

MINUTES OF STEERING GROUP MEETING 18th January 2010 AT WHITE HORSE, LLANDEILO

Present: Tim (chair), Gerry, Sue Weaver, Rhiannon, Ellie, Anson, Colin, John G, Steve H, Sue Wakefield, Steve B
Apologies: John Cox, Ben

Matters arising

Cwrt Henri land – Gerry has the phone number if this is useful to the new Food and Farming group.

Dai and Karen Harris – **John will contact them and let them know about the new Food and Farming group.**

Reports from Groups

Permaculture – met 13/12/09 at Sue Weaver's – next meets 24/01/10 at Jessica Griffin's. February's outing to Denmark Farm near Lampeter will be postponed until later in the year. Chris is also enquiring about a possible outing to the Primrose Trust.

New Economics – January's meeting was cancelled, a victim of the bad weather. The next meeting will be on 1st February. Gerry has been invited to address the PCS Union Green Forum on 2nd February in Cardiff.

Heart and Soul – met 7/12/09 when Ben facilitated. Are expecting to meet again on 27/01/10 to look at the "middle process of change".

Food and Farming – First meeting 25/01/10 at 5 Blende Road (Ellie's). 7.30

Energy – First meeting 25/01/10 at the White Horse. 7.30.

Llandoverly Partnership

John said that Martin Golder is producing a report on 'A 2020 vision for Llandoverly'. He would welcome our input on what's happening in local food, CSA, allotments, Afallon.

Rhiannon would welcome closer links with the Llandoverly Partnership to assist in breaking down the historic tension between Llandeilo and Llandoverly. We agreed that it is important to support Martin Golder and activity around sustainable development in Llandoverly. **John will speak to Martin and suggest that some of us go to the Partnership meeting at the beginning of March. John will speak to Anson, Katka, and Ben and Isabel about whether they might contribute to Martin's document.**

Fundraising

Rhiannon suggested it was time we had a fundraising event.

Ellie said that her sister is a fundraiser for charities and is happy to give us free advice. Steve H suggested a jumble sale.

Gerry pointed out that he has been offered money already as a result of his talks to the Co-op – but wondered whether we needed money. He said we should be clear about whether an event held nominally for fundraising was really more about promotion.

Tim pointed out that the Green Valleys project had just been awarded £300,000 and wondered whether we might be able to apply for some of that. The new Energy group would welcome help with a feasibility study, for instance.

Sue Weaver said that a new group wanting money would need to decide whether they wanted to be separately constituted.

Sue Wakefield mentioned the Rural Regeneration Unit as a possible source of funds.

The steering group will reflect on this and it will be discussed again next month.

Grants

Steve H reported that he has been involved in two grant applications that could assist us if successful. One is to the EU and names Calon Cymru. The other involves the UK Research Council, is around money for research collaboration between academia and community groups, and would be of interest to the Energy group, focusing on biomass, wind power and hydro.

Sustainable Development Commission report - Low Carbon Wales

Steve H reported that this new document, produced for WAG by the SDC, is key to understanding how sustainability fits in with the Wales Spatial Plan. We may expect to be invited to be represented on the regional committee.

Steve B will add a link to the report to our website and obtain more hard copies.

Hustings

Steve B mentioned that Rob Hopkins has added guidelines for holding a Hustings to his blog – at <http://transitionculture.org/2010/01/11/a-draft-guide-for-holding-transition-hustings/> - and we discussed whether we might hold such a meeting in Llandeilo before the general election.

It was agreed that we should.

Ellie will contact Tregib school to find out if they could do this as a community event. She will liase with Sue, and the Civic Hall should be booked if Tregib can't do it.

Steve H said that if a live debate proved impractical, we should at least email all the candidates to determine their position on the issues of interest to us, and put their responses on the website.

Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales

A speaker invitation has been received. Rhiannon will talk to them in Libanus on 25/04/10.

Interregnum Bid

The current status is unknown.

World Conference on Climate Change in April in Bolivia

Gerry mentioned that this is happening as part of Bolivia's response to the lack of results in Copenhagen.

Relationship of Green movement and Welsh culture

Rhiannon had circulated an article from Y Papur Gwyrdd, which included the critical observations of Lefi Gruffudd of the **Western Mail** along with a response by Alex

Randall of CAT. This stimulated a lively discussion. Rhiannon will talk to Hywel Davies about what might be the best ways forward with this debate, and let us know.

NEXT MEETING February 15th at the White Horse...7pm. All welcome