

MINUTES OF STEERING GROUP MEETING 17th May 2010 AT THE CASTLE, LLANDEILO

Present: Gerry (chair), Anson, Colin, John, Adam, Elizabeth, Steve B
Apologies: Sue Weaver, Tim

Matters arising

Funding: Gerry has been notified of interest in seeking funds from a number of people, but more detail is needed. Applications to the Rural Regeneration Fund need to be in by June 14th.

Anson is to meet up with Gerry to discuss ideas for projects that might require funding. Adam said that funds are available through the Collaborative Communities project administered by CCC.

Debriefing on Hustings

There was considerable positive feedback from audience members and candidates on the night, and by email from William Powell, the Lib Dem candidate.

A letter to the local press about our failure to provide adequate translation facilities has been responded to. We would like to avoid this happening again. Elizabeth said that Huw Garon – a councilor from Rhandirmwyn involved in the Small Nations Festival, or Gaynor Jones of WAG/Tinolpolis, might be able to help. **Elizabeth will contact Huw and Gaynor and report back.**

Adam said he had spoken to Jonathan Edwards, our new MP, who said that he would like to invite the first Green MP, Caroline Lucas, to meet a Welsh transition group.

Gerry suggested a series of follow-up meetings to run from now to the Assembly elections next year (May 2011).

John suggested that the first such meeting could be combined with the Energy group's light-bulb swap. **John, Gerry, Colin or Anson to raise this at the Energy group.**

Steve suggested that the AGM this year could be combined with another meeting in the series.

Four themes were outlined, for four possible meetings : Energy and Transport, Food and Farming, Economics, and The Nature and Future of Democracy.

Getting our county councillors to attend, in order to help them consider how the county is supporting Energy Descent, seems a good idea.

Adam said that the Young Climate Champion for Carmarthen – Cerith Rhys Jones – could be part of one panel.

John suggested that Ysgol Tregib should be involved in at least one of the meetings, and Elizabeth said that the students should be encouraged to organise it.

Anson suggested that the Food meeting might involve a showing of the film Food Inc. Mid September was the preferred time for the first meeting.

Prosperity Without Growth?

Colin will contact SDC to get copies sent to CCC

Steve will put a link on our website to the report on the SDC website.

Reports from Groups

Energy and Transport –

Tim reports -

1. Biodiesel idea dropped for the time being
2. Micro-Generation idea pushed to the back burner unless a good site turns up.
3. LED swap going forward - still trying to find funds
4. Energy reduction to go forward on the back of the LED swap
5. No progress on renewable energy for the allotments. What we need first is the agreement of the allotment's group that they want renewable energy and that the shed or other building is in hand.

Also – Sundance may supply Dryslwyn shop.

Adam has access to new reports on anaerobic digestion.

Heart and Soul – meeting 21/6 at Epyllt's.

Permaculture – meeting 23/5 at Lucie's. 26/6, visit to Denmark Farm.

New Economics – met 12/5. Reported to Food and Farming that Cwmdu has a pig-breeding co-op for Oxford Sandy and Blacks, also that the Civic Hall now has its own film equipment – Food Inc? **Gerry will contact the Head of Tregib to see if they might be interested in a showing of that film this year.**

Food and Farming – just Sue, Steve, Anne at last meeting. Will proceed with a food directory if more people get involved.

Transition Network Conference June 12-14

Generally the group thought that the event was over-priced. However, no one from TL2 has ever attended, and we thought it might be worthwhile to have a representative there at least once.

TL2 will pay for a ticket for one group member who wants to go.

AOB

Adam reported that Hay-on-Earth has a competition with a prize of £10K. He asks for our support. **Adam will email the steering group with details of his application.**

NEXT MEETING June 14th at The Castle...7pm. All welcome