

Transition Horsham Steering Group Meeting

Tuesday 28th February 2012

Present: Tom Kinally, Alison Marshall, Maggie Weir-Wilson

Apologies: Alan Sloan

1. Meeting began with an update from Tom on the Solar Panel Register. Application for a grant from the Co-Op has just gone in so we wait to hear. Tom is checking out other sources of funding, European Energy Efficiency Fund and the Environment, Energy and Transport Fund, both are open ended but need a local council partner. Tom has approached Helen Peacock at HDC in the hope of a more positive response than last time.
2. We discussed what follows on from the Solar Panel Register project and accepted that we needed to form an organisation to take forward a Horsham Community Energy Project such as they have in Lewes and Bath. The structure that seems favoured is the Industrial and Provident Society, but as none of us are familiar with this, the pros and cons, the liability etc., Tom will contact OVESCO and the Bath Community Energy to find out why they went that way, Alison will check out the actual models and what the commitment is for their officers and for Transition Horsham, she noted that the managed project would have to keep going for 25 years and perhaps employ staff. Tom will approach Co-Op Bank and Triodos Bank to find out about low interest rate loans for communities as a safety net. Tom will also contact Streatham in London as they have a set-up document which could be useful, he will forward this to each of us when he can obtain it.
3. It was decided that we should bring all this information to a review meeting of Transition Horsham on 31/5 for general discussion and ideas. We also thought it was important to identify what roles would be needed in a new Horsham Community Energy Organisation and then try and recruit to fill those roles, rather than seeing who was available and willing.
4. Tom was keen to contact the Emergency Planning Officer of WSCC on Transition Horsham's behalf, having noted the lack of emergency planning in the ECCB Action Plan, and having read how good the Bristol one was. Agreed.
5. PlanLoCal training day, Tom and Maggie will go and hope to get more ideas for funding.
6. We were very pleased to note that Greg Collins, secretary of the Horsham and District Cycling Forum had joined Transition, and we were sure his expertise would be much appreciated.

7. Seedy Saturday built on last year's success, with more people though the door and we made £188 for the account. We could happily charge £10 per stall next year if we do similar. A review was written by Maggie and posted on the website which should be in the WSCT w/e 3/3. Maggie also contacted Ben Morris of AAHorsham and suggested a possible feature on Transition Horsham.
8. Alison informed us that Greening is planning another event similar to the Eco Fair on 3/11 but it was in the initial stages. Maggie suggested we combine efforts and put on a 'Powered Down Horsham' event which would look at issues around a more local provision of energy, public transport, food, and housing. Talks and stalls, ECCB and HDC to be invited. Would form the basis for a Horsham Energy Descent Plan, or Carbon Reduction Plan. Alison will take this to Greening and suggest a joint planning meeting.
9. Discussed the coming years programme, not much enthusiasm for Alan's idea of a debate on Nuclear Energy so we planned out the following:

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| 14 April | Strictly come Gardening at Hayward's Heath – yet to find someone to run stall, may need to cancel |
| 21 April | TH stall at Capel Sustainability day |
| 28 April | Swap Shop |
| 31 May | Review and discussion re Community Energy Project |
| 28 June | Organic Food Evening with Brikke |
| 26 July | Homeopathy with Mike - confirmed |
| Aug free | |
| 27 Sept | Film, new 'In Transition 2.0' DVD or 'Carbon Fields' |
| October | Mushroom Foraging with Rustic Mushroom Company |
| 3 Nov | Powered Down Horsham event |
| 13 Dec | Christmas Party |

Next Steering Group meeting will be on Thursday 12th April, 8.00pm at Tom and Brikke's house in The Crescent.