

Transition Wilmslow Steering Group Monday 12th December 2016

Present: Garry Olson, Anthony Jones, Pippa Jones, Chris Frankland, Andrew Backhouse, John Handley, Pat Baker, Heather Calderbank, Anita Willoughby

Energy Group update

Requests for energy surveys coming in – and more needed, with two new people refreshed on using the cameras.

Mike Rance of Go Lo Macclesfield came to talk to the group and was really inspiring about how they are working with Cheshire East to install batteries on social housing with solar panels to give them longer free electricity. Anthony has been talking to the Leisure Centre and they are getting ready to have PV panels on in April. Colin Farrell of Cheshire East Council is working with them to reduce energy use.

We could invite the pair of them to talk to us on March 9th for the steering group/public. AB to get Mike and Anthony to get Colin to lead into a discussion and copy Pippa in. Send stuff to Pat and Pippa to distribute.

Food Group update

Gavin Mendham and Chris Frankland will run a apple tree pruning workshop on Saturday 21st January at 10am in Meriton Park. We need to get publicity out immediately after Xmas – and on the events pages. Pippa needs the form of words and equipment needs. Wilmslow in Bloom next year is sustainability. New trees and more raised beds are needed at Gravel Lane, and the Co-op could be asked for grants if the Food Group presents a costed plan.

Lindow Moss Update

Jean and John have met with, Jeff Clarke, ecology consultant for Croghan Peat, and they now appear to have stopped stripping peat, expecting this to be ready for restoration. The water vole population is doing fine. One of John's colleagues, Dr Stephen Hincks, is conducting a landscape archaeological survey of the moss. Another colleague, Dr Anna Gilchrist, has been working with a landowner looking at the deterioration on the water quality in the Bollin catchment, and will be looking at the brook from the landfill site.

Neighbourhood Plan and Green Plans Update

As an input to the neighbourhood plan Mersey Forest staff are providing green infrastructure material. Jean is planning an event on green walk mapping.

Charity Commission Update

The Charity Commission have rejected our application as not meeting their requirements. We'd have to lead with the work like Lindow Moss. 'Not every worthy cause is charitable.'

We perhaps need to revisit what we need to become, or get legal help. Anita to consult National Council for Voluntary Organisations but not put too much effort in to this as being a charity does not now seem the way to go.

Toilet Block

Mark Collier was interested in developing this – but there is likely to be asbestos in the building. He is talking to Cheshire East on this.

Steering Group change of day

We will meet on 2nd Thursdays of the month for next year. Next Mtg 12th January.

Plans for next year

January – 21st pruning day

February 9th? 23rd?– AGM and pot luck supper – we all bring something.

March 9th– energy talk

April – Earth Hour

May – Wilmslow water power walk - exploring Town Mill weir and QBM

June – Foraging or trees walk

July –

September – Motor show and mass bike ride or bike exhibition

October – Transition Wilmslow lecture – ideas needed for who.

4th November - Mushroom day