

In attendance:

Vicki Carol (VC)
Melanie Rowland (MR)

Terry Brown - Coordinator (TGB)

Apologies:

Kim Boyd (KB)
Irina Charalambous (IC)
Misha Cox (MC)
Joe Olding (JO)
Stuart Oliver (SO)
William Rhind (WR)
Emily Rose Ellis (ERE)
Jake Spooner (JS)
Josh Waley (JW)

Welcome:

TGB welcomed attendees, though surprised at low attendance.

	Note	Action
0	While the meeting was restricted in numbers, TGB followed the agenda points as follows	
1	WFOE meetings & communication	
1.1	Dates & rotation: the proposal is to rotate the day of the meeting month by month between the middle three days of the week so that group members who can't make a specific day have the opportunity to attend at least some of the meetings. This was generally agreed at the meeting to be a good proposition and had been supported by a number of group members through emails. Agreed to adopt the plan.	All
1.2	Website: TGB referred to the website and suggested that it could continue to be one of the means of communication within the group. It is a good place to save long-standing value information and is also public so accessible to potential new members. It includes a "blog" for newsy items. If group members 'follow' the website they will be informed when new posts are made. Not wishing to add too many means of communication for the group, TGB hoped that more use could be made of the website.	All
1.3	Google Drive: the group now had a Google Drive set up, set up by Jake Spooner, with folders for the three activity streams and other information. There is, perhaps, a lack of familiarity with Google Drive within the group but the intention is that files will be uploaded that allow a continuing "conversation" for those concentrating on specific subject areas. This ideally should take pressure off monthly meetings. The detailed working of Google Drive as a organisational and communication tool has to be further explored.	All

1.4	WhatsApp: a WhatsApp group (WFOE) had been set up sometime ago but active use had not lasted very long. There seems to be a resistance within the group to using WhatsApp, possibly due to disclosure of mobile phone numbers. At the meeting there seemed to be some interest in using WhatsApp as a direct means of communication available to those group members who took an interest. Other groups use it to communicate in the short term and maybe to direct group members to other areas of information/communication. There was cautious support for the WhatsApp group at the meeting but it needs to be given further thought if it is to be a useful channel. Unless everyone in the group signs up, the conversations will be exclusive to those participating.	All
1.5	Twitter: there is a WFOE Twitter stream, @WandsworthFoE, that is currently posted by TGB, but if other group members are interested, they can have posting access. Contact TGB if you wish to do Twitter posts. Clearly Twitter is not a one-to-one communication platform but more an opportunity for news and opinion.	All
1.6.1	Semble: VC explained that 'SEMBLE' is the new name for the organisation previously known as 'Project Dirt'. It is nationally based and has direct access to funding for projects.	
1.6.2	POST MEETING NOTE: TGB has accessed the Semble website https://semble.org and has registered Wandsworth Friends of the Earth. We do not yet have any projects registered, but it may be that Funding could be available once we do register a project.	
2	Review Detailed Actions Schedule (see separate file)	
2.1	Stream A: Urban Greening	
2.1.1	Tree Walk: The "tree walk" led by Kim had taken place on June 12 and was a well supported and successful occasion. Kim had put a lot of work into researching trees on an interesting urban walk, starting in Barnes and ending up in Battersea. Many thanks are due to Kim for arranging the walk.	
2.1.2	POST MEETING NOTE: there will be a longer description on the website. Many thanks for due to KB for organising the walk and introducing us to many interesting specimen trees and tree groupings.	
2.1.3	Park Walk: As a result of the successful tree walk, WR proposed an autumn walk in King Georges Park and Wandsworth Park to discuss their history and the natural environment. A date is to be fixed for this walk, which was welcomed by the group.	WR, All
2.1.4	VC mentioned the Wandle Walk and the Wandle Fortnight, September 11th-26th. Wandle Fortnight Wandle Valley Forum: http://www.wandlevalleyforum.org.uk/wandle-fortnight.html Projects can be registered with the Wandle Valley Forum for the Wandle Fortnight. Grants from £50-£200. are available for an activity (applications by 22 August).	All
2.1.5	A Wandle Walk is on Saturday 25th between 1:45 and 5pm, beginning at Morden Hall Park and ending at Wandsworth Town Station. Register with Melanie Nunzet: mlnnunzet@gmail.com	
2.1.6	Trees: there was a discussion about looking after street trees. It was thought that people could look after the trees immediately outside their houses, possibly watering new trees and also planting in the "tree pit" area. It was also thought that schools could be encouraged to look after street trees nearby. This might be developed further.	All
2.1.7	Community Gardens: there was a discussion of the area adjoining the allotments in King Georges Park and the possibility that it might become a community garden.	
2.2	Stream B: Climate Change	

2.2.1	In the absence of SO there was limited discussion of the Climate Change stream.	
2.2.2	SO has offered to give talks on climate change to local amenity groups. This to be further considered as lockdown is eased. Also relates to point below about a public meeting.	SO
2.2.3	Air pollution was discussed and it was noted that medical professionals are putting pressure on the government to reduce air pollution to within European safety limits.	
2.3	Single Use Plastic/recycling	
2.3.1	September 14 - 21 ??	
2.3.2	It was noted that the WRWA have instituted an education program and are going into schools to give talks.	
2.3.3	Packaging Reduction & Recycling: VC drew attention to the Ellen MacArthur Foundation which promotes the circular economy.	
2.3.4	POST MEETING NOTE: the website https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org outlines many aspects of the 'circular economy' A circular economy is based on the principles of designing out waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use, and regenerating natural systems. This is a very good source of information on recycling and other related topics.	
2.3.5	It was noted that there is a scheme for charging for plastic bottles	
2.4	WESS: WFOE Will continue to monitor the WESS and this is being led by IC.	IC
2.5	Wandsworth Local Plan: this is the policy document for WBC Planning department and is used to guide development control in the borough. It has important implications for new buildings in the borough. TGB had commented on some sections of the plan during the consultation period. It is a long and detailed document that is worth dipping into by WFOE members as it sets out various policies for dealing with environmental issues.	TGB All
2.6	Mayoral Election: while the election had now taken place, it was noted that Leonie Cooper had been elected assembly member for Wandsworth and Merton and in due course it would be good to have a WFOE meeting with Leonie. It was noted in passing that during the election period, Wandsworth had joined with Merton Friends of the Earth to interview candidates from the four main parties.	TGB All
2.7	Public Meeting: TGB floated the idea that it would be good for WFOE to arrange a public meeting either for a single topic or a group of talks. We have some funds available so that we could probably pay for a venue. This would give the group public exposure and might help us to focus on particular subject areas. There was a positive response at the meeting and the idea should be developed further.	TGB All
3	In accordance with the schedule, the next meeting was fixed for Tuesday July 13.	
	ENDS	