

TRANSITION STROUD COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Monday 18th May 2015, 7.00 for 7.15pm,
The Exchange, Brick Row, Stroud, GL5 1DF

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

2. **Formal introductions,**

Isis Brook (Crossfields Institute, interested in food growing, new to Stroud from Chelmsford. Attended Farming Conference), **Warwick Fox** (Environmental Philosophy, lecturing, also new to Stroud), **Simon Allen, Nick James, Erik Wilkinson, Helen Royall, Seb Buckton, Sarah Lunnon**, (Glos County Council Councillor) **Katie Lloyd Nunn** (Hawkwood College).

Apologies

James Beecher, Philip Booth, Paul Flinn, Claire Deacon, Vaughan Webber

3. **Approval of minutes of last meeting**, 17 March 2015

Minutes were approved and set on the website

4. **Main Item:** Ideas for engaging new people in TS.

Erik's new brochure for engagement

- three elements, engagement / learning / action within five sections: of a folded leaflet

- Engagement/Learning – film evenings / reading group / Skillsgain workshops / social media (tick what interested in doing)
- Action (work with others) – organize a TS event (Open Homes; Potato Day; Edible Gardens)
- Action Groups – BSAG / Wood Group / Community TV / Edible Stroud / Repair Café / new ideas
- Help tell people – newsletter / website / press links
- Make a regular donation – monthly / annual

Nick – we have a lot of people involved in sustainable activities in Stroud. How do we link with them? **Action – Nick to identify which appropriate organizations we might publicise in the Invitation Menu leaflet or on our website**

Sarah – George Marshall workshop - need language that engages. Look at how we engage people who would not normally be engaged. **Action: agreed at June meeting to discuss which organizations we might send the TS newsletter to – and who might best send it.**

Seb – should members talk to people they work with?

Generally supportive view of the Invitation Menu leaflet by the group.

5. **Brief updates**

- Funding - **Simon Allen, Seb Buckton**

Bulldog Trust application

- TS put in a bid for £23,000

TS submitted a business plan which would lead us to be financially independent.
Will hear if successful in September or October.

Summerfield Trust

Possible bid for £5,000 - £10,000. **Action: Simon / Seb will write bid this week.**

Awards for All for funding opportunities

Nothing done with this. **Action: Simon will try for funding in near future.**

Waitrose Community Fund

Not heard anything from them other than filling in our details.

- Film programme
James will take a break over summer and begin again in autumn.
- Open Edible Gardens – **Helen**
Website up – www.edibleopenstroud.org.uk Happening over weekend of June 27th, 28th. Focusing on Stonehouse and west Stroud. Also café in Stonehouse opening with a stall. Need volunteers for the stall.
- Website – **Helen/Seb**
Has been updated. Need to add donation button and information about other activities and organisations. **Action: Seb and Helen to update website.**
- Membership numbers, financial contributions and newsletter – **Seb**
 - 694 receive the TS newsletter
 - 464 likes on Facebook
 - 1,260 followers on Twitter

Action: Sarah will send list of County Councilors who can be sent TS newsletter.

- GlosCAN – **Nick James**
 - Building up to event on 17th June in Gloucester. People encouraged to meet MPs to push them to be more active on Climate Change.
 - Sarah got motion accepted by GCC - aimed at getting County Council to take action to be more aware of climate change – can now ask linked questions e.g. divesting from fossil fuels etc.
 - 21st June – Solstice meeting at Selsley Common quarry
- SDC Local Plan – **Jon**
Jon will go to next public meeting
- Fix it for Free and SkillsGain – **Erik Wilkinson**
 - Katherine Cole (GCC Waste Minimisation Officer) interested in promoting Repair Cafes around county. Tried to get GCC to cover local repair café's insurance requirements but unsuccessful.
Action: Sarah will follow up.
Action: Erik to send Sarah links to Katherine.
 - Next SkillsGain workshops – two Fermentation workshops then break for summer.
- Reading Group – **James**
Follows theme of film event. Well attended. Very interesting group.
- Transport
Anna Bonallak has asked for bikes for the Access Bike project. They will collect unwanted bikes in decent state of repair. The bikes are refurbished and secondary schools refer young people who need a bike and can't afford one to the project. As well as a refurbished bike, pupils also get a helmet, lock and lights. Access Bike need 30 teen/adult bikes in the next month.

6. Other Actions points from last meeting

- **James:** to circulate information on Dirk Slater workshops and identify a date when it could be run for TS Directors.(and possibly partners). **Action: Carried Forward.**
- **Simon:** updated progress in respect of links with Hawkwood re SEED Festival and BSAG

- **Katie** – informed on Hawkwood's successful May Day event. BSAG group attended and had a good amount of attention.
 - New Hawkwood website and brochure - includes TS. – e.g. Seed Festival 17th – 19th July, when Jon Barrance will run ZCB workshop.
 - Hawkwood recently got grant from Summerfields. Any grants we are putting in for TS - Hawkwood are happy to endorse or partner with TS
 - Awards for All – any bid might/could include work experience for young person to develop TS social media etc.
 - TS could talk to Agriculture College and other colleges as well as Hawkwood
- **Simon:** has checked on TS insurance cover of Upcycled Art Outdoors Action Group. TS has renewed our insurance satisfactorily, at a small additional cost. It is now updated and covers our activities. We are clearer on what we need to do to be absolutely sure we are complying with our insurance. **Action: Simon and Erik meeting to move this forward**
 - **Seb:** Update list of directors on website.
List updated.

7. Feedback from new members

Sarah – wanting to engage more with climate change action. Finding out what is happening in Stroud.

Warwick – no expectations of the group. Just coming to see what is happening.

Isis – no expectations.

8. Finances

- Current finances – **Claire Deacon**
Cash in bank £5,527 (£4,847) – £1,536 came from SDC gratefully received.
Monthly individual donations – £125 month.
- Annual financial report and return - **Action Simon**

9. Confirm main topic, date and time of next meetings (all meetings start 7 for 7.15pm at Exchange):

Next meetings:

- **Tuesday June 16th** (small meeting room);
- **Wednesday July 15th** (dates all on website)

Helen Royall for Mark Keogan Company Secretary 11 May

2015