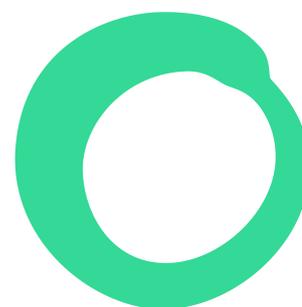


WFOE Meeting: September 11, 2019



**Friends of
the Earth
Wandsworth**

In attendance:

Susie Morrow
Mike Grahn
James Banks
Terry Brown

Apologies:

Vicki Carol
Yelena Richie

	Note	Action
1	TGB welcomed those who were present and commenced the meeting.	
2	TGB apologised for the fact that there were no notes of the previous meeting, but he had not successfully made recording and had very few written notes to go on. Luckily, Mike had made some Notes at the time and these were used just to review any issues for further discussion.	
3	<p>Previous Meeting::</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Event: the end of August picnic was generally felt to have been a successful event enjoyed by all who attended. It was a big event thanks to James and everyone agreed a it was a success. TGB had taken some pictures, but failed to take movies on his Cannon. The intention was to upload the pictures on the website; James to help with words. We shared the area with some meditating Buddhists and the afternoon ended with others dancing! 	<p>TGB JB</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding the film that we had proposed to make around the picnic event, the movies that TGB had managed to take were considered by Yelena to be of insufficient quality and this meant that the film had not really been started. There was general agreement at the meeting that unless either Yelena or someone else could take the lead on the film we are unlikely to progress it. TGB explained that he did not have the time to do this and nobody else present volunteered. 	<p>YR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After last meeting TGB drafted a response to the Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy (WESS) document that WBC had sent out in anticipation of the Councils review over the of the '10,000' petition for a declaration of a 'climate and ecological emergency' by WBC. James had sent the response to every Councillor. Two responses from Councillors were received, one from Fleur Anderson and one from Councillor Graham Henderson (Earlsfield), which was just a holding response. Agreed that the WESS is a bit complacent and doesn't seem to address the urgency of the climate crisis. WBC keen on Electrical vehicle charging points! 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 10,000 'Big Chat': Following WBC's declaration of a climate and ecological crisis the 'Big Chat' meeting had taken place on Tuesday September 10 and though TGB could not go, Susie and Mike attended and reported that there were a number of Councillors present and a very good WBC response. Councillors were willing to engage so Mike & Susie are more optimistic about the WEES. 	

WFOE Meeting: September 11, 2019

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Big Chat (TBC) is not a 'Citizens Assembly', however. Other boroughs have set up assemblies, but they seem to be quite small, selected and exclusive. While not formal, a number of individuals made presentations at TBC and Susie said one was to propose that WBC don't allow any more pavement crossovers. Discussion also took place on cycling and about energy efficiency in the home. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will there be documentation of the meeting? For the small group discussions, it was expected that Glyn Goodwin will collate. TGB still thinks the XR three points: 'tell the truth, urgent attention to climate change & biodiversity loss and set up citizens assemblies' are still central. Susie said that Di McCann made these points. TGB is concerned that WBC are not actually going to take radical or urgent action and that the WESS is likely to get bogged down in bureaucracy. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was agreed that the main points of the previous meeting were covered, thanks to Mike 	
4	<p>Roehampton University Freshers Day 'market': Unfortunately others were not available for the proposed stall for WFOE at this event which was scheduled for 12:30 PM in to 2 PM on Tuesday September 17, so TGB said he would man the stall on his own and it was agreed to do a reprint of the WFOE handout.</p>	TGB
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This led to a discussion of what WFOE's USPs might be and we compared ourselves with Extinction Rebellion (XR). FOE only acts within the law and while we campaign and demonstrate, we do not engage in civil disobedience. Nevertheless WFOE members have respect for XR and some subscribe to both organisations. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> it was agreed that WFOE needs to gain better exposure to encourage recruitment and possibilities of a Facebook page and building up a wider email list were discussed. Further discussion required. 	All
5	<p>Heathrow Consultation: As there were only two days left at the time of the meeting it was clear that WFOE couldn't do a coordinated response within the available timescale. TGB urged individuals to do a response if they could. It was noted that Putney MP Justine Greening has been tenacious in opposing both Heathrow and Brexit.</p>	All
6	<p>Climate Strike September 20: TGB said that he would be going. Susie & Mike will be in Berlin at the time, as they going to a 'Restart' conference, but would be going on a climate march in Berlin as well. London Cycling Campaign will be joining the London march/gathering. TGB asked Susie and Mike to let us have photos of the Berlin visit.</p>	TGB
7	<p>Financial matters and recruitment: Hon. Treasurer Mike reported that there was approximately £200 in the WFOE Bank account. Sufficient to print more leaflets, environmentally friendly print if possible. A contribution to the church of £15 for the room was made for each meeting held in the church hall. WFOE might thus need to start to think about fundraising soon. TGB asked for ideas. Should have a money box on the table whenever WFOE held an event. TGB maybe to go on the street distributing leaflets and possibly with a money box as well.</p>	All
	<p>TGB explained that he had agreed to distribute Justine's Heathrow leaflets in the streets near is home and had use the opportunity to also enclose a WFOE leaflet.</p>	

WFOE Meeting: September 11, 2019

	<p>There was further discussion about fundraising, which touched on WFOE possibly registering on one of the fundraising websites where people can contribute to different causes. Mike also explained that there is now an App for receiving money which is used by small businesses. Money rich time poor people might contribute to fund raising while not necessarily participating in the campaigning. TGB explained that FOE won't release names of people who contribute nationally. Mike thought that FOE could send out to members a message from WFOE. TGB explained that the FOE website for local groups has recently been updated and the WFOE page there directs to our wordpress site. TGB believes that a 'money receiving' element can be added to the WordPress website but this will probably mean an increased annual payment. Needs exploring.</p>	<p>TGB</p>
	<p>National FOE do offer local group support and intend to improve it. Certainly there is positive support for groups participating in the Take Climate Action push.</p>	
	<p>TGB enquired as to whether Mike had any continuing concerns about Metro Bank. He said that it hasn't gone bust and he thought it as reliable as any bank might be. He wasn't sure who the ultimate backers were of the bank but he thought it might be a venture capital organisation. It was agreed that in terms of payments, TGB would continue to make these where appropriate and claim the money with invoices through Mike.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>AOB</p>	
	<p>James: James was still thinking about whether he can organise something at St Georges where he is now studying. He had thought about doing something on air quality. He is still thinking, but maybe it is too early to start pushing as he has not been there very long. Susie explained that St George's were going to do a lecture on Air Quality but it was cancelled. She will try to find details of the speaker. TGB mentioned that there was usually a stall in the back of the main entrance hall in the Atkinson's Morley wing at St George's. Stalls about dementia or smoking were usual. Perhaps we can find out who runs them? The trust might offer a stall, but it could be a bureaucratic process to secure it.</p>	<p>JB SM</p>
	<p>Mike: <i>Regarding the cycling campaign</i>, he mentioned the proposed Car Free Day on Sunday September 22. Various street parties were scheduled. Also an event at Battersea Park, Queens Circus Gate, where cyclists would gather prior to a slow cycle procession to Clapham Common. <i>Regarding 'Restart'</i>, Mike reported that there would be an event on Saturday November 30 from 13:30 until 16:00 hours in Tooting at the usual venue Mushkill Aasaan, 222 Upper Tooting Road SW17 7EW. More information on the Restart project can be found at therestartproject.org and https://therestartproject.org/groups/restarters-tooting/. The last Restart event had the biggest attendance yet. Meetings are published through the quoted website. Transition Town Tooting (TTT) also publishes and the last one was promoted in Brightside. There was a big turnout and at the 5 fixers had a lot of work to do!</p>	
	<p>Susie: highlighted the TTT Foodival, to be held the following weekend. On Friday from 6:30PM to 8:30PM, bring in home produce. The main foodival event is on the Saturday, September 15. Local restaurants provide free food. 11:30 AM to 16:30 PM. Tooting Healthy Streets will have a stall.</p>	
	<p>There will be a <i>WLS Public Meeting on Monday September 16</i> on low traffic neighbourhoods. Paul Gasson from Waltham Forest will talk about the 'mini Holland' scheme there. WBC Councillors will be coming.</p>	

WFOE Meeting: September 11, 2019

	Susie recommended that people should try and get to Waltham Forest to see the scheme in reality. LLS arranging visit on November 2, but limited numbers.	All
	<p>What drove Waltham Forest to produce the scheme? The Mayor of London set up a funding scheme and three Boroughs were successful in getting grants: Kingston, Enfield and Waltham Forest (WF). Susie explained that it was all about political leadership. WF had gone for it. There was a horrible backlash from Business interests, citing the death of the shopping street. However evidence shows that businesses overestimate trade from driving as opposed to walking customers.</p> <p>Increase in walking in WF and Kingston, Portsmouth Road, scheme, but not the same impetus with the latter. Outer london has heavy car culture partly due to less intensive public transport and more dispersed centres.</p>	
	Car free day: 30 play streets in Wandsworth. WLS will have a stall at one of them. Mums for Lungs.	
9	<p>Next meeting: Most milestones will have been passed by the next meeting so we will be looking for new things to do. Might include a stall at PSAD again. No particular campaign right now. What might we do? James made the point that the WFOE group meeting is a good information sharing forum whether there is a specific focus campaign or not. He also feared that we might start to spread ourselves too thinly if we were too ambitious, especially as there are a lot of other action groups doing focussed campaigns at the moment. It was pointed out that XR has great appeal to young adults, but FOE needs to sustain its</p>	
	<i>The next WFOE meeting will be held on November 13, 2019</i>	
	The meeting ended at about 20:30	