

Shrewsbury Friends of the Earth

Business Meeting
Monday 7 April 2014 7.30pm Marches Energy Agency

Notes

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| Present | Judy Coleridge, Frank Oldaker, Sue Fisher, Tony Green, Barbara Phillips | |
| Apologies | Denise Thompson, Philip Pool, Mike Richardson | |
| Agenda Item | Notes | Action |
| Notes of 3.3.14 | Agreed | |
| Matters arising | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frank submitted a nomination to the Shropshire Star that Judy receive an award as an environmental champion. Formal thanks from the group to Frank, Maralyn and Tony for staffing a Market Square stall at short notice. It went well. Many more signatures for the bee petition | |
| Finance | <p>Co-op Bank update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signatures have now been organised. 2 out of 3: Judy, Tony and Sue. Mike has sorted out the Paypal password which Tony now has. There were no transactions in March. In April: total £7.10 donation and £22 subs. Total balance: £2,797.25. 22 members still owe subs for this year. SOGS, who have given us very generous donations in past years, decided to give £100 to Oswestry FoE this year to help them get started. | |
| Local Campaigns/ projects | <p><u>Planning.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frank wrote a letter to the Star to make people aware of the planning situation and to encourage them to object where detrimental proposals are put forward. It was printed, but heavily edited. CPRE & SWLT meeting about planning. Frank and Philip went. Audience of about 150. Disappointing presentations apparently from the developer viewpoint. Frank agreed to find out what is happening re SC's lobbying of Dept of Comms & Local Govt. (a) to be allowed to refuse planning applications and (b) the calculation of the 5-yr land supply. <p><u>Recycling</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flower Show. The organisers are introducing an "Our Future" marquee which will include the environment. SOGS are intending to speak to them about this. Frank will speak to Maggie Fennell about it. PG skips appear to be recycling the Flower Show waste as effectively as possible. This year, they will put up notices at the Show explaining what happens to the waste Tony attended the Cae Post lecture which was by John Vidal about climate change and its effect on food. <p><u>GG.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mike has not finished his draft stickers. Judy, Sue and he are meeting this Wed and will discuss it. <p><u>Traffic</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frank and Barbara had a positive meeting with Andrew Bannerman and will be contacting/meeting with a number of other people soon. NB Marches Local Enterprise Board applied for £105m for Shropshire roads and seem to have allocated £27m to Shrewsbury. <p><u>Methane drill site near Ellesmere</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dart are submitting an application to SC to proceed with drilling without an environmental assessment on an exploration site just outside Ellesmere. The meeting about this that Tony went to was organised by a Green Party councillor and Oswestry FoE. He agreed to send a support letter saying we believed there should be an environmental assessment and that it would be best to refuse permission entirely. There will be a meeting in N Shropshire on 24 April with a speaker from Frack Off. | |
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| | FO,BP | |
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| <p>Communications issues</p> | <p><u>GSX</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GSX representatives including Frank met with Clive Wright. It was a positive meeting. Frank will circulate the notes. GSX has asked for regular info about SFoE for GSX website/facebook.twitter eg our policies and activities. They are also proposing that GSX have regular space in the Shropshire Review/Shropshire Star. Barbara to respond <p><u>Communication with FoE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barbara reported on regional conference. She will email Chris' W Mids report to everyone Info re Basecamp. In the run up to Basecamp, local group members can propose anything that we think should be discussed, between group members, staff members and the Board. <p><u>Newsletter</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barbara is making a list of useful stories. She will circulate the headlines and people can add articles/info. | <p>FO</p> <p>BP</p> <p>BP</p> <p>BP</p> |
| <p>National Campaigns</p> | <p><u>Make It Better</u> - finished</p> <p><u>Bees</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FoE have a petition calling for the pollinator strategy to be stronger. Deadline 25 April. It was proposed that we might go to B&Q to collect signatures. Frank to investigate. <p><u>Go Solar</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FoE petition to ask Michael Gove to make it easier for schools to install solar panels. Government rules stop schools accessing some of the best solar schemes. Sue to send link to members. <p><u>Fracking</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tony proposed that we adopt the fracking campaign as our campaign for this year. After discussion it was agreed that Tony would contact Chris Crean to discuss the issue with him and we will decide at our next meeting how best to take this forward. | <p>FO</p> <p>SF</p> <p>TG</p> |
| <p>Walks and Talks</p> | <p><u>Mark Gethin's farm</u> – A very successful visit.</p> <p><u>Duratrust</u> – No development. We will leave this for the moment.</p> <p><u>Film showing</u> – Keep on agenda</p> <p><u>Flooding meeting</u> – Barbara reported that FoE have a flooding campaign & are keen for us to be part of this. They are prepared to approach George Monbiot to come and speak and are organising “flood walks” . The group felt this was not appropriate for us. Barbara will contact Ted Burke & Guy Shrubsole from FoE Flooding Campaign.</p> | <p>BP</p> |
| <p>Diary</p> | <p>Stall Sat 31st May. Bric-a-brac please</p> | |
| <p>AOB</p> | <p>For info:</p> <p>South London Waste Incinerator campaign – are raising money nationally to be able to go forward with a judicial review.</p> <p>Sustainable Transport Funding Bid 2015/16. BP wrote a letter of support for the Sustainable Transport Team to submit to the DfT with their bid.</p> | |
| <p>Future dates of business meetings</p> | <p>Next business meeting: 12 May 7.30pm: Marches Energy Agency</p> | |