

Minutes of Tveg meeting held at Anne-Mary's, 14th July 2010

Present: Anne-Mary, Penny, Sheila, Tom, Val, Janet, Angie, Camilla

Last meetings minutes approved.

Anne-Mary plans to make a simple poster about Tuffin's recycling box for batteries, which she will put in library and also laminate and put near recycling containers.

Zero Miles – Sheila

Two so far this year. Four producers at last one. Generally appreciated, need to get local people involved in supplying. Difficulty of engaging other allotmenters (they tend to give away their surplus anyway). There are posters and flyers to hand out, though 'organic' needs to be removed, as we are not certified organic, and we want anyone to contribute, whether organic or not. We all need to pass the word around, Sheila has emailed someone in the gardening club. Someone needs to run the stall in August, Camilla may be able to do the setting up and getting stuff there from the community allotment but will have to leave to get a train before it ends. Lively discussion about pricing. Sheila and Anne-Mary worried about undercutting Mick and Alice, but Tom feels having bargains will attract more people to the market generally thus benefiting all. We should at least be cheaper than Tuffin's and Spar/Costcutter's. Possible solution would be to do the Zero Miles stall on the non-farmer's market Saturday, but then we have to set up a stall and make sure we have a rota to run it. Or we talk to Mick and Alice and see how they feel and how much it matters to them anyway. Apparently some people specifically want to buy the allotment produce. Tom mentioned Country Markets where everyone decides their own prices and all the stuff is sold together. End decision is that people must weigh, bag up and price their stuff before they bring it. If they have no scales then they can come before the market opens and borrow Tom's. (nb. Anne-Mary, are you still going to talk to Mick and Alice anyway? I'm not sure from my notes).

Email list

Angie wants to check if it's ok to send out emails that are related, but not specifically Tveg business. Agreed it's ok, people can always delete, but add a short note telling people to let us know if they don't want such emails. Penny says she now has a list of 19 friends and 30 members of Tveg. We don't have a moderator but it seems to work without one, just about.

Tidy Towns – Sheila

Meeting Sunday 25th July, 2pm at Offa's Dyke centre for next litter pick. Spread the word. We'll try and do Pinner's Hole and the river if we have the time and people. Sheila and Siggy had 3-hour meeting with TT Rachel and deserve medals for this. Upshot - can use money for trees. Tool money has to be used for specific tools mentioned in funding application. But these will all be useful for tree-planting etc so Sheila is going to go ahead and purchase.

Val – Garth Hill – rather than get young offenders to do it, TT will fund a skip plus person, probably in the autumn. Maybe Tveg will help if needed.

Joint Alloment

Angie – Council are coming this Fri 6.00pm to discuss frog pond, to put in our shared space (we already have the bath for it). Agreed it would be good for as many Tveg as possible to come and

give moral support, and combine that with a meeting about the community allotment, as requested by Anne-Mary.

Tree-planting – Anne-Mary

Council says we can plant on Bryn-y-castell, especially as from next year they cannot mow there (health and safety). Concern that we don't obscure the castle however.

Anne-Mary has organised a meeting with Platform Pals and others @ the Community centre on 28th July at 5pm. Others interested welcome.

Where to buy trees?

Ashfield community horticultural project is for young people who sell local trees.

Also possibly Forestry Commission. And the woman who used to sell trees at the Farmers' Market.

Anne-Mary points out that last time the Council paid, though that's a good few years ago.

Also there's something called Better Woods for Wales

Forest Project - Angie

It needs a name, one is Future Forests but can anyone think of anything better and more interesting sounding.

Help is needed with fund-raising.

A group is going to Lurkenhope sometime in the next few weeks. Shropshire Wildlife Trust want to get rid of their western Hemlock and would be happy if it was us. Does this burn well? If so, we should get it out. Access is problematic – very steep hill. Could we use a horse?

Anne-Mary, Sheila, Angie and Camilla all interested in meeting the SWT.

Website – David

David still waiting for material for Buy Local page. Also Evie still has not sent her bit, but Dave will remind her.

Penny – let's put website address up on the Zero Miles stall.

Link to Visit Knighton website – David not sure, but Anne-Mary thinks it should inspire people to come and live here.

Dave – let's have article in local press for Jane – Anne-Mary will write.

Angie, Val and Sheila will meet David and learn how to keep the website updated.

Knucklas Castle website needs work, so not ready for a link yet.

Penny - Can we also put on website announcement about free cookery course using local and seasonal veg, starting tue 27th July for 6 weeks. Run by Lynne. And might she want some extra local veg? P will get more details and email the group.

Meetings

Last time we decided the second Wednesday in every month, this needs to go on the website. They are to be open to anyone who is interested and this is made clear on the website. Also Penny's mobile number will go on the website for people to phone to find out where the meeting is – we will circulate each other's houses unless we are having a public meeting with talk and discussion. Anne-Mary points out that the group used to meet at the Knighton hotel, and it was free - we can ask them again when they re-open. RAFA club too depressing.

AOB

Sheila – there is a backlog of people wanting surveys and not enough people/time to do. Anne-Mary will find out who has been appointed as the local HES co-ordinator, to work out with them what to

do next. Also maybe contact Dave Tomlinson. But no-one should feel guilty about not getting all the surveys done fast.

Anne-Mary – her friends have got lots of firewood from the railway track at Knucklas where it's been coppiced – we should go and get it too.

Photo-voltaics – Angie wants to know who's interested in doing it together to get a slight reduction. Southern Solar recommended.

Possibly interest-free loans are available.

Janet points out that in the Isle of Eigg they have integrated solar, wind and hydro power – a model to aim for?

NEXT MEETING NEXT MEETING

8TH Sept at Penny's, Anne-Mary will take minutes and Janet will chair.