

In attendance:

Vicki Carrol
 Debbie Colson
 Lynne McNulty
 Oliver Shaw
 Katie Shortt

Terry Brown - Coordinator (TGB)

Apologies:

Kim Boyd
 Irina Charalambous
 Joe Olding
 Jake Spooner, permanent standing down

Welcome: TGB welcomed those who joined the meeting.

Please note that this is the new style shorter meeting note, which certainly doesn't record everything said. If you were at the meeting and believe an important point you raised was not included, please let TGB know.

Note	Action
<p>Ideas about the style of campaigning and choosing campaign targets</p>	
<p>Debbie had two items to raise and had to leave the meeting early:</p>	
<p>She referred to a Guardian article: A campaign on climate change based on the science will not work well. We have to appeal to people's sense of fairness and justice. Fossil fuel companies have been clever in focussing on science and disputing it. Can demonstrate the hypocrisy of fossil fuel companies in that they were preparing for climate change themselves (arctic advantages for drilling), while publicly arguing against it happening. Risk concern doesn't relate to the science. Awareness of Heroes and villains makes for better appreciation of causes. Compared with campaigning on civil rights, women's rights etc. Outcries over blatant injustice. So is WFOE focussed on the right messages?</p>	
<p>She is attending the FOE Course on running successful campaigns. The first one was about choosing right issues to campaign on. Five questions: what do we want? Who can give it to us? What do they care about? How can we influence what they care about? How can we do that to win? Where big issues are concerned, best to break campaign into ever smaller questions. Bring it back to the local group's domain: choose a viable target for the campaign.</p>	
<p>TGB thought the five questions about how to refine and focus on a campaign might help WFOE to choose target organisations and formulate campaign activity.</p>	

Coordinator’s thoughts on future group arrangements	
TGB proposed to really prune down the meeting notes, focussing major ideas and a simple action plan	
Lynne suggested that people like to get involved in actions rather than talking all the time.	
There was a discussion about the need to focus on issues which take into account a Wandsworth focus.	
Vicki pointed out that lots of local groups are already tackling environmental issues and we need to look around the Borough to see what other groups are already doing work on issues we choose to take up to make sure we are not unnecessarily duplicating or to consider collaborative working e.g. through WEF	
Regarding collaboration with other FOE local groups WFOE has worked with Merton. TGB talks to the Local Groups officers at national FOE.	
There was a very ery general discussion on campaigning.	
TGB mentioned ‘The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill’, which had had late amendments inserted and was debated ing the Lords. This Bill, unamended, would curtail all protest because of criminalising various forms of action.	
Vicki asked about National Friends of the Earth campaigns. What are they and do FOE provide resources for local groups who take up national campaigns? The campaigns may be viewed on the FOE website and FOE will help groups with specific proposals.	
Regarding FOE and what are they are campaigning on nationally, Vicky agreed to follow up.	VC
TGB intended to produce a simple ‘Schedule of WFOE activities’ and also a ‘Schedule of beyond WFOE activities’. This would allow the tracking of all activity.	
POST MEETING NOTE: We have had an activity tracking schedule in the past, but it takes a long time to review and has become out of date. See appendix A	
Waste and recycling	
The discussion turned to waste and Lynne highlighted the exhibition currently on at the Design Museum ‘The Waste Age: what can designers do?’ https://vimeo.com/640377667?embedded=true&source=vimeo_logo&owner=2010412Exhibition at design centre	
Vicki is enthusiastic about the Ellen MacArthur Foundation and its promotion of the ‘Circular Economy’. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5wn_iinbxw https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOGy683afyo	
Council Elections, May 5 2022	
WFOE plan to contact main political parties regarding their environmental policies for elected councillors.	

	<p>Living a greener life</p>	
	<p>Living the greener life: As a follow up to the discussion at the previous meeting some research had been done regarding what various organisations promoted as the ten things to be done: FOE; Greenpeace; Ethical Consumer. There are problems with drawing up such lists. Needs more though.</p>	<p>All</p>
	<p>Moving forward</p>	
	<p>Vicki suggested that we might choose our campaigning focus by asking group members ‘What is your key thing that we could most successfully campaign on?’ Might get people back and involved if we emailed those on the email list posing this question.</p>	
	<p>TGB expressed concern that past agreements have been forgotten due to lack of continuity at meetings and the thoughts about simplifying records and means of communication should help in this.</p>	
	<p>Katie referred to Vicki’s suggestion but thought WFOE should come up with a list of say 10 issues and go out to all on email list to ask which would be of interest and encourage more participation. Vicki endorsed this and TGB agreed to do the emails.</p>	
	<p>Energy efficiency in older properties</p>	
	<p>TGB recommended the SPAB book ‘Old House Eco Handbook’ subtitled ‘A practical guide to retrofitting for energy-efficiency & sustainability’.</p>	
	<p>Climate and Biodiversity Crisis</p>	
	<p>Lynne accepted that Climate Change is a given but pointed out that the Biodiversity Crisis is an equally big concern. Perhaps we can address this in Wandsworth’s green spaces. We have proposed a study of King Georges Park and Joe Olding has done some work on this. there is also the possibility of establishing ‘bee line’ green corridors and changing peoples attitude to bugs. Perhaps WFOE can work with Enable.</p>	
	<p>She referred to the WBC Open Spaces Report which appears to still be in draft. How much notice does WBC take cognisance of the report in practice? There is a huge amount of work tracking WBC activities regarding open spaces. The report defines King Georges Park as of poor quality but high value. FOE is welcome to work with WBC. Enable would like WFOE to contact them regarding ‘hands on’ activity like clearing the lake. WFOE could be working along side contractors. Valery Selby asked WFOE to contact her directly. TGB asked Lynne to develop these thoughts with WBC. Vicki commented that King Georges Park also bounded on the Wandle, which brings in the Wandle Valley Forum</p>	
	<p>Rewilding</p>	
	<p>TGB recommended a book he was currently reading ‘Rewilding—the radical new science of ecological recovery’, which he found made excellent reading, bringing out the differences between ‘rewilding’ and more familiar types of conservation.</p>	
	<p>Meeting schedule</p>	
	<p>Next meeting: Wednesday February 16</p>	
	<p>Thur. March 17; Tues April 19; Wed. May 18; Thur. June 16; Tues. July 19; Wed. August 17; Thurs. September 22; Tues. October 18; Wed. November 16; Thurs. December 15 (social)</p>	

The meeting ended rather abruptly due to closure by Zoom. This was a rather disjointed meeting because of zoom interruptions.

Appendix A: Activity Schedule – See separate file