

Shrewsbury Friends of the Earth

Business Meeting

Monday 7th May 2018 7.30pm The Alb, Smithfield Road (by the bus station)

Notes

Present	Mike Richardson, Emma Charles, Judy Coleridge, Su Fisher, Tony Green, Bath Holgate, Barbara Phillips, Philip Pool, Clive Parsons, Catherine Parsons	
Apologies	Sheila Jones, Frank Oldaker, Katy Taylor. Later apologies were received from Richard Jeffries and Conor Crozier both of whom had hoped to come for the first time but got caught up in traffic. The joys of holidays	
Agenda Item	Notes	Action
Notes	Notes of Business Meeting 9th April 2018. Agreed	
Matters arising From 9th April	<p style="text-align: center;">Items not on agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Switching banks. Still waiting to hear from Triodos. • GDPR. Mike, Frank and Barbara are drafting a privacy statement for the website and membership leaflet. SFoE is not required to contact members. Frank is emailing supporters to ask whether they want to stay on our lists. There are some other issues eg. who should have password access to the database. Everything must be completed by 25 May. • New P & R buses. Mike emailed Arriva and Steve Davenport, the portfolio holder for transport. Steve did not reply. Arriva says that it is committed in principle to introducing them. Mike will draft a letter to the Shropshire Star quoting Arriva's response and asking where they are. He will send the draft to Clive or someone else for comment. Clive will raise the issue at Sustainable Transport Shropshire 	MR CP
Local Campaigns/ Projects/ Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality. The current Shropshire Council Air Quality Action Plan has been in place since 2008; there is supposed to be a new plan every 5 years and a review every year. The review of the 2016 results has just been published (which was due in Sept 2017). It states that air quality at Heathgates and Bayston Hill is "getting better" and these are no longer AQMAs. The railway area is still poor, but they say that the Shrewsbury Integrated Transport Package and the North West Relief Road will address that. Mike has written to Matthew Clark who says that he will get round to publishing the full up-to-date results when he can. He is clearly overstretched. It was decided to put aside the issue of air quality for 6 months, by which time we may know the results of the NWRR application. • Rea Brook and SWLT's action "Love Your Magnificent Severn" 12 June Sheila and Frank met Luke from Shropshire Wildlife Trust to update on plans. In May, they will review how many people have signed up. SWLT is clearing morning and afternoon. SFoE is clearing the Rea Brook valley 7-9pm. Frank is checking on FoE insurance for the work. We will need stronger bags than normal black plastic ones. If you have any industrial strength ones, please let Sheila know. 	All

People's availability on the day was confirmed:

	AM	PM	EVENING
Sheila	Y	Y	Y
Frank	Y	Y	Y
Judy	N	Y	Y
Sue	N	N	Y
Beth	N	N	Y
Tony	N	N	Y
Clive	Y	Y	N

- **Plastics and Green Guide**

Lots going on re plastics. The GG group have written to schools asking what initiatives they are taking. They are also enquiring whether they use SC's Shire Catering, because then there is a chance of addressing the issue centrally. Shrewsbury School is doing a lot with each house contributing.

Ali Thomas is planning to introduce the "Shrewsbury cup" and get all cafes involved. There is to be a launch in June.

Ali spoke to a meeting of Stretton Climate Change and was good. It might be a good idea to invite her to speak in Shrewsbury.

Emma wrote to James Wellbeloved about his company's use of pet food pouches but received a disappointing reply.

The Ludlow Green Festival on 8 July will include the issue of alternatives to plastics.

It has been agreed that new flyers are needed for the GG. Next meeting, we shall discuss ways of increasing the profile of the GG.

- **Belle Vue Arts Festival (Theme is "AIR") 2 June**

Tony, Frank and Barbara are available and maybe Emma.

There was a bit of discussion about the arty aspect of the stall. Several ideas and agreement that we should invite contributions from the public.

- **Planning and Development Issues**

- **"Shrewsbury Growing Forward" 28th April. Report**

Presentations. Then attenders were asked to look at a variety of issues in groups including what you love about Shrewsbury and what you would change. Issues included cycle paths, council-house building, whether Shrewsbury needs 8,000 houses and of what size. Groups could write down all ideas and Shrewsbury Civic Society are collating the results.

There was no clear summary at the end, though it felt as though they were discussing the right sort of thing, that there was consensus in the room and Philip felt that Shropshire Council was moving in the right direction. The senior planner explained how limited they are in the face of low government standards for developments.

Philip will email the Civic Society to ask them what outcome is expected and what follow-up.

- **Greenfields**

Proposed development on part of the recreation ground. This has been recreation and park land for 100 years. The residents are fighting the development of 17 houses and SFoE has been supporting them with information and networking. They have set up a crowdfunding appeal to be able to pay for a knowledgeable individual to look at the plans.

Philip has submitted an objection in behalf of Sustainable Transport Shropshire based on pedestrian/cycle/car conflict.

Barbara will contact Coton Hill residents.

The next meeting is on 10 May. Philip will go.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSX AGM is on 19 June. The money remaining in GSX's bank account has been distributed between several members. We have received ours. • NWRR Chris Crean suggested applying for Earthmover award on behalf of Dave Green for the work on the NWRR. But because of timescale we couldn't do. 	
National / Regional FoE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Gathering in Birmingham on 28th April was cancelled • Bee Campaign With the banning of neonicotinoids (except in glass houses), national FoE are planning how the campaign should develop. It's likely that loss of habitat because of intensive farming will be one target. Shropshire Organic Gardeners stall at Shrewsbury Flower show is about "insects" so Frank will take along some of the bee campaign materials. 	
Communication, Media and Publicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website Mike has trained Emma and Katy on managing the website and they are working on a new front page to present to the meeting on 4 June. The plan is that the website be low maintenance. • 4 points Members' email. Plastics; GDPR, air quality and Belle Vue Arts Festival, Shrewsbury Growing Forward • Printed newsletter: Still under consideration 	
AOB	<p>NWRR A journalist writing an article about the NWRR for J T Hughes' in-house journal wrote to Frank. He sent her an excellent synopsis of our objections to the scheme.</p> <p>Possible speaker for a meeting Dr Matthew Loxham. No action decided. Discuss next time. Also Ali Thomas (see earlier in notes)</p>	
Upcoming dates	<p>Belle Vue Arts Festival – SFoE Stand – 2 June 2018 "Love Your Magnificent Severn" Litter Pick – 12 June 2018 Ludlow Green Festival 8 July 2018</p>	
Next SFoE meeting	<p>Monday 4th June 2018 at The Alb, Smithfield Road (by the bus station) 7.30pm</p>	