

Present:

Mike Grahn, Stuart Oliver, Mandy, Terry Brown, Guy Dorrell and ANO

Discussion:

The discussion was mainly focused on what future activities for the Wandsworth group might be.

Outreach:

We discussed the possibility of advertising our FoE Group meetings to try to get more people to come along. Possibilities included Brightside, Wandsworth Guardian and the Wandsworth Council email newsletter. Also Wandsworth Radio and Radio Jackie might offer some free advertising if we can give them some interesting material

Stuart mentioned that there were probably about 1000 members of 'National' Friends of the Earth in our area, but the central FoE office were difficult about releasing details. We need to somehow reach these people, at least a proportion of whom might be interested in coming to the local group's meetings

Possible activities:

Among the suggestions was a "litter pick up"

Stuart agreed to have a look at possibilities for future events at which we might have a "table" to promote the group

The point was made that FoE is now in competition with other groups that didn't exist in earlier days.

We discussed the fact that a consultation it was in hand, about the future focus for the national group. Terry had received a copy of the consultation just before the meeting and had distributed it to the Wandsworth group. He asked for comments prior to making a submission into the consultation.

Post meeting note: comments were submitted and a copy of the submission has been distributed.

Local campaigns:

The following subjects were discussed:

Litter, Including organised pickups

Air-pollution, Stuart compared the existing death rate due to air pollution to what happened in the 19th century as a result of cholera

Birds and their diminishing numbers

The third runway

Pollution at a local level

Climate change at a local level

Waste & recycling (not forgetting our proposed video)

There was also a discussion of the impact of petrol fuelled vehicles, which might be deterred by reducing parking discounts and the number parking spaces.

We also discussed the possibility of Wandsworth FoE participating in planning consultations, In particular the TfL work on the Wandsworth town centre gyratory was mentioned. There was also a view that there was considerable overdevelopment in some areas of the borough and that there was a danger that open-space might be developed as a result of Council sell-offs. Wandsworth FoE could get involved in monitoring and commenting on local developments

Post meeting note: Terry attended a meeting with the Ram Quarter development team on behalf of Wandsworth Living Streets and WFOE

Wandsworth fish box scheme "Faircatch":

Guy Dorrell told us about his scheme and the point-of-sale at the Paradise Co-op, Dobbins field (an acre of land opposite Wandsworth prison). This seems like an eminently sustainable local business which should be supported. The scheme requires a £50 monthly payment for four Friday deliveries of sufficient fish for two people, variety depending on what is caught on a given day. Guy buys the fish on the south coast and brings it to point of sale on the day it's landed.