

Teme Valley Environment Group

AGM 17th April 2013

Reynolds Room, Knighton Community Centre.

Present: Tom (Chair), Sheila (Note taker), Pam, Yvie, Angie, Cindy-Lou, Charlotte, Camilla, Elaine, Penny, Christine B, Anne Mary, Nina and Val.

Apologies: Siggy, Bev

Reports from Groups:

Community Allotment (Sheila) The new arrangement having half of the allotment divided into individual plots and the rest as communal growing areas has worked well this year. There are 6 individual plots and the rest is planted with herb, soft fruit and a newly planted bed of 30 asparagus crowns which should be ready for harvest in two years.

Litter picks. (Sheila) These continue to be held occasionally, using the equipment purchased with a grant from Keep Wales Tidy. KWT continue to subsidise the insurance for all of the activities undertaken by TVEG which meet the general aims of KWT. See AOB for upcoming litter pick dates.

Edible Knighton (Anne Mary) Thirty fruit and nut trees have been planted in various locations around the town. The Group are working with the Community Centre to plant an edible garden at the centre. A new fence has been erected and fruit trees planted. A herb garden is being constructed and work parties take place every Thursday evening from 6pm. More volunteers would be very welcome.

There are also plans to work with the primary school, hopefully to plant an orchard.

Knighton Tree Allotment Trust (Angie) The trust has signed 10 year leases on two sites; Weir Cottage, Skyborry and Greenstreet, Llangunllo. The Trust would like to lease or buy another site within walking distance of Knighton.

Funding totalling almost £17,000 has been obtained and will be used to run a variety of courses on woodland management, first aid, biodiversity etc, as well as purchasing equipment to manage the woodland for fuel, food and biodiversity. The Trust's AGM is on Thursday 25th April 7.30pm at Offa's Dyke Centre.

There are currently 20 volunteers. Others would be welcome and can join at the AGM or obtain a form from Angie. Hours spent volunteering may earn wood and other products of the woodlands.

Renewable Energy Group (Camilla) The group recently met with Roger Williams (MP) who seemed very supportive of their aims and objectives. The group would like TVEG as a constituted body, to register with "Renew Wales". This would enable them to carry out a mapping project looking at potential renewable energy sites in the local area, particularly for micro hydro electricity generation. (See AOB for action agreed)

Treasurer's Report. (Siggy provided accounts) Agreed. Attached to these minutes.

Election of officers for coming year:

Chair: Yvie (proposed by Anne Mary, seconded by Penny)

Secretary: Val (proposed by Sheila, seconded by Yvie)

Treasurer: Siggy, (proposed by Angie, seconded by Tom)

AOB:

TVEG Website: David Tolman is no longer able to run the website. Cindy-Lou and Charlotte between them offered to take it on for a trial period after they get a broadband connection.

Litter Pick: **Monday evening 29th April 7pm** for one hour. Meet at Offa's Dyke Centre. Followed by a drink at The George. Monday 20th May 7pm Meet at ODC.

Plant and Seedling Swap. 25th May at Knighton Community Centre, Craft and Food Market. Please bring along your spare seedlings, or come and buy after 10.30. Proceeds to Community Allotment.

Table Sale 4th May. 10.30 – 2pm Community Centre. Penny will co-ordinate table helped by Val and Yvie.

Renew Wales. It was agreed that TVEG would register with Renew Wales.

Knighton primary school Eco club. Camilla is running two workshops with on Plastic 10th and 14th May. They may run a litter pick in school grounds.

Dawn Chorus walk: Camilla would like to organise an informal local walk. Agreed for Wednesday 22nd May. Meet at ODC 4.00am.

Edible Knighton publicity; Yvie is arranging for a sign to be made a local workshop publicising the Edible Knighton project.

Foraging walk.. Tom and Elaine will lead two foraging walks, Spring and Autumn. Agreed to meet Sunday 26th May 3pm Offa's Dyke centre. Possibly to finish at Anne Mary's to cook and eat the forage.

TVEG publicity. Anne Mary will co-ordinate an article to go to the local press outline the work that TVEG is doing. Information to Anne Mary please by the end of April.

Dates for meetings. Quarterly business meetings, others as needed.

April, July, October January. Usually 2nd Wednesday in month, hopefully at the Reynolds Room. But next meeting on Thursday 11th July to work on the herb bed behind the community centre and have a picnic as well as discuss any business. 6pm to dig, 7pm for general gathering.