

Beeston Transition Initiative

Minutes of meeting

Wednesday 19th November 2008

Present:

Richard Tunney (chairing meeting), Greg Marshall, Clare Littleford, Graham Heal, Hazel Heal, Ann Penberthy, Charlie Farrar, Tim Gray, Drika Smith, Janet Poliakoff, Krystina Spicer, Ian Cohen, Beating Drum, Richard & Rosie Hepple, Judith Dare, Jenny Allen, Margaret Brasier, Lewis Stainer, Karen Stainer, Louise Thomson

1. Matters arising

The notes from the last meeting were lost and therefore there were no matters arising.

2. Community garden

BTI has been offered a bed at the John Kerr community garden in Beeston. The garden includes an orchard, wildlife corridor, sensory garden and courtyard, meeting space and notice board.

Another bed is being developed by a school. Louise has had a number of volunteers to help with the bed, and others who are willing to help occasionally. Agreed that we would take on the bed.

Objectives are to showcase organic methods, seed saving, permaculture principles and use for education and awareness. Louise to provide support for volunteers.

3. Working groups

Skills group

An initial darning meeting was held, hosted by Ann Parker. This will meet again in the new year and may broaden its focus to other textile skills. Sub-group hasn't met since the fuddle. Keen to get a list of wanted skills and will then set up workshops. Suggestions at the meeting included: bike maintenance, home brewing, cheese making, preserves. Further suggestions should go on the blog.

Food group

A steering group meeting has taken place where the following priorities were agreed:

- Training and advice: growing session with Ecoworks and 1-2-1 advice at seed swap
- Growing space: lobbying Broxtowe BC, exploring land sharing schemes
- Tree planting: discussions with Broxtowe BC, Greenwood scheme, considering gorilla gardening
- Supporting local food and produce: list of local sources (longer term), recipe book for seasonal produce, support for market cooking demonstrations
- Raising awareness of group: Stalls, talks, films

The group will meet again in January

First big event is the seed swap on 14 Feb at Wollaton Road Methodist Church Hall. 11-2pm.

Under the Greenwood scheme you can apply for money to plant trees in individual gardens. E-mail greenwood@nottscc.gov.uk for more information. Deadline 12 December. BTI members encouraged to apply if relevant.

No other groups were able to update. Group coordinators were reminded to put their notes from the fuddle on the website if they haven't already done so.

4. Tesco

It is understood that the planning committee on 10 December has been delayed. Therefore there is additional opportunity for letters and submissions to be put in. Individual members are reminded that it isn't too late to submit your views. Details available on

<http://www.broxtowe.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=4145> (search for Tesco under applicant name).

A discussion took place around whether BTI should take action on Tesco, as well as supporting individuals to do this. It was noted that at the last meeting it was agreed not to do this. However with the increased time a majority of those at the meeting wanted to do this and it was agreed that Ian would work up a submission on this. It was agreed that any submission needed to be approved by the steering group. A special meeting was proposed for 3 December for this item only.

5. Local Currency

This was raised by a member of the group who wasn't present. It was therefore deferred to a future meeting.

6. Next event

Various ideas for a future event were discussed including:

- Film showing: repeat Power of Community, could link to Chilwell Comp community cinema.
- Free car boot, bring and swap of goods.
- Stall at Fair Trade fortnight in Beeston in March.
- The community garden open day will be in June/July. This could be done jointly with BTI.

7. Any other business

BTI needs to get a bank account. Agreed that Drika would look into opening an account with the Co-Op.

8. Date of next meeting

Christmas social meeting
Tuesday 16th December, 8pm, at the Crown Pub, Beeston