

Minutes of the TL2 Steering Group Meeting on 18/02/2008 at the Civic Hall, Llandeilo

Present: Rhiannon Rowley, Anson Allen, Steve Brown

Apologies: Sue Weaver, Isabel Lovelock, Alice Davies, Simon Bowkett, Anne Van Mechelen, Jo Horsley (Environment Wales – EW), John Gaffney

Minutes from 21/01/2008

Agreed

Constitution and Policies

We were too few to proceed with a discussion of policies. Without policies we remain unable to apply to most potential sources of funding. This discussion was deferred to the next meeting.

Isabel will take responsibility for an Equal Ops policy.

Anne will take responsibility for a Volunteering policy.

Rhiannon will take responsibility for a Welsh language policy.

Steve will ask Ben Brangwyn (Transition Network) whether Totnes has an Environmental policy we could use as a model.

Patricia Dodd Racher

Anson attempted to contact her but has had no response yet; he'll try again.

Start up grant application to EW

Rhiannon didn't have the form for this – Steve has now sent her a copy. **Rhiannon will apply for the grant**, necessary to cover the cost of Rob Hopkins' visit.

Visits from Rob Hopkins (29/04) and Ben Brangwyn (05/03)

Rhiannon has booked the Church Hall at St Teilo's for Ben's visit. Posters in English and Welsh have been circulated. **Rhiannon will write to the town council inviting them to both this meeting and the one with Rob.** (Local elections in April may affect councillors' ability to attend). Ben agrees that a focus on Food and Farming issues for the April meeting would be a good idea – suggestions from the steering group and beyond on how to involve the farming community are welcome.

Publicity

Iolo ap Dafydd wrote a piece about the attitudes of Welsh speakers to environmental issues, with input from Rhiannon, and this has appeared on the BBC Wales website in both Welsh and English - http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/wales/7233707.stm.

He will soon write an article about TL2 for BBC Wales.

Isabel has produced a short piece about Afallon Teilo which has appeared on the website and forms the basis for our next entry in The Post.

Hywel Davies has written a piece about TL2 in Y Papur Gwyrdd.

Y Llothwyr will be writing an article about us soon.

Vicky Moller has written an article about TL2 for a forthcoming issue of Carmarthenshire Life.

It was agreed that the newsletter which Steve sends out should from now on contain a few selected links to (or reprints of) particularly interesting or important articles that have appeared in the previous month.

Iaith a Dywylliant

Rhiannon has about 8 people interested in this new group. A first meeting will be held soon – on a Thursday, since Mondays and Wednesdays are so busy already.

Transition Swansea

A new group is forming in Swansea and they have asked for some of us to attend one of their earliest public meetings – date to be confirmed.

Feedback from Subgroups

Hemp (Anson) – The Hemp group will be visiting a hemp plantation on Gower on 10th or 17th March.

Alternative Energy (Anson for Simon) – The last meeting considered the features of Scandinavian factory built timber houses and examined the possibility of deploying an innovative siphonic hydropower turbine in the Towy that would not compromise the unique fishery in the river, comparing it with other allegedly ‘fish-friendly’ turbines.

It was considered important that the Alternative Energy group should be organising a public event for sometime in the next few months. **Steve to contact Simon about this.**

The next meeting will be held at the Civic Hall on 17th March at 7 pm. **Sue will book the room.** All are welcome to attend and participate.