

TRANSITION STROUD COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Wednesday 15th July 2015, 7.00 for 7.15pm

The Exchange, Brick Row, Stroud, GL5 1DF

1. **Decide on chair for meeting** – Helen agreed to chair the meeting

2. **Present**

James Beecher, Seb Buckton, Erik Wilkinson, Helen Royall

Apologies from Simon Allen, Josie Cowgill, Jon Barrance, Claire Deacon, Martin Whiteside.

3. **Approval of minutes of last meeting** – 18th May 2015. Minutes were approved and Seb to put on Website [ACTION]

4. **Main Item: 2015 so far in review**

Seb: lots of work on funding, crystallising what TS is.

Helen: important role of Seb as hub for the group solidified, new version of Edible Open Gardens went surprisingly well - 500 garden visits. Town Council didn't provide as much funding. Team will carry on and help with Open Homes next year. Positive meetings discovering the huge variety of things we're doing. Also been good to do the stalls, with the nicely produced 'Action Menu'.

Erik: good progress on linking people from engagement to action, creating networks.

Discussion of energy for TS in year ahead – some concerns re: time but general enthusiasm around clarity of what we're doing.

AGM – 4th October (3rd if not). Book Lansdown Hall 12-5. 12 lunch, 1pm formal AGM, 2pm films and stories from internal TS groups, 3pm groups discussing ideas for 2016, 4pm finish – clean and informal till 5pm. [ACTION: James to book hall BY FRIDAY for date to go in TS newsletter]

5. **Brief updates**

James gave report on hubStroud

Erik showed draft 'Invitation Menu', said John Fisher has offered to do training on how to set up more Woodfuel Groups (like the Randwick group).

Report from small meeting on Insurance held earlier in the week – with need to get Risk Assessments for each event, and hence need to get a generic Risk Assessment form sorted out. Cover for 3 members of staff and up to 30 volunteers. Groups will be listed in the insurance, if approved at TS Council and making some financial contribution.

Report from Jon Barrance – presenting ZCB at 12pm on Saturday at Seed Festival – either presentation or discussion. Jane Brown given up stall. Saturday morning could be done – James offered.

Monday 20th July – Presenting "Agriculture, what's it got to do with Aviation" – Jon presenting to MSc Aircraft design students at Cranfield University.

SDC Local Plan – attended inspectors view – opposed West of Stonehouse development on grounds not sustainable, but heard lots of people using "sustainable development" for things that aren't really sustainable.

James outlined Film programme

Edible Open Gardens – 16 open, nearly 500 visits, café saw visitors – and a few came to chat to ‘garden gurus’ at stall – café made special dishes with vegetables from gardens, together with vegetable cakes from TS, knitted ‘inedible edible garden’ made – been commissioned to make another. Almost made enough money with workshops, cake sales to cover the costs of the brochure. Had party thanking gardeners and got feedback from them. Helen to get regular column in SNJ for Molly Scott Cato – ‘news from Europe’, but with ‘Proud of Stroud’ type stuff.

Membership numbers:

Mailchimp has 699 subscribed

Facebook 483

Twitter 1297

Discuss 84.

Fix it for Free – repair café in Nailsworth last Sunday at the Old Boys Club – run by Paul Hofman, co-ordinating one every 2 months, getting people coming from all over.

SkillsGain – Jane Brown has run two workshops on fermentation, with 20 people in total – collected £100 towards costs of EOG.

Finances:

Apologies from Claire

AOB:

Erik Wilkinson is meeting Eva Goddard re: Share Shop on Monday 20th 5.30pm at Star Anise.

Stroud Stuff Exchange idea – one off event to swap stuff – Erik to put in touch with Share Shop people.

Stroud Skills Exchange one off event – market type event, talk to Chris at FairShares.

Next Meeting:

14th September provisionally – need to check it can be in small meeting room

Main topic: AGM.

Exchange big room will be offices from August. James to ask Nic at Star Anise whether/how much they’d charge.