



Melksham Climate Friendly Group

Wednesday 7th October 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, Shirley McCarthy, Marieke Guy, Pete McHenry, Mike Boyce

GUEST SPEAKER: Richard Craft

APOLOGIES:

Scott Aldersley, Steve Petty, Jess Riley, Becky Hatfield

NOTES OF LAST MEETING

These were projected onto a screen for everyone to see and discuss.

- Unfortunately all the money collected at the carnival has all gone – we missed the boat on this occasion.
- Marieke went to the cycle shop and spoke to the owner about our idea for a free cycle repair day. The owner was involved with a similar event in Calne but they were all really awful bikes and he wasn't very happy. He thinks if we run an event like this it will just be taken advantage of by people who need big jobs doing and just want them done for free. He suggested talking to Chippenham Wheelers for advice. **Action MG**

GUEST SPEAKER: Richard Craft from Sustrans came to speak to us about cycling in Melksham. Richard circulated maps and talked about cycle ways around Wiltshire. Richard told us about Wiltshire Council coming into BOA to talk to the Town Council about the Cycle Network through the town. Richard suggested that we contact Laura Gosling @ WC Highways Dept and ask her WHEN they are coming to Melksham.

- Do we need to have a 'Cycling Champion' to head this up?
- Should we make up an article for the MIN to see who else is interested in better cycling in Melksham?
- We should go to the Area Board Meetings and bring this up.
- Other people to contact are: Rolf Brindle (Melksham Without) and Pete Dauncey (Town Crier).

WILDLIFE GARDEN **Agenda item for November meeting**

Not had a working day there since the last MCFG meeting but one has been suggested for **Sunday 18th October** from 10am.

PLASTIC BAG FREE DAY **Agenda item for November meeting**

No report as Scott was not at the meeting.

COUNTY HALL RALLY

On Tuesday 15th September a rally was held at County Hall Trowbridge to protest against the proposal put forward by a councillor for the Council to withdraw from the Nottingham Agreement, previously signed up to. Many members of local climate groups turned up on the day rallied together by Mark Fletcher. We are very grateful to Mark for all his hard work pulling this event together so quickly. Marieke had also set up a group on Facebook that rocketed to over 300 members overnight. The session was held first in the Council Meeting as so many members of the public had come to hear it. The motion was thrown out after a recorded vote where only 6 councillors backed the motion to withdraw.



Pictured: Members of several Wiltshire Climate Groups and local councillors rallying against the motion to withdraw from the Nottingham Agreement.

LOTTERY GRANT

It was decided that we should wait until we have a suitable project before we apply for a grant.

FINANCE

- Currently have £139.14 in the account.
- We have been awarded a grant of £50 from Melksham Town Council for the Wildlife Garden. It was suggested that Scott may like to go along to the presentation to collect this from the Mayor.
- Kathy has designed a banner that matches our business cards and it was agreed that we should get one made up to use at displays and shows.



Melksham
Climate Friendly Group

Helping to create
an awareness of
environmental issues

www.climatemelksham.co.uk
Email: melkshamcfg@yahoo.co.uk

WEBSITE

Any additions or suggestions for our website should be sent to Eddy – please send complete articles with pictures if possible) and Eddy will just upload them.

FUTURE PROJECTS *Agenda item for November meeting*

- **Water Pump:** Shirley contacted Richard Head about this and has done a lot of very interesting research. But as it is not drinkable water it is not commercially viable.
- **2020:** Are we going to make an entry into the 2020 (now 2030) Vision?
- **Allotments:** Pete will e-mail an article for the MIN to ask residents of Melksham if they know of any spare ground suitable for use as allotments.

NEWSLETTER – Jess working on next edition – please e-mail all contributions to Jo.

AOB

- **Age of Stupid:** This is showing at the Fox & Hounds pub in Colerne on Thursday 29th October @ 8pm. Marieke will drive and can take 6 passengers.

NEXT MEETINGS:

- Wednesday 4th November 2009
- Wednesday 2nd December 2009 – starting with the AGM at 7.30pm