

Minutes of the TL2 Steering Group Meeting on 20/04/2009 at The Angel

Present: Elizabeth Maliphant, Adam Margetts, Gerry Gold, Andy Hewson, Sue Weaver, Steve Harris, Colin Foster, Pete Arnold, John Gaffney, Steve Brown

Apologies received from: Rhiannon Rowley, Isabel Lovelock

Minutes from 16/3/2009

Agreed.

New system for minutes

The minutes will be distributed first to all the people present at the specific meeting. They will be given a few days to request amendments, before the minutes are circulated to the rest of the steering group. At that time they will also be published on the website.

Skills-sharing

The Heart and Soul group has offered to be involved in setting up a skill-sharing programme for the coming winter. Pete Arnold is happy with this. **Pete will liaise with Sue. Steve B will create a specific page on the website for Pete to maintain.** Pete may set up a database of local skills and trainings.

Transition Network Wales meeting, Hay-on-Wye, 28th May

Rhiannon, Steve B and John will all be attending the meeting.

There is no consensus in TL2 in favour of the meeting in Hay having a chair. Therefore we will not be nominating anyone. Rhiannon had requested a response from the group to Martin Fitton's request for nominations: our response must be that we will not nominate. **Steve B will email Martin.**

There was a debate about the structure of the Welsh Network. Steve H suggested that a transition to new structures in society is part of what the transition movement should be promoting. The mess society is in suggests that traditional structures aren't doing the job that needs to be done. He also warned that an organisation covering Wales was in danger of being pulled into a relationship with WAG that could lead to co-option and neutralisation.

It was suggested that Transition Wales may in a sense have been founded prematurely (since it existed before there were any transition towns in Wales), and Adam reminded us that the transition model includes steering groups planning their own demise – and wasn't the original Wales Network such a steering group, in effect? Gerry suggested that the network could opt to dissolve itself.

It was agreed that it is more important for us to get right our own structure and governance, than to worry too much about Transition Wales – we don't want to put too much energy into this.

Events

Adam and Steve H will be at the Plaid Spring conference on April 25th.

Micro-hydro event with Grenville Ham, Llandeilo, April 30th : **John will deal with refreshments. Steve B will contact Owain and Eva re. poster and publicity.**

Zero Carbon Communities Community Renewable Energy Workshop May 20th, Llanarthne: **Steve B to circulate dates.**

Heart and Soul group 'Journey to a carbon-free future' game, June 26th, 7.30 at Llwynbwch – **Steve B to circulate dates.**

The Age of Stupid – Sue reported that the release date for groups like ours should be May 22nd. **John will contact Rick about possibly arranging a screening at Tregib, with discussion afterwards.**

The Big Lunch

<http://www.thebiglunch.com/>

Sunday 19th July – a national event with street parties and local food. Devised by Tim Smit, founder of the Eden project. We could convince the council to take part – and it could be hosted at the allotments. **Everyone to consider for the next meeting, John to mention to Cymdeithas.**

Name change for TT Llandeilo

No consensus in favour of any change, so this subject will be dropped for now.

Carbon Footprints

Sue sounded out our support for a 6 week course in How To Reduce Your Personal Carbon Footprint along the lines of the courses currently running in Cambridge. We could run one locally and facilitate it ourselves. We were supportive – **Sue to consider the next steps in setting this up.**

News from Groups

Allotments : All plots are allocated, with a waiting list.

Permaculture : A seed swap and workday took place at Ffairfach Primary School. Next meeting May 10th at Angie Rekers-Power's place.

Habitable : The mailing list has 6 members

Heart and Soul : Skills sharing discussed at last meeting.

New Economics : International bank talking to Gerry about a local electronic currency. The next meeting will consider setting up a Credit Union.

The next meeting will be held at the Castle Inn on 18th May at 7pm.