



Notes of Meeting held on 21/02/22

Recording of the meeting can be found here:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/RwJDvylEWbc2JE2sf07U9iLuBgSO8AU0mQ6J_N-bwyyzaFYXP6KxJHBuxJ7YQcwM.6grRPyxK8Gi8TiIW

- 1) **Present:** James Earl – Fraser, John Herbert, Judith Oakley, Mike Harley (LRWT), Cllr. Marc Oxley, Graham Don, Christopher Renner, Marlen and Tony Godwin, David Lewis, Mary Cade, Kenneth Siddle, Cllr. Joanna Burrows, Hannah Williams, Mark Carberry, Hugh Cripps, Claudi Cockburn, Cllr. Lucy Stephenson, Zina (Leicester Climate Action), Edward Lever (RYSF)
- 2) **Apologies:** Debra Thatcher, Cllr. Dave Blanksby, Joan Edwards, Cllr. Miranda Jones
- 3) **Previous Notes:**
 - noted
- 4) **Items of Business:**
 - a. **Up – dates from Villages / Sustainable Youth Forum** (All / from the floor)
 - i. **Youth Sustainability Forum:**
 1. 12 schools now signed up (mixture of primary and secondary)
 2. Inaugural meeting before Easter
 3. Community groups and sports clubs have been contacted
 4. Connections made with Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire
 5. In the process of chasing
 - b. **Website** <https://www.rutlandclimateaction.org>
 - i. Up- date:
 1. Design complete; security certificate sorted – so now a ‘safe link’
 2. Has been populated as much as possible; now it is time to hand over to the community **a volunteer is needed from each village / town**
 3. Links to the various RCA social media platforms
 4. Training to use Wordpress undertaken by Joanna, David L and Lucy S; opportunity for more training sessions – contact Joanna (video also available) jburrows@rutland.gov.uk
 5. Community action plan is now on the website – working document
 6. Comments from the floor:
 - a. Excellent work – well done Joanna
 - b. ‘Get Involved’ tab – needs basic contact info – aim for each village / town to have a page
 - c. Push for volunteers: banner on front page of the website; press release, social media
 - d. Volunteers from the meeting: Graham Don – Market Overton
 - c. **Deferred agenda items: Environment Bill / COP26 / Ecology Emergency (Lucy Stephenson / Miranda Jones)**
 - i. Lucy – noted the Environment Bill has now received Royal Assent – biggest immediate impact locally is the waste management element
 - ii. Noted that RCC has declared an Ecology Emergency
 - iii. COP26: Miranda unable to attend the meeting

- d. **Additional Item: Fossil Fuel Pensions Divestment** (discussion and presentation from Joanna and Zina (Leicester Climate Action))
 - i. Up – date from Leicester Climate Action: on – going contact with the pensions committee
 - ii. Main arguments for pushing for divestment:
 - 1. More effective to divest: choose companies that can change (30 years little evidence of change by the fossil fuel companies – a suggestion of ‘green wash’)
 - 2. British government can lead the world by example
 - 3. Doesn’t make financial sense – fossil fuel companies will lose value e.g. Kodak, Blockbuster
 - LCA – drawn up a petition for Cllrs. To sign as well as a petition for members of the public to sign (Joanna has already circulated this to RCC Cllrs)
 - Motion: Rutland Climate Action strongly supports divestment from fossil fuel mentions investment. Vote taken: 16 in favour; 0 against; 3 abstentions
 - **Action:** Lucy to email all RCC councillors to share this motion and result
- e. **Leicestershire Rutland Wildlife Trust up – date (Mike Harley)**
 - i. Separate notes attached from Mike
 - ii. Points of discussion:
 - 1. Current population size / birth rate in developed countries
 - 2. Need for balance between humans and eco systems
 - 3. Using volunteers / need to educate
 - 4. Engagement with LRWT: desired; briefing session to be organised by LRWT
 - 5. Suggestion of Carbon ration books
 - 6. Verges: concerns about management of SSSI and protected; concerns r/e impact on insect / small animal life 1m from hedges; consistency – aka some parishes responsible for own. Action: Lucy to follow up specific / immediate concerns r/e cutting; check ‘gateways’ for RCA to discuss grounds maintenance contract re - procurement – adding best value to the process
- f. **Green Heart Month / plans for re- use events (Lucy Stephenson)**
 - i. Focus: waste management: Reduce, reuse, recycle (additional ‘R’ added: ‘refuse’)
 - ii. Aim in months of April and May: each village / town to organise an event (paper of ideas attached to agenda; re – attached with minutes)
 - iii. Wing WI: ran a competition for green hearts made out of recycled materials – popular
 - iv. Directory of Reuse / Recycle – volunteer needed
 - v. Use of ‘NextDoor’; ‘Free Cycle’ – noted as a good way to enable people to reuse unwanted items – opportunity to promote / advertise this

5) **AOB** – none

6) **Next Meeting:** March / April (tbc) a request to have an in-person meeting – possibility of combining with a re – use event – Lucy to investigate

a. Suggested items for next meeting:

- i. Agriculture
- ii. Up -dates on Reuse events
- iii. Verges / Grounds Maintenance – consideration of what we currently have / background