

Minutes of the Transition Town Llandeilo AGM on 12/03/2013 at the Shire Hall, Llandeilo at 7.30 pm

Present: Steve Brown, Gerry Gold, Patricia Dodd Racher, Anson Allen, Katka Dvorakova, Colin Foster, Tony Graf, Madeleine Graf, David Thorpe, Sam Ellis, Pam Ellis, John Cox, John Gaffney
Apologies: Helen Adams

The secretary introduced the evening

Steve noted with sadness the deaths of Steve Harris, who chaired the 2012 AGM, and Andy Hewson, since the last AGM.

The minutes from the 2012 AGM were accepted.

Steve asked whether the watching brief on local developments with transport was being maintained. Pat explained that she and Mark Waghorn were closely involved with Martin Golder's Calon Cymru project, and had recently put together an alternative development plan for Llandoverly.

Secretary's Report:

The main events since the AGM on 15th February 2012 have been:

24-24 March. Eco homes tour. Organised by John Gaffney, with financial support from Carmarthenshire Community Challenge and with expert guidance from David Thorpe and Tim Pullen. About 14 properties were involved and about 50 people took one of the two tours.

1 Apr. Seed and Plant Swap in collaboration with Cymdeithas y Dalar.

1 Sept. Twmpath at Llanwrda Hall with the Bethlehem Village Band organised by Annie Allen. About 70 people attended.

17 Oct. Tipping Points meeting at The Angel. Organised by Gerry Gold and facilitated by Tony Graf. About 30 people came to this meeting. As a result of the meeting, a new People's Assembly group was founded.

9 Dec. Midwinter Tea at the Civic Hall in collaboration with Cymdeithas y Dalar and Dinefwr Green Group. Organised by Katka Dvorakova and Mag Nicholls.

Other activities and groups:

Gerry has been active in the Market Regeneration Group which has succeeded in getting Gwalia to drop its plans.

Gerry reported that the next meeting of the People's Assembly will be a 'Feast of Fools' on April 1st at the Cwmdy Inn at 2pm.

Anson has been convening the Llandeilo Growers group which is looking to promote local production or vegetables and fruit, and lead by example in setting up a vegetable growing project.

Katka, Pat and Mags Nicholls have been involved in a new group called the Llandeilo Food Network which is sharing recipes and information about local food producers, and producing a directory of suppliers. They are also arranging foraging walks.

The film 'The World According to Monanto' will be shown on March 21st and there are plans to show 'Taste the Waste', 'Recipes for Disaster' and 'Chasing The Ice'.

We have a new look website. Thanks to David Thorpe.

David is now convening a reborn Energy Group. He has secured funding from Renew Wales and is arranging a series of public meetings. The initial emphasis will be on Energy Audits and Light bulb swaps.

The Permaculture Group is now being convened by Annie Allen, to whom thanks was expressed. The group continues to have regular workdays on the first Sunday of each month.

John Cox told the meeting that he is looking to set up a branch of the Men' Sheds association in Llandeilo. There is already a group in Carmarthen. He would like to collaborate with Transition Town Llandeilo. There was a general expression of support.

Election of Officers

Both Steve and Gerry agreed to stand again. The re-election of each was proposed by Anson and seconded by Tony and was unanimously supported. They were thanked for their work over the past year. It was agreed that in the lead up to the next AGM, alternatives would be sought to these two long-serving officers.

Pat kindly agreed to carry on acting as Press Officer. It will be important for others to keep her supplied with information for publication.

The secretary expressed thanks to The Angel, the Shire Hall, and to David Thorpe for his work on the website.

The AGM was followed by a very interesting presentation by Andrea Powell of Growing The Future and Simon Goodenough, curator of the National Botanic Gardens of Wales. We hope to collaborate with the NBGW and the Growing the Future project in the future.

The next meeting of Transition Town Llandeilo will be at the Angel on 9th April at 7.30 pm.