep. The rep should report latest developments within their own group to the steering group and report decisions of the steering group back to the group. The reps will be full members of the steering group. Each rep will ensure that a deputy goes to any steering group meeting they cannot attend.

**All Agreed** Each group should contribute at least 1 item to the newsletter.

**Peter** is prepared to be a rep for the energy group.

**Hilary** is prepared to be a rep for waste and or activists.

**Rosemary does not want to be Growers' rep, so another volunteer is needed.**

**All agreed** that the individual groups should elect a rep to send to the steering group meeting.

**Communications group (Michele Simms, Nick Bristow, Glennie Kindred)** to determine how they should liaise with and be represented on the steering group. Another volunteer to spread the comms load would be very welcome, esp as everyone's time is very limited.

**All Agreed** that events group should be incorporated into the steering group and should build on the programme that had been issued for the next year.

**Co-ordinators role.** To be decided at the steering group meeting.

**Nick** and **Judith** volunteered as members of the steering group, and **to ask Cathy** if she would be willing to join the steering group.

**All Agreed** that the 16<sup>th</sup> March meeting at the Eco Centre will be the first meeting of the Steering Group.

**ACTION Keith** to pursue public transport as a public meeting for April or May (*Comment from Mary Ann: My report was about reducing total load so I suggested February: public meeting (Growers Drugs fixed); March: Steering group; April: Open mtg & social; May: public meeting (poss transport); June: Steering grp; July-Sept: (no mtgs, possibly an outing); October: public mtg (?); November: Annual Gathering; December: Steering grp; January: Open mtg & social. *The meeting ignored this plan for reducing total number of meetings and took up the proposed meetings programme, eg Transport April or May. I suggest it is wise to go back to my plan to avoid volunteer burn-out...MAH)**

**4. Plastics issues.** The waste group feel we should capitalise on the current public interest in waste plastic and promote reduced use of plastics due to China ceasing to take much of the world's plastic waste. Please will everybody think of how to engage to townspeople in reducing plastic waste?

**5. Any other business;** the Waste group are organising a Give or Take on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, volunteers are requested to help on the day.

**6. Next meeting** will be the first steering group meeting; Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm [there will not be a shared meal to start] *MAH: at the Eco Centre? Who is booking it?* This meeting will decide the date & time of the next open meeting. *MAH: reminder! I suggest it is wise to go back to my plan to avoid volunteer burn-out and plan for open mtg & social in April and public mtg in May. If this is agreed, then I suggest an Annual Plan for Meetings is posted on the website's Steering Group page.*

**Noted** that the last September open meeting decided Northern Lights should be asked to display subtitles. We did not talk about matters arising from that meeting.