

## Notes from SVAP Meeting, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Kath Child kindly us once again at Atelier Stroud and the meeting was chaired by Claudi Williams. Twelve people were present. Below is a brief outline of what we talked about:

1. **Introductions:** we welcomed new people including Tricia from Community R4C (a community-led initiative to provide economic, social and environmental benefits for Gloucestershire by treating our waste as a valuable resource rather than burning or burying it), Terry Trimmer whose business installs water filters that can eliminate microplastics among other things, and Green Party Councillor Catherine Braun who is the author of the motion to make Stroud District Council single-use plastic free.
2. **Stroud Refill:** Sheila Munnoch gave a brief overview of the recent Refill training day in Bristol which had been fun and useful. The team practiced signing on shops, cafés and pubs in Bedminster. The Refill Stroud stickers have been ordered and we now have a write-up about Stroud Refill on the Refill website which is linked to from their homepage: <https://www.refill.org.uk/refill-scheme/refill-stroud/>. Do download the very useful Refill app on your smartphone.



3. **Green Party Cllr Catherine Braun** gave an overview of the motion to make Stroud District Council single-use plastic free (including the supply chain), which was recently voted in with cross-party support. Catherine is keen to have our support in the form of ideas and perhaps attending meetings of the new SDC task & finish group which is being formed to implement this. If you are interested to contribute please email Claudi on [svap@transitionstroud.org](mailto:svap@transitionstroud.org)
4. **Supermarket plastic boycott event:** Jennie Sutton from SVAP and Mark Epton from Stroud Greenpeace have been talking about staging this event together. Mark sent the following message to our group after our meeting. If you are interested to take part email Claudi at [svap@transitionstroud.org](mailto:svap@transitionstroud.org):

*"A Greenpeace group we will be doing a plastic supermarket campaign in June. We will be visiting a supermarket to do a campaign, asking customers to take and leave over-packaged goods to the till / customer service with an info flyer. The dates we can do are: Sat 16<sup>th</sup>, Sun 17<sup>th</sup>, Sat 23<sup>rd</sup>, Sun 24<sup>th</sup> (in the morning only). Please do join us. We then might be able to do shifts and stay longer at the*

*supermarket. If people are interested could you get back to me with your preferred date, time and numbers. I can then take that to our group and rustle up more people. My vague thinking would be to do it at Waitrose (walkable from Stroud), 10am for an hour. And if we get enough people we could try and stay for two or three hours."*

5. **Think Tank for approaching retailers:** James Millar and Peter Williams met to further discuss the proposed think tank to work on a strategy for approaching retailers across Stroud with the aim to collectively reduce single-use plastic in a cohesive way. They are interested to connect with Tricia from Community R4C (present) and Catherine Braun (present) for networking purposes.
6. **Network list:** Paul Hoffman from Transition Stroud (present) outlined his idea to capture network connections across the Stroud district in a document of some kind. He is going to produce a resource that will show local action groups, initiatives and like-minded businesses, how they connect and what they offer. We also talked about a list of skills which could go on the SVAP webpage as well.

The next meeting will be held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June, 1pm at Atelier Stroud.