



## **Melksham Climate Friendly Group**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009 @ 8.00pm**

**Spencer's Sports & Social Club, Beanacre Road, Melksham**

**The MCFG Meet at the same venue at the same time on the first Wednesday of every month**

### **NOTES**

**ATTENDEES:** Jo Stoddart, Eddy Watts, Kathy Iles, Mike Boyce, Marieke Guy, Pete McHenry, Scott Aldersley, Lorraine Aldersley

**VISITORS:** Graham Ellis, Rolf Brindle, Lee Fletcher, M Mehroz, Shaun Maskins, Claire Harrall, Sian Bretton

**APOLOGIES:** Jess Riley, Becky Hatfield, Shirley McCarthy

#### **GUEST SPEAKER: Emma Glover from WWDC**

Our guest speaker, Emma Glover from the WWDC recycling Department had to cancel at the last minute due to a change of her job with the new Wiltshire Council. Scott had already received answers to questions we had previously put to Emma and these were read out at the meeting. We took other questions (shown below) and we will pass these on to Wiltshire Council and ask for a response:

- What is now happening to all the 'other' plastic if the current reprocessor is now not taking it?
- We need to continue to have grey bins emptied fortnightly as a minimum as they contain waste that can attract rats and disease – is there a plan to reduce these collections?
- In County Durham they have a household mixed recycling collection of plastics and card – can this be done here?
- Why can't we recycle plastics and cardboard on the doorstep?
- Why can't vegetable peelings and cut flowers go in the green compost bin?
- Can we stop the green bins being collected during the winter when no one uses them and use the money saved to fund other/extra collections during the summer months?
- Should we be paying for the amount of waste we create 'pay as you throw' or would this cause more fly tipping?
- Are we now taking waste for incineration to Slough?

We all agreed that we need to have another public session with Council representatives present and we will work towards this and advertise widely via the local media.

#### **WILDLIFE GARDEN**

Work begins on the Wildlife Garden on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April @ 10am. This project is being carried out on a piece of waste ground adjacent to the West End Inn on Semington Road, Melksham. All help appreciated to begin the work by getting the ground cleared etc.

#### **AGE OF STUPID**

Several MCFG members went to see this film recently. Not much of a storyline so not very entertaining but still enjoyable. No exaggeration in it. Nice to be among like-minded people on same wavelength. What we do in the next 4 years will affect the next 30 years! The Inconvenient Truth is being shown on BBC2 this Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **MELKSHAM TRAINS**

Graham Ellis and associates from the Melksham Save the Train Group visited our meeting – they are supporting our 'More Chuffin' Trains' project and are donating £100 toward the cost of the info banner

we want to have produced. The main opinion was that the Melksham train line is dreadful, but many thought it wasn't that good! Everyone seems to be going around in circles trying to get it improved with very little or no success. They have started a pledge campaign and have asked us to support that by telling everyone we know about it. Other things we can do to help are:

- Advertise/attend public meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 7.30pm @ Bridge House Trowbridge.
- Volunteer to deliver leaflets to homes in Melksham

Proposals are:

- To get 6 trains per day passing through Melksham and set up a community rail service
- To put together a long term plan for Melksham Station and have an hourly service by 2014
- Have a safe cycle route from the town centre to the station
- Provide bicycle parking at station
- Improve services at the station

Artist impressions of how they would like the station to look were passed around.

Check their website: [www.firstgreatwestern.info/coffeeshop](http://www.firstgreatwestern.info/coffeeshop)

Or Graham's blog: [www.wellho.net/horse](http://www.wellho.net/horse)

### **FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL**

To be held at Assembly Hall on Sunday 3 May. Our theme is 'Waste not, Want not!' Recipe ideas needed – please send your recipes and pictures to Kathy who will make them up as display posters and small handouts. We need to have a plan of action – who is doing what?

- \* Mike co-ordinating
- \* Kathy doing recipes, leaflets and stand display
- \* Jo and Kathy will set up stand on the day
- \* Quiz on what to do with leftovers – **Shirley** are you doing this?
- \* Recipes for using a glut of food like fruit pickings etc
- \* Check the Love Food Hate Waste website.
- \* Sainsbury's had some leaflets about not wasting food – **Shirley** were you going to see if you could get them to donate some to us?
- \* Volunteers for the day: Eddy, Shirley, Scott, Mike, Jade, Jess, Kathy, Jo
- \* Jo will check with Maggie Giddings about timings
- \* Jo to email Shirley about the pesticides article.
- \* Mike producing some food related data for display.

**Jo** – can you find out if we are allowed to sell our bags at this event?

**Final plan of action to be drawn up in adhoc meeting about the Food & Drink Festival at the Kings Arms Hotel on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April @ 8pm – in the bar.**

WWT are also running a stand on a similar topic but we have decided to go ahead with ours regardless.

### **GWS LIAISON PROJECT**

This has now been totally taken over by the WWT. No longer an agenda item. Moving to Kings Park Project with Jade next.

### **WEBSITE**

To add 'Save the Train' and Wildlife Garden. Also a section called 'Its easy being green' (Lorraine)

### **AOB**

- Spencer's Open Day – Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June from 3pm. MCFG / Freecycle to have an info stand and a Junk Modelling table. Give all your recyclables that are appropriate for this event to Jo.
- Jo is applying for a grant to help us pay for a meeting room for when we want to have a speaker/event etc.
- Clash, but chance to volunteer: <http://newsite.wiltshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/WhatsOn/SarsenTrail>

**DATE OF NEXT MCFG MEETING: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2009**