

**Transition Town Kingston – core group meeting
Tues 29 March, 6.30 – 7.30pm, at Spring Grove pub
NOTES**

Present: Damon Hart-Davis (Energy Group); Lucy Harrison (Inner Transition?); Toni Izard |(Abundance); Des Kay; Paul Mackay (TTK Treasurer); Marilyn Mason (Canbury Community Garden, Acting TTK Secretary); Peter Mason (Energy Group)

Apologies had been received from Hilary Gander and John Fellowes.

We had been very sorry to hear of the death of our former Chair, Alison Whybrow at the very end of February - she would be much missed by Kingston's green community, and a short tribute had been published [here](#)

- 1) **February meeting's "awesome" notes** were approved for publication on the TTK website (**MM**).
- 2) **Updates** (some circulated earlier with Agenda, some reported at this meeting):
 - a) **Canbury Community Garden** would be receiving funding from RBK for more outdoor toys for the Muddy Toddlers' group and a new plastic chicken coop. RBK was also going to provide a new shed for Muddy Toddler kit. MM had a chat with Jean at KEC about the (hopefully remote) possibility of TTK disbanding and Canbury Community Garden needing to shelter under the KEC umbrella, and there seemed to be no problem with that.
 - b) 5 of us had OK-ed the **letter supporting an Urban Room** in Kingston, with no objections, so MM had sent it in and the North Kingston Forum had thanked us.
 - c) MM had had no reply from John Azah at KREC re the likelihood of a **2022 Kingston Carnival and GreenZone** – maybe **HG** would know what the Council thinking about Carnival is?
 - d) The Council's first bid for funding for a **Library of Things** had been unsuccessful though they were shortlisted and intended to try again, possibly via a sustainability fund rather than the arts/culture one they had tried initially.
 - e) MM had created a spreadsheet* of a v early outline of a **history of environmental activism**, full of gaps for us all to fill in. **PMc** would create an editable shared timeline showing national developments alongside local ones, that we could all add or make links to photos, oral histories, other local histories e g, TTK, Green Fair... Looking at the origins of TTK in 2008 we may be coming up for a significant 15th birthday in 2023 if we survive that long and want to mark it in some way (to discuss later).
 - f) MM had created and shared a spreadsheet* about **TTK assets** – still needed filling in so that we had some idea what we own and where it is.
 - g) **Climate Justice event** with GJN and Fairtrade was still a possibility, and they would still welcome our support.
 - h) MM had suggested to the organiser of **Topical Lunch** discussions at All Saints that a discussion on the climate emergency, maybe after the local elections, would be timely – but with no response.
 - i) MM had drafted and then published (with thanks for additions from JF) an **obit for Alison** for the website and the newsletter.
 - j) MM had begun collecting **info on local community gardens** with slow responses so far, so proposed that it should be an editable page on the website rather than a flier, with a simple printable ad hoc card or poster or flier with QR code directing interested people to the page. **MM** would continue to seek input and would look on-line for a free stock logo. DK reminded the meeting that KEC used to have a map of community gardens – did it still exist somewhere?
 - k) **The Kingston Hive** – a small sub-group would be looking at promising premises on 30th March, though there would be competition for the space; the meeting agreed that the £15.33 left over from the original TOPO campaign + the remains of the TN visioning funding should be donated to The Hive group as this environmental community centre would be a fitting outcome from the visioning exercise. **PMc** would let us know the exact amount and make a bank transfer once The Kingston Hive bank account and donations system was activated. (We should ask that the funds are returned

to TTK in the event of The Hive folding.) **MM**/The Hive directors were advised to speak to Ioanna Rossi at RBK to seek her support for The Hive and to see what demand from green businesses might be (MM also in contact with South London Partnership green business officer).

- l) **KE News:** MM was holding publication in case there was additional news from this meeting, and it would go out the following day.
- m) **RBK:** MM and DH-D had attended countless meetings about Seizing the Moment/recovery from Covid – business, voluntary sector, Council activity...
- n) **Energy Group:** PM and DH-D reported that they were continuing to advise Park Brewery and Tamesis sailing club on solar panel installations.

3. Ideas & volunteers for future TTK events, activities, projects:

- **Health check/what next?** - PMc's pithy summary of the on-line discussion was that we need more events and more active participants, and that there was little else to discuss or that we could realistically do. We would do our best, t b continued!

- **Banking:** **DH-D** volunteered to be additional contact for banking and co-signatory of TTK cheques(!) with access to the bank account, with the core group to agree all substantial transactions. **PMc** to implement.

- **All**, as and when, to investigate **KU's Town House** as a possible venue for events and/or TTK/local environmental history displays.

4. Resources: publicity, fliers, TTK funds (PMc)...

- Revisions and clarifications of **TTK constitution** (sent round earlier -

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/17gNayfJwXHePx5XnuQljsl8prF6DiiiGpq6TNvt3Z8s/edit>)

were discussed and agreed: some minor grammatical points; addition of the word "reasonable" where relevant; change from "management team" to "core group" (less corporate, more Transitional); addition of "Unincorporated Association" to our description; with TTK Membership definition to remain as it is. **MM** to tidy up and publish on website as 2022 version, for ratification at the next AGM) – now uploaded to https://e-voice.org.uk/ttkingston/files/view/TTK_constitution_agreed_2013_w_proposed_amendments_2022_MM.docx.

- **TTK insurance policy:** PM & DH-D reported that professional indemnity was not included, so we should be cautious and clear about our status when offering advice, but otherwise our Aviva policy, via Access brokers, was considered fit for purpose, even though the excess for claims was quite high. **PMc** to circulate current insurance policy, FYI (perhaps a copy of latest policy docs could be added to website, where there are earlier insurance docs?).

- **Website, editing and updating** – MM reminded the core group that editing was very easy and should be shared, e.g. if anyone planned an event or needed to amend a page, they should be able to do it themselves. MM and PMc were already website admins, and **DH-D** and **TI** agreed to join them (**MM** would invite them to be website admins and (re-)circulate her *How to edit guide* to All [done])

- MM had shared **Food for the Planet funding opp** with the meeting and the new-ish Food Co-op and it would also be in K E News.

- **Funds** – see agreed donation to The Hive at 2 (k)

5. AOB:

The meeting unanimously thanked **Cllr Hilary Gander** for her much valued 8 years' service as a Kingston councillor, standing up for all things green.

- 6. **Date of next meetings: Tues 26 April, 6.30pm + AGM scheduled for May 31, usual time**, to report to stakeholders, confirm recent core group decisions, and invite more participation

Some shared documents have been moved or lost! **MM will try to find or re-share*

Conversations continued afterwards over **Green Drinks**, where we were joined by Patrick Manwell.