

Transition Llandeilo Steering Group Meeting 16th February 2009, Angel Hotel

Present; Steve Brown (SB), Sue Weaver(SW), Gerry Gold, Rhiannon Rowley (RR), Steve Harris (SH), Sue Wakefield, John Gaffney (JG)

Guest, Jo Horsley, (JH) Environment Wales.

Minutes of last meeting; Unable to look at actions as Adam Margetts was not in attendance.

Action; SB to contact Adam to check on progress on actions
Talks; RR has spoken to Cynnal Cymru re Rhodri giving a talk and to Patrick Holden. If we want to have Patrick then the date will have to be to suit him or the Soil Association would put up an alternative speaker to suit TTLL. It was felt it would be better to have Patrick than someone else from the Soil Association.

Action; RR to ask Patrick for dates.

SH has worked frequently with Rhodri from Cynnal Cymru and said he is expert on the 'Natural Step' method of Sustainable Development consultation and that this would be an interesting topic to have a talk on.

Action: SH to speak to Rhodri on subject of his talk.

Grenville Ham has not come back yet re his availability. His talk will be on local energy production.

Action; SW to give some alternative dates to Grenville
RR is meeting Aled from Mentor Cwm Gwendraeth who is involved with the Transition initiative there and believes he could give a talk on Zero Carbon Britain.

Action; RR to ask Aled if he would be willing to talk.

Wales Transition Meeting, Machynlleth 28th Feb.

RR is to attend this meeting, it is believe Adam would like to go too. It is thought there will be a move to elect officers then a round table discussion with reports from regional Transition Initiatives.

Action: RR to report back to next steering group meeting.

Action: SB to contact Adam with amended date of meeting.

Other Business

GG has heard that Carmarthen Energy Agency are launching a program in Carmarthen to encourage energy saving. Meetings are to be held around the county including Llandeilo.

Action: SB to email Aled Owen for details to circulate.

Action: Gerry to pass contact on to Steve

RR is giving a talk on Transition to Capel Isaac Community Forum on Thursday

Town Twinning

Action: SW to check dates and let RR know

RR had to leave the meeting at this point as she had another engagement. **Last talk with Penny**, attendance was low due to extremely inclement weather but the talk and following discussion was animated and interesting.

Financial Matters This slot was used to go over the expenditure of the Environment Wales grant. As there is one more event to be held in the current financial year the budget is not yet finalised but it was felt it would be. JH explained that forms would be sent out to check that all targets had been met, both financial and volunteer involvement. She asked if there was any aspect of the Initiative the steering group wanted to now register with EW so as to allow the continued support of the Development Officer and open up the possibility of further funding either for the steering group or for one of the themed groups who work under the umbrella. It was strongly felt by SH that the Initiative should remain aloof from organisations associated with the current status quo, that funding in Wales had a poor record with regards to sustainability. JH agreed that some funding had not been successful but that EW is not an organisation but an initiative specifically to seed fund sustainable grassroots environmental projects and tried to have a very light touch. GG stated that he was happy to accept funding for the Community Shop which he is establishing as it is the only way to refurbish the place. The consensus in the group was that outside funding has its place, but that at this stage the group should not be conceiving projects just in order to attract funding. The group does not rule out future grant applications.

Sub Groups;

Heart and Soul, not met since last SG meeting.

Allotment, lease signed, Meeting to launch to be held in civic hall next Sunday then exhibition to be in foyer of council offices on history of allotments etc. 30 people had paid £25 for their half plot and half of the site will be ploughed to enable them to start on the plots ASAP.

Permaculture They had had a successful meeting, next one 22nd March which would be a work day. The Seed Swap would be held at Ffairfach Primary School at 12pm the 29th March. The group will provide cakes and refreshments.

JG mentioned a forthcoming BBC programme on peak oil and Permaculture which may be on the 20th March at 8pm.

New Economics, They had a successful meeting with the next being on Thursday. They have 11 or 12 on the list and 9 attended last meeting

No other groups were represented at the meeting.

GG has two engagements in London shortly to talk on economics. SW mentioned the forthcoming conference in Bristol on the 7th of March on Facing Climate Change.

Next Meeting, 16th March.

