

Shrewsbury Friends of the Earth

Business Meeting
Monday 8 January 2018 7.30pm Lion Hotel

Notes

Present	Emma Charles, Clive Parsons, Catherine Parsons, Tony Green, Judy Coleridge, Sue Fisher, Philip Pool, Frank Oldaker, Mike Richardson, Sheila Jones, Barbara Phillips	
Apologies	Alex Payne, Jane Muris	
Agenda Item	Notes	Action
Notes	<p>Notes of business meeting 6 November 2017. Correction to report on Rea Brook. The name of the person with responsibility for litter around the picnic tables is Matt Wilcoxson. Otherwise – agreed.</p>	
Matters arising	<p>From items not on agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancellation of December meeting. This was cancelled as there was no urgent business and our AGM was the following day. • BID consultation on Big Town Plan. There was an announcement in the Shrewsbury Chronicle that Shropshire Council have allocated £45,000 for a consultant to take forward the BID plan. Barbara to contact Seb Slater, CEO of BID, and ask what is proposed. • AGM. Barbara reported that a member who attended the AGM complained that the Hobbs Room was extremely cold and that, as a result, he left early. The same person commented that they thought the AGM was undertaken with an unwelcome amount of apology relating to the proceedings. The business group discussed both issues. It was agreed that we would not use the Hobbs Room next year. It was also thought possible that we tend to rush the AGM to ensure that there is as much time as possible for the invited speaker(s). We will guard against this in future. 	
Local Campaigns/ Projects/ Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasurer's role and responsibilities. Judy stood down as one of the second signatories for cheques, and Barbara will replace her. Tony supplied forms for Barbara to complete. The bank needs a formal, hard copy, report of the election of officers at the AGM in order to change the name of the treasurer. Barbara will give Tony a report. There was a discussion about whether we should move our bank account which is currently with the Co-op. Barbara will email Jane to ask her to explore the options and Su will help Jane with this. Tony has a debit card for the SFoE account. Discussion. It was thought to be a very odd situation! It was agreed that in future Jane will tell one of the second signatories if she intends to use the card. There was a discussion about the Paypal arrangements on the website. At present, they have John Rice's name and Tony's email address. It is very hard to alter the named individual. It was agreed that we would leave it as it is and Tony will tell Jane about the situation. Mike agreed to do something(?) • North West Relief Road. The Outline Business case (the second phase of the submission) was delivered by hand to the DfT on 22 Dec, the last possible day. SC asked SFoE for a copy of our leaflet about the scheme just 2 days before the submission date. We understand that the final cost of the proposal was £70m, not £104m as said during the consultation. Extraordinary reduction. Frank believes they were reconsidering the construction of the bridge. We want to submit comments to the DfT as soon as possible but the OBC is not yet on the website. A group of people are lined up to contribute to the comments. Frank is chasing Matt Johnson about making the submission available for public scrutiny. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport and air quality. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>20's Plenty</u>. Feedback from Shrewsbury meeting. Clive and Barbara reported that 37 people attended the meeting. It was a good meeting at which John encouraged people to brainstorm ways of promoting the issue. There was no attempt to form a Shrewsbury 20's Plenty group. John is continuing to lead a county-wide one person campaign. He is planning to ask a question of Council on 22 Feb and is asking people to turn up outside Shirehall at 9.30 to demonstrate. It was agreed that we would leave this issue to STS. We have not got the resources to address it. Barbara reported that Julian Dean has asked SFoE to chair a cross-party group of Shropshire councillors to co-ordinate their efforts on 20 in Plenty. This was not thought appropriate. It would be better if RoSPA or similar could do it. ○ <u>Air quality</u> In Nov 2017, SC removed all air quality data from their website. Matthew Clark has said it was a mistake but they have not been replaced and MC is "baffled". The last set of complete data is for 2016. Mike is convinced this is not accidental – Shrewsbury's air quality is very poor indeed in places. The local councillor for the Mount wrote to Simon Evans to say that the air quality in that area had improved. SC has removed some areas from monitoring. Some areas have got worse eg English Bridge and Coton Hill. SC's air quality report for DEFRA is hugely delayed. Mike advised that we wait until April, by which time there will be no reason not to have displayed the up-to-date data and we can then go for an FoI if necessary. This can be followed by an SFoE campaign. We will discuss what that campaign will be before April. Meanwhile, individuals can email the line manager of Matthew Clark, under their own names, to ask for the data to be displayed on the website. • Partnering Global Justice Barbara reported that she had a phone call from David Cator, asking if SFoE would like to partner their organisation in arranging speakers for Shrewsbury. She will email David to say "yes" in principle, and asking where we should go from here. • Recycling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Plastics, given the ban on imports by China</u>. Discussion. It was agreed that a group would meet to put together a press release and put information into the Green Guide. Frank will email Veolia and ask what they are doing with plastics. Barbara will email national FoE and ask what specific messages they have which might go into the press release. ○ <u>Town centre bins</u>. Tom Stokes' comments. It was agreed that it was not feasible to change Veolia's waste services in the town centre. Agreed that we would concentrate on the issue of reducing individuals' use of plastics. • Clean up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Rea Brook</u>. The area is messy! Litter in brook and on the banks. Sheila is hoping that the Asda contractors will have their contract renewed. She informed the police about used needles in the area. ○ Home Bargains have said that they will collect litter more regularly ○ <u>Travelodge</u>. Sheila has not contacted the manager yet. • Spring bulbs and neonicotinoids Judy reported that she had spoken to a nursery in Welshpool where she sometimes buys and, as a result, they have contacted their suppliers. Frank will circulate the information about which nurseries are responding to appeals not to use neonics. • Green Guide: The report on recycling textiles which Barbara circulated was very complex. Good research. It is essentially about the circular economy and it's very good to see the 	<p>All of us as individuals if we want, not SFoE members</p> <p>BP</p> <p>GG group and EC</p> <p>FO BP</p> <p>FO</p>
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	<p>issue being addressed. The GG does cover these issues. Denise reported that Isla Bikes in Ludlow, a nationally recognised manufacturer of specialist children's bikes, has developed a circular economy. It was agreed that this would be put in the GG.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Local Plan Review response was submitted by Tony in Dec. ○ "Going up stream"? Consider next meeting • GSX: Nothing exceptional to report. 	
NationalFoE		
Communication	<p>4 points Members' email. Wait until February Printed newsletter: Still under consideration.</p>	
AOB	None	
Upcoming dates		
Next SFoE meeting	Monday 5 February 2018 at Lion Hotel 7.30pm. Mike Ruchardson gives his apologies in advance.	