



**friends of
the earth**

SHREWSBURY

see things differently

AGM

23 November 2011. 7.30pm

Hobbs Room, Shrewsbury Library.

In the chair: Judith Rice, SFoE Co-ordinator

1. Present

Judith Rice, John Rice, Robert Saunders, Jon Haycox, Judy Coleridge, Sue Fisher, Katy Anderson, Barbara Phillips, Ian Gregson, Sue Boulding, Steve Boulding, Frank Oldaker, Bill McCabe, Olly Rose, Phil Pool, Bex Syrett, Susan Tonge, Charlie Sinclair, Kerry Black, Ian Gasse

2. Apologies

Mansell Williams, Dave Green, Andrew Bannerman, Phil Newcombe

3. Minutes of AGM held 9 November 2010. Agreed

4. Treasurer's Report presented by John Rice

John circulated a statement. SFoE banks with the Co-op Bank and receives very little interest. Money in and out of the account mainly related to the incinerator campaign: donations had been received including £1400 from CPRE and from individuals of which the largest was £1,000; most were about £20-£25. Dave Green and Keith Kondakor were both paid notional amounts for their work on the campaign. In addition, £500 was sent to national FoE which is experiencing financial difficulties. Of the closing balance of £3,896.15, £1,092.98 is the incinerator campaign fund.

Judith thanked John for his work over the year.

5. Membership Secretary's Report presented by Sue Fisher

SFoE currently has 58 members of whom 4 are new this year. The membership year runs from Jan to Dec. Historically, membership has been declining: 2007-8 86; 2008-9 74; 2009-10 67. Sue asked members about their reasons for non-renewal and these were: finance, move house, live too far away. 14 did not rejoin this year. Most members prefer to be communicated with via email.

A question was raised about "charity muggers" from national FoE who came to Shrewsbury town centre to sign people up for membership of the national organisation. Frank Oldaker and Barbara Phillips met them and came to an agreement that they would give information to people about the local group. However, they were not able to sign people up for the local group. Robert Saunders explained that Telford FoE paid national FoE to send a letter to all their members who are based in Telford inviting them to join Telford FoE. Telford FoE cannot

have access to the details for data protection reasons. Steve Boulding proposed that Shrewsbury FoE should contact national FoE to do the same for Shrewsbury. Agreed.

Judith thanked Sue for her pro-active work on membership throughout the year.

6. Co-ordinator's report presented by Judith Rice.

Judith gave a report illustrated with slides of the year's activities. SFoE had been very active. The main work of the year was related to the incinerator with campaigning in different parts of Shropshire and considerable support for the petition. There was liaison with Shropshire Council including representations at the Planning Committee where the incinerator was presented for planning approval and approval refused. SFoE played a major role in the planning inquiry which is now concluded and a report awaited in January. There has been a lot of media interest including an item on the Politics Show on TV. Elsewhere, SFoE has been on the steering group of the Green Shropshire Exchange to develop it as a Shropshire-wide co-ordinating group; there have been campaigns on recycling and reducing waste (a written report about cardboard recycling from James Thompson of SC was circulated); organised events included a talk by Colin Williamson on plastics and a visit to Tudor Griffiths Materials. SFoE celebrated its 35th birthday (and national FoE's 40th) with a party at Shropshire Wildlife Trust attended by nearly all the past co-ordinators and lots of members and well-wishers.

Frank Oldaker thanked Judith for all her enthusiasm, efficiency and for carrying a heavy burden as co-ordinator over 2 years. She is retiring from the post.

7. Election of Officers

Co-ordinator	Frank Oldaker and Barbara Phillips were elected as Joint Co-ordinators
Treasurer	John Rice re-elected
Walks and Talks Organisers	Philip Pool and Judy Coleridge re-elected
Membership Secretary	Sue Fisher re-elected
Newsletter Editor	Jon Haycox re-elected
Stalls Organiser	It was agreed that the next business meeting will discuss whether this post is needed

8. AOB None

Presentation

There followed a presentation by Katy Anderson entitled Zero Waste Communities about how the townspeople of Presteigne have achieved a recycling target of 70% through the use of community-based enterprises. This was very well received with extensive discussion following the presentation.