

TVEG Minutes of Meeting held at The George, Knighton on 9th June 2010

Present:- Anne Mary (Chair); Angie (Minutes); David; Camilla and Christine.

*Apologies: Sheila and Penny.

Website:- David has worked wonders and done lots of hard work and the website is now live. A big thank you David! You can find it at <http://www.tveg.org.uk/> Please do look at it and send your comments and suggestions and feedback and more material to David at djtollman@btinternet.com Also, let him know what it looks like on your browsers ie. Check to see if it is OK on your computer screens. Look at the various sections, tell us how easy it is to navigate around the site, let us know if you want the minutes of our meetings on the website (there was discussion about being open and accountable and informative on the one side and having too much info on the site on the other). It is your website so let us know what you want on it.

David is awaiting some graphics from Yvie to replace the pics on the home page; energy material from Anne Mary; Buying Local material from Julia. The website has 5 email addresses that go with it and these can be forwarded to people to deal with specific enquiries from the public. For now these have been assigned to the following groups/people – general information/enquiries and membership enquiries to go to Penny; Tidy Towns to Sheila; Joint Allotment to Anne Mary; Woodland Project to Angie and a 5th is still undesignated for now. If any of these people go away for any length of time and/or cannot deal with the emails coming in from the website then they will contact David and the email redirection can go to another person. Please can you all get other groups and websites to link with our website and if you have any more links for us to put in then get them to David.

Llandoverly visit:- Christine is working on this and has been in contact with the group and Jill will speak to others in the group about when would be convenient for us to visit. Christine will keep us informed of progress.

Woodland Project:- Angie presented an outline of the woodland project and some drafts aims that can be found at the end of these minutes. She stressed that the idea of forming a company limited by guarantee with quite broad aims was so that we might be able to buy up several pieces of land and do varied projects without having to set up an individual company each time. The main aim would be to grow firewood and fruit and nut trees but we would also be encouraging public access and educational and cultural projects once the woodlands were established. It was decided this would be a TVEG project and Angie will be the co-ordinator for now.

The name and the aims are still in draft form and suggestions and comments are welcome so we can get a consensus decision as soon as possible and then go on to form the company and start raising funds for land/woodland purchase. Jamie from Knucklas has agreed to give us free legal advice, which is really appreciated. It was thought that Teme Valley Woodlands might be more inclusive than having Knighton in the name of the Trust but there were arguments on both sides!!!! Let us have your views!

There is an auction on 24th June of some land in Llanbister Road that we are not ready for yet but Anne Mary, Camilla, Christine and Angie will go and learn about auctions and see how much it goes for in the end – as a trail dry run. It was suggested that we should also look at woodlands nearby and ask whether we can help manage them for firewood too.

It was clear that we need a separate working group meeting for this project and so please let Angie know

(reforest@gn.apc.org) if you want to be in this working group and she will arrange a meeting.

Town Tree Planting:- Anne Mary presented an impressive list of plots of land possibly available around Knighton for planting up with fruit and nut trees for local food. She is writing to 3 local WI groups and Knighton Platform Pals to suggest that 2 people from each group form a working group to take this project further and to start planting in the Autumn. 2 plots of land have already been negotiated with Ken Harris (a local Councillor) – a place in Pinners Hole and a place above the old tennis courts – and we could start with these whilst negotiating for more places. This is an excellent beginning. Thanks to Anne Mary for her hard work. Anyone wanting to be involved – perhaps to be the other person with Anne Mary on the working group? - should contact her on amdskyborry@hotmail.com There may be possibilities of grants from Coed Cymru or the Welsh Assembly for tree planting and this needs to be researched.

HES/Energy:- We are awaiting news about who will be our local HES co-ordinator but we all decided that whoever it is we need to make sure we support them and work with them as much as possible.

AOB:- Camilla is going to Herefordshire Transition meeting on Friday and will keep us informed. Tuffins do recycle batteries and they have a box near the check-out where you can put them but it is not very obvious. Anne Mary will contact them to see if we can help promote it/make it more obvious. Anne Mary will be running a bric a brac stall at the farmers market on Saturday to raise funds for our tree planting.

Next Meeting:- July 14th at Anne Mary's house (Lower Skyborry Cottage, LD7 TW) at 7.30p.m. Some of us will gather at the Offa's Dyke Centre at 7 p.m. to walk there together. Angie will chair the meeting and Camilla will take the notes.

We would like to know which evening TVEG people can never do so that we can arrange meetings on a day when more people can attend, so can you let Penny penny.rosenthal@btinternet.com know which days of the week you can not do please? Then we will try and arrange to have the meetings at a regular time each month so that people have it fixed in their diaries, and we can publicise it on the website to encourage new people to attend.