

MINUTES of COMMITTEE MEETING 16.12.22

Present: Linda Pepper, Elaine Paterson, Jo Hart and Judith Ward

Apologies: Sue Richardson, Liz Wilcox, Colin Elliot, Martin Laidler, Tania Willis and Maurice Ward

Minutes of October meeting: agreed

Matters arising: Liz to contact Lottery to see if our remaining funding (approx. £1800) can be carried over beyond March 2023.

ACTION GROUPS FEEDBACK

- 1. SUP** – Sue reported by email that work is progressing visiting businesses to discuss sign up to surfers against sewage award for single use plastic free award, by each business eliminating 3 SUP items from current usage. Aim is to complete this task by March.
- 2. Estuary Pollution** – Elaine reported that there are now responses to FOI requests from EA and NW which are illuminating but complex, and also beg more questions. Elaine has also been liaising with Tynedale green councillor Nick Morphet on work they are doing on Tyne River pollution – possibility of joint campaigning. In meantime algae monitoring (as proxy for pollution levels) is continuing and more volunteers recruited to do this, following a virtual training session with EA on 3 November.
ACTION: A group meeting will happen on Mon 19 Dec to discuss next moves.
- 3. Transport** – Judith reported that 41 responses have been received to the transport questionnaire (to be used to help targeted campaigning for improved services). Jo suggested an online version of the questionnaire might help. Judith reported that a follow up survey of bus stop info shows no consistency in updating the information with confused responsibilities between TC and NCC not helping. Finally Judith has been asked to speak to the Trades Council about the Transport group work.
ACTION: Elaine will ask MM to produce online questionnaire for the website
Judith will report to NCC/TC ongoing issues with updating bus stop info, and also attend Trades Council to speak about Transport Group
- 4. Zero Waste** – Tania reported by email that following a visit to East Linton repair workshop she or Liz would be applying to the national repair workshop network for the starter kit (£50) to get one going for Berwick.
Pepper reported that the visit she visited the repair café in Duns which is starting with sewing repairs.

Pepper has organised to the main Northumberland recycling depot will take place on 25th Jan 2-3.30. 7 interested in going so far, max number 12. If anyone else is interested contact Pepper. ACTION: Pepper will keep all informed

5. **Community Garden** – Jo made some suggestions for taking this forward – approaching land owners including NCC, and perhaps applying for an allotment at 5 Arches. Elaine advised that TC/NCC had their eye on redeveloping 5 Arches allotments, although there is local resistance and TC would be obliged to provide alternative site. Town Councillor Robert Bruce is the contact for more info on this. Elaine also suggested that NCC Estates dept should be contacted re any land they would be prepared to gift to the local community and what the process would be – Hazel Scurr might provide a contact name.

ACTION: Judith offered to talk through with Jo the issues re community gardens as she has been involved in many in the past in her capacity as a landscape architect. Jo to pursue ideas above.

6. **Berwick Rising** – youth group (under 35s) met end September, led by Emi Tant. Jo was present and reported it was a drop in social, climate café style including a clothes swap. It is not known if this will continue as a group. Emi has not reported whether this group will be part of Greener Berwick, if indeed it does continue, nor has any money been claimed from Greener Berwick for this meeting, despite the offer.

ACTION: Pepper to contact Millie re future of the group, and ask for invoice for end Sept meeting.

7. **Warmer Homes** – First meeting was 26 nov. Following FoE lead and info. Well attended – 15-18 people. Martin Laidler agreed to convene the group with Colin Elliot. Lots of ideas. Focus initially on getting publicity out for little known NCC energy saving measures funding – Greenses area in Berwick to be target as area of older leaky housing with perhaps income range eligible for grants.

ACTION: Pepper to contact Martin for next meeting date

FILMS – 2 films have been proposed that will be shown as the GB topic event for January: “The Oil Machine” and a film about XR. Dates for these – 19th Jan for Oil Machine at 7.30 YHA first floor 26th Jan for Extinction Rebellion (XR) film, same venue and time. Tania and Maurice will show these films and there will be discussion after including any follow up action that GB might take. Publicity will go out early Jan on website, mailchimp, FB and Instagram. No cost implications for films, just room hire ACTION:– Pepper to book room, and check which XR film to be shown

GREEN ARCHITECTURE course: BEA has asked if GB want to joint fund this – 4 lectures starting 23 Jan by a professor from Edinburgh. Agreed we would fund to tune of £244 and may get around half back from fees (£24 for 4 lectures). Details will appear on GB website and mailchimp early Jan.

E Berwickshire Litter campaign – an issue raised by Liz – Pepper to find out more from Liz

BIG GREEN WEEK 2023 – in June for 2023 – for next meeting agenda. Pepper has already got agreement that GB have a stall or two at Food and Beer festival in September, and

idea was this might coincide with BGW and be GB contribution to this, but now BGW (nationally) is June (not Sept as last year)so we need to decide whether to do something for that as well.

ACTION: Pepper to continue liaising with Food and Beer festival organisers.

SAFEGUARDING policy – Pepper reported this is all complete with kind help of Paul Anderson. Paul has also trained Pepper to be the safeguarding officer for GB. **ACTION:** Pepper to provide policy to Elaine to send for website update

CONSTITUTION – only 2 outstanding points following lengthy email debate. One being: all members of action groups to be invited to committee meetings – this was agreed. Second also agreed being: all on mailchimp list get newsletter, and newsletter will refer to the committee minutes being on the website for all to see if they want.

ACTION: Elaine to send future agendas/minutes directly to personal emails of all on action groups, once action group leaders provide Elaine with their members email addresses. Pepper to send final constitution to Elaine for website.

Next meeting: Mon 13th Feb at 7pmagenda to include funding (spend by March?), BGW and social events

Elaine Paterson (joint coordinator) 17.12.22