

TRANSITION STROUD COUNCIL

Minutes for Meeting Tuesday 24th February 2015,
The Exchange, Brick Row, Stroud, GL5 1DF

Action

Present – Helen Royall (Chair), Simon Allen (Minutes), Seb Buckton, Jon Barrance, Erik Wilkinson, Stephen Bendixson, Ioana Bendixson, Zhenya Kazlou, Paul Flinn (Item 2), Karen Eberhardt-Shelton (Item 7),

1. Decide on Chair for meeting. Helen Royall unanimously supported to be Chair

2. Introductions and apologies. Apologies from James Beecher, Philip Booth, Claire Deacon.

All introduced themselves. Stephen and Ioana Bendixson are looking to move to Stroud in August. Ioana Bendixson has a background in architecture and investment banking, and now interested in enabling financial literacy and investigating working with Citizen's Advice, in schools and running an event with/for TS. Ioana recommended the work of Stephen Jenkinson "Money and the soul's desires". The author is a cultural redemption expert and also works in palliative care.

Stephen has a philosophy background and interested in TS's overarching philosophy and how TS interfaces with political systems.

Zhenya is interested in his personal transition and developing a neighbourhood community in Stroud.

3. Approved minutes of last meeting, 19 January 2015

4. Ideas for engaging new people in TS. Main points from discussion as follows:
Seb reported that he, Holly, Sheila and Philip had identified 2 different approaches to involving new people with Transition Stroud:

- Outreach – going out to do talks for community groups, etc. (ie as Helen Royall does currently)
- Engagement - Providing a network, information and/or opportunities to those who have expressed interest in Transition Stroud
- Stephen and Ioana had found TS through the SiT leaflet at Hawkwood. Then used the website to attempt to meet Seb at SVP (but that had not worked), and go to Book club but the date / day had a mismatch so that hadn't worked. Then got to this meeting via the website. Both would have welcomed a one to one session / phone call first.
- Discussed alternating the Council meetings with social but decided two months was too much of a gap for Council matters.
- Could re-activate the Café / pub style events
- Seb and group to continue work

Seb, Philip,
Sheila, Holly

5. Brief updates

- **Funding** – Helen / Jon still considering a proposal for Green Doors – website on eco-open homes and personal zero carbon
Bulldog Trust are open for applications on 17 April 2015. Agreed to update Erik's application and submit
Awards for All – Simon preparing to 'phone them.
Waitrose Community Fund – Helen has spoken with them and is re-submitting an application
Crowd Funding Holly to provide James with contact. Not known C/F.
- **Film programme** – Last event on Future of Food on 22 February very successful with three speakers and 35 attendees. Next event 22nd March. Manufactured Landscapes.

Jon and
Helen

SA/SB/EW
Simon

Helen

Holly

All/James

- **HubStroud** – JB C/F
- **Website** – Going well. HR/SB/JB are doing updating.
- **Membership numbers** – Facebook likes 439 (426), twitter 1187 (1144), mailing list 679 (664) – all rising. Discuss list static at 86.
- **GlosCAN** – Nothing reported (VW C/F).
- **Zero Carbon Britain** – CAT cannot be involved on 26 April (Lansdown Hall) due to lack of suitable people. Jon trying to get presentation down to 1 hr leaving time for small group work on the future. SA and HR to help on the day. JB/MW/SM
- **Fix it for Free and Skillsgain** – SVP picked up the idea and will run Tool Sharpening workshop Sunday 8 March. Future events are Permaculture Introduction on 10 March and Joanna Macey Workshop on 26 April. 17 people signed up for Fermentation Event, but could not run due to illness so will be re-timetabled. Paul Hofman and Erik met with GCC who are interested to roll out Fix it for Free across the county, but their insurance will not cover. Erik to follow-up a research suggestion put to GCC. Erik
- **Transition Free Press** – still copies for sale in SVP. No longer being produced. SVP invoiced for sales.
- **Reading Group** – Good attendance (17) at last one. Next one Saturday 28 Feb 4.00 – 6.00pm on Future of Food.
- **Transport** – Paul gave an update on STC Neighbourhood Plan with the Transport Group final meeting next week ahead of the NP big meeting on 7 March. Ideas that had come forward were to move the bus station to the rail station, form a 'Friends of Stroud Station' group, and apply 'hierarchy of road users' principles to transport decisions. This to be an agenda item for next TSC Seb
- **Entrepreneurs forum** – Delayed until 2016 + (C/F).
- **SCTV** – Annual SCTV awards at Crown and Sceptre on 18 March, 7.00- 9.00pm.
- **Edible Open Gardens** – Planned for 27-28 June, 13.00- 17.00hrs in Stonehouse only, donation based, 2 workshops planned plus links with Café, Fairshares and Art Event. Grant application to be made to Stonehouse TC.

6. Other Actions from last meeting

- **Seb:** organise meet of small group to coordinate plan for non-business engagement event Seb
- **Simon:** clarify who is covered by TS insurance, and what they are covered for. Simon
- **Helen:** link up FoN (two weeks 13-28th June) with Edible Stroud – in hand, apple trees being planted by Edible Stroud.
- **Erik:** assess impact of SiT leaflet. Contacted all represented, Only StroudCo responded – positive experience for them.
- **Helen:** send details of TS groups to Graham Tennant – in contact and will meet.
- **James:** look into alternatives to Co-op as TS bank. Nationwide do not offer this any more. Coventry BS maybe but would need to scrutinise our M of A. Agreed to stay with COOP Bank as they have just published their ethical policy which Jon said meets our requirements, and also to join their Customers Union. Helen
Simon
(James to note)

7. Finances

- Current finances – £4,561 in the bank with circa £700 to be paid in. Expenditure since November has been circ £730, on Core Costs.

8. Any other business

- **BSAG** – Shawn Jarrett has identified people keen for BSAG. Simon to meet with Hawkwood re this, and Steve. Simon
- **Hawkwood SEED Festival** – Hawkwood keen for us to participate, Simon to discuss with Hawkwood. Simon
- **Karen E-S** – gave a presentation on the tendency towards reductionist thinking and actions, and stressed the need for holistic thinking. This stimulated a

discussion around how to safeguard against this, with some positive examples being cited of 'joined up' thinking.

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

- **Next meetings: Tuesday Mar 17th, Thursday April 16th** (dates on website)

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Simon Allen for Mark Keogan Company Secretary 25 February 2015