

Shrewsbury Friends of the Earth

Business Meeting
Monday 3 April 2017 7.30pm Lion Hotel

Notes

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| Present | Mike Richardson, Sheila Jones, Judy Coleridge, Philip Pool, Tony Green, Frank Oldaker, | |
| Apologies | Barbara Phillips, Sue Fisher, Mary and Alan Jeary, Krysia Welch | |
| Agenda Item | Notes | Action |
| Notes | Notes of business meeting 6.3.17- Agreed | |
| Matters arising | <p>From items not on agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4: per 1000 carbon sequestration. Chris Crean is investigating whether FoE are involved. He isn't aware of it. | |
| Local Campaigns/ Projects/Issues | <p>Planning Philip reported that there had been no interesting or significant new planning applications. Horticultural Society application for alternative route to Dana steps has been withdrawn and alternative proposal by SC and STC is likely to be approved. A proper traffic plan for Meole Brace Retail Park has been asked for by SC and STC following application for new unit next to TKMaxx. Eco village proposal near Whitchurch is interesting but site not identified. We await consultation on SC proposal to reduce the number of Planning Committees.</p> <p>GSX Tony reported :- Appointment of a part time administrator is imminent. The AGM is on 9th May at The Gateway when their Environmental Project - ECO 17 will be launched. Social Drinks afterwards. The Big Green Gathering will be in the autumn. The Voluntary Community Sector Assembly is considering reorganisation- they want an arrangement where representatives are elected not appointed. Tony will advise us on developments. GSX represents environmental groups. The SC Social Value Charter is on the Council website. SFoE can sign up if they wish. Frank and Barbara to look at it and agreed they can decide if we sign. GSX is meeting Chris Edwards (Head of Infrastructure) and Gemma Davies (Head of Economic Growth) on 6th April to discuss the Economic Growth Strategy which is on the SC Website and open for comment until 28th April. James Thornton – CEO of Client Earth is speaking at the Silvester Horne Institute in Church Stretton on 6th June.</p> <p>Sustainable Transport Shropshire Mike drafted a strong letter on issue of reopening the footpath from Abbey Foregate to the railway station. Barbara has sent to Daniel Kawczynski. Mike has sent letter to Shropshire Star. Barbara and John Shaddock have drafted a “Shropshire Transport Vision”. This will incorporate Ideas for Ludlow from Denise and John Whitelegg’s proposals for Bishops Castle, Church Stretton, Craven Arms and Bridgenorth. No one doing Oswestry. Barbara and John will circulate the draft. Denise organised a trip to Nottingham to see their Council run electric bus network. Barbara has suggested they send a report to Steve Charmley (Cabinet member for Business and Economy) proposing that SC set up a similar business. Barbara and Peter Gilbert met with Karen Calder – SC Portfolio Holder for Health – and had a very good meeting. She asked if STS were prepared to act as a “resource”. They focussed on “Active Travel” and pointed out that the business case for the NWRR could include the business case for active travel. Also discussed “Home Zones” and apparently SC not happy with the existing policy of ensuring one green space on each housing development because they are not used by children and youngsters. The issue of speed limits in residential areas and the 20 is plenty campaign were discussed. Where this is applied walking and cycling increase. John Whitelegg has circulated an email asking that we all contact candidates and say</p> | |
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| | <p>“What do they prefer for Shropshire”:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 9 out of 10 people hit by a vehicle survive -- if there is a 20mph limit on residential streets. 2. If no 20mph limit then if hit by a vehicle doing 30mph 5 out of 10 survive and at 40mph only 1 in 10 survive. <p>North West Relief Road and Oxon Link Road Barbara has emailed all with DfT info. Noted that a comprehensive traffic counting survey is being done but with the disruption to traffic flows caused by the work at Meole Brace and with Copthorne Road closed the data will be atypical.</p> <p>Rea Brook clean-up Sheila reported that the section of bridge over the culvert has now been dealt with and a solid fence in timber is in place. Asda’s Senior Property Manager is still being vague about responsibilities within the organisation. She will revisit companies where necessary. It is thought that otters may be using the stretch of brook by Asda as a “nursery” when they have young. Suggested that there be a walk organised in July with SWLT – possibly with Diane Monether.</p> <p>Flower Show Waste and Litter Litter issue – Sheila hadn’t heard anything further from John Harvey. However, Frank had met with him and discussed a number of aspects relating to sustainability. They have 4 firms bidding for the waste contract and “Zero Waste” is included. Agreed they could insist on compostable cups, plates etc. Some contracts with caterers are for 3-4 years and not willing to amend contracts while they are in force. Suggested they could collect some rainwater off marquees to water plants. For power they just pay STC for what they use so no choice – and amount used is small. Issue of peat use discussed and how they might encourage peat free cultivation.</p> <p>Although it was fairly positive we will need to remind them that more can be done and make particular suggestions as the opportunities arise.</p> <p>Green Guide Tony is doing a review of the finance section. Sheila will take on the gardening area instead of Frank. Drupal needs updating and although Mike says he could have a go at it if things go wrong then we could be into significant costs to resolve the problems. Mike will discuss with Web Orchard. Need to publicise GG so idea being sought for a publicity stunt.</p> <p>Membership. Sylvi sent a report:- There are 36 paid up, 3 life members. 11 others who haven’t yet rejoined are to be approached again.</p> <p>Treasurer Tony reported that the Shrewsbury branch of the Coop Bank is to close. We will have to nominate a Post Office where we can continue to carry out transactions. His view is that the main PO is the best option, being in the town centre, as we don’t know yet who will be taking over the job of treasurer from him.</p> <p>Bishops Castle Michaelmas Fair We have been asked if we want to be involved in an event focussing on bees. It fits with our campaign so Frank will follow up with them and see how we might cooperate with what they are already planning.</p> <p>.</p> | <p>ALL</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>FO</p> <p>AG</p> <p>FO</p> |
| <p>National FoE</p> | <p>Muswell Hill and Hornsey FoE are asking for support for a proposal they want considered at Basecamp. This is that a small number of companies should be targeted to get them to reduce their emissions. These companies will be chosen because they have a significant impact on the global emissions overall. It was agreed that we would support the proposal.</p> | <p>BP/ FO</p> |

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| Communication | Agreed send another email covering GG topic, Sustainable Transport Shropshire, Rea Brook, Incinerator visit and amount of textiles being put in with general waste. | FO |
| AOB | | |
| Dates | <p>9th May 7pm – GSX AGM – The Gateway, Shrewsbury and then at 8.30pm social drinks in The Alb.</p> <p>Shropshire Power Shift and Global Divestment Week (5-13th May)</p> <p>6th June – James Thornton -CEO of Client Earth- The Silvester Horne Institute – Church Stretton</p> <p>22 July “Save money, save waste” event at Hermitage Centre. Stalls.</p> | |
| Next Meeting | Monday 8 May 2017- 7.30pm The Lion Hotel | |