

## **Minutes of the TL2 Steering Group Meeting on 14/07/2008 at The Angel**

**Present:** Rhiannon Rowley (chair), Isabel Lovelock, Sue Weaver, Colin Foster, Jo Horsley (Environment Wales), Rick Wilson, Patricia Dodd Racher, Andy Racher, Steve Brown  
**Apologies:** Simon Bowkett, Gerry Gold, Alice Davies, John Gaffney, Anne van Mechelen

### Introductions

Patricia and Andy introduced themselves. Patricia is interested in forming a Llandovery Transition Town group.

### Minutes from 16/06/2008

Agreed.

### Startup grant

Environment Wales have said that we may be able to have a grant if we can provide a new budget breakdown. The original application was linked to the visit from Rob Hopkins which we planned and then cancelled. This led to a discussion about the:

### AGM

October 30<sup>th</sup>. The Civic Hall is booked. The ‘Any Questions?’ style of meeting is popular with the group. We discussed possible panellists. Rick wanted to know what the aims were since this would affect our choices of panellists. Rhiannon suggested they were principally:

- Raising our profile
- Encouraging people to get involved

Local people from the areas of farming, education and commerce might be easier to get than ‘celebrities’ but would not have the same “pulling power”. Rhiannon and Colin suggested that such people should be invited as audience members. Town Council members should be invited too.

**Rhiannon will ask Eleanor Jones as chair. If she is not available or not willing, Isabel will invite Gilbert John. Rhiannon will ask Patrick Holden. Isabel will ask George Monbiot. Sue will ask Jane Davidson. (Adam Price will be asked if Jane says no.) Sue will also ask Alice to suggest speakers from the farming community.**

### Usha Ladwa Thomas

Jo passed on an apology. Usha (WAG) was unable to be at the meeting due to family illness but would like to re-schedule. This was accepted. **Jo will co-ordinate with Usha.**

### Party

July 26<sup>th</sup>. Gelli Aur Village Hall will be open from 6 pm. Raffle prizes are required – Ffos Y Ffin brewery is donating one. Sue and Isabel will provide others.

### Email received from Towy Bypass Action Group (Simon Jones)

TBAG would like our support. It was felt that we do not want to alienate anyone by obviously siding with any one of the groups campaigning on the issue of the bypass. In any case the steering group does not unanimously agree with the TBAG plan. However, TBAG members can get involved with TL2 if they like.

**Rick will contact Simon Jones for a possible informal chat.**

### Online forum

Sue has tried to join and was not registered several days later. Steve explained that the volume of automatic requests from spam agents had caused him to modify the enrolment process. The website now requests that an email is sent to Steve. Because the Permaculture

group wants to use the forum for organising swapping (of plants, seeds etc) **Steve will install an additional security feature allowing registration to be simplified again.**

#### Transition Town Llandovery

There was a discussion about whether it was a good idea for there to be a new group in Llandovery at this stage. Llandeilo does not really have enough active members! It might be better for Llandovery people to get more involved in Llandeilo until the group has grown. Meanwhile, Llandovery could be a 'geographical subgroup' of TL2. The decision lies with Patricia and her contacts in Llandovery, but TL2 would provide support in whatever way it could.

#### Matters arising

**Isabel has revised the expenses form, and will circulate it.**

**Steve has not yet drafted a Health and Safety policy but will do so.**

**Rhiannon will circulate a draft Welsh Language policy.**

**Steve will email the constitution and agreed policies to Rick and Patricia.**

Isabel has spoken to Seize The Day who are still keen on a gig. They suggested having a Welsh support band, but Isabel favours the Mordekkers because Penny would provide the PA. The fee for Seize The Day would be £400.

#### Subgroups

Food and Farming will reconvene after the Royal Welsh.

Welsh cultural group: The next meeting will be in September. Dai Jones is arranging showings of A Crude Awakening.

Alternative Energy and Hemp: Alice, Colin and Simon are meeting to discuss having a presence at an event at the college at Gelli Aur on 26<sup>th</sup> October.

Heart and Soul: The next meeting will be on August 21<sup>st</sup> An autumn 'Work That Reconnects' event is planned.

Allotments: The lease is in place and announcements from the group are expected very soon.

Permaculture: A meeting took place on 6<sup>th</sup> July at Isabel and Ben's and one will take place at John and Steve's on August 17<sup>th</sup>. A Forest Gardening course is also being planned for the end of September.

Afallon: Isabel has put in an application for funding to Artists for Earth.

The next meeting will be held at the Angel on 18<sup>th</sup> August at 7 pm.