

MINUTES OF STEERING GROUP MEETING 14th June 2010 AT THE CASTLE,
LLANDEILO

Present: Tim (chair), Anson, Colin, Sue Weaver, John, Steve B
Apologies: Gerry

Matters arising

Looby Macnamara went to the Transition conference in Totnes. She will report back to the steering group at the July meeting.

Anson has made contact with the Headteacher of Ysgol Tregib, and is visiting her on the 22nd June with Gerry.

Colin has copies of "Prosperity Without Growth" and will pass these on to CCC.

Public meetings up to WAG election 2011

Tim suggested that we had a good turnout for the Hustings simply because it was a Hustings, and was the only one in Llandeilo for the General Election. We should not anticipate a similar response to a whole series of panel-style meetings. To have one meeting just before the 2011 WAG election does make sense. As a small group we need to focus on a small number of activities that will work.

Sue said that film shows had been successful for us in the past. A public showing of Food Inc would be good, and we could invite Patrick Holden to speak at such a food-related event. Steve mentioned some new films about the oil industry (see <http://toxicfuels.com/>).

The meeting with Tregib may well result in a public meeting of some kind. However, although the New Economics group is interested in a meeting focused on education, and specifically on the closure of Pantycelyn and Tregib and creation of a new 'superschool', it was felt unlikely that Tregib themselves would be allowed to get involved in this.

Sue and John mentioned that the Permaculture group are anticipating having an 'A-bun-dance', an alternative harvest festival, in the autumn.

The Energy group is going ahead with its LED swap. Tim suggested that other attractions should not be added into that event, although people turning up for free bulbs are expected to take part in an energy audit. Sue and John offered to run another Carbon Conversations course that if there were enough interest.

Tim suggested that we need more social events, to help pull people in.

In conclusion, up to 5 meetings are likely to go ahead over the next 6 to 8 months:

Energy group : LED bulb swap++

PC group : A-bun-dance

NE group : Meeting around education

Film show : Food Inc (?)

Something involving Tregib (?)

Project Proposal from Anson

Anson outlined a proposal for a research and consultation project to determine future strategy for this group and for the Tywi valley community in relation to Peak Oil and Climate change to 2020 and beyond, resulting in a “community-led action plan”. Such a project would require funding for one worker. Anson hoped that he could do the work, but understood that a tendering process would necessarily be involved, once the project was defined.

John pointed out that the recent Totnes EDAP showed the value of assessing the current local picture in order to define the starting point for change.

Sue said that a proposal like this should start from a consultation with subgroups to determine what information they need – but that without flourishing groups the project cannot really get underway.

Tim said that to get a community-led process underway required us to have engaged with more people, especially the Welsh-speaking community, first. We need to build mass, he said, in order to have the energy to proceed.

John mentioned the PLANED consultation idea which was first raised over a year ago. Their experience of involving the wider community could be invaluable.

After discussion, there was no clear mandate to proceed with this proposal for the time being.

Reports from Groups

Energy and Transport – the group is now focused on the LED swap event

Heart and Soul – meeting 21/6 at Eysyllt’s or Sue’s. Council of All Beings 30/7 – 1/8.

Permaculture – 26/6, visit to Denmark Farm. Annie may be able to help organise A-bun-dance if it’s during the October half term holiday.

New Economics – met 9/6. Interested in a meeting around education, see above.

Food and Farming – Sue has attempted to hold the group together after Ellie’s standing down. The Llandeilo Food Festival is still going ahead, driven by CCC, Tywi Afon yr Oesoedd and Menter Bro Dinefwr, and is now due to take place 11-12 Sept. It was agreed that if it happens, TL2 should be there. Alice is likely to attend the next planning meeting for that. Also, Sue is due to meet with Alice and will keep Steve in the picture.

AOB

It was agreed that we should buy a copy of the Totnes EDAP. **Steve will ask Gerry to do so.**

There is a Community Action for Climate Change Network meeting in Carmarthen on June 24th - Tim will go and Anson may do.

Tim said that two kinds of Car share schemes were discussed at the last Energy group meeting. One is simply helping people establish car-sharing arrangements with friends and neighbours, by dealing with the insurance issues. The other is to set up a car club

based in central Llandeilo with vehicles that belong to TL2. Llanidloes and Machynlleth have schemes like this already. **Steve will sound out the membership to see what support there is for such a scheme, through the next newsletter.**

NEXT MEETING July 19th at The Castle...7pm. All welcome