

Transition Town Kingston core group meeting, Tues 26 July, 6.30pm, on-line

NOTES (approved for publication at subsequent meeting on 30/8/22)

Present: Damon (DH-D), Hilary (HG), Toni (TI), Marilyn (MM, Chair, note-taking); Peter (PJM), Paul (PMc)

Apologies: none had been received (or expected)

- 1. May core group meeting Notes & AGM Minutes** were approved to publish on the website (**MM**) [**DH-D** had spotted some typos earlier and if he sent an amended version that could be published instead]
Matters arising - core group roles were discussed, and some newish areas of responsibility/interest were shared and agreed:
PMc would continue as treasurer and be our main link to Kingston Hive group
MM would chair meetings and represent TTK as and when required, e.g., GreenZone committee, The Climate Coalition, Kingston Library of Things...
DH-D would be universal deputy, and, with Patrick, continue to attend RBK's greening business meetings
HG & PMc would deal with waste and recycling matters (incl SunrayRecycling) – **MM** would inform Janine at Sunray
PJM & DH-D, with the Energy Group, would continue to cover energy matters
HG and others on core group would be invited to the relaunch of KEF on 12th September.
- 2. Updates:** some had been circulated for information pre-meeting - see *Appendix 1 Notes and Reports* - but not further discussed. MM thanked TTK for £100 put into the Canbury Community Garden Open Collective account.
- 3. TTK - coming soon**
 - **TTK Eco-Homes in Sustainable September**, w/e of 10th and 11th - PJM and DH-D would be participating – and if anyone knew of a typical Edwardian villa that had been extensively retrofitted they should contact PJM (**All**).
 - **GreenZone, 25th Sept**

Terezie, RBK Programme Officer - Climate Action, had organised weekly on-line meetings, where a small group had begun allocating responsibilities and simplifying things a bit to make them less costly, more likely. A stage and PA system could be funded and used for musical acts (voluntary, unpaid?), with any luck with a compere to direct people to what was coming up on the stage and in the Market House etc. We weren't so sure about getting funding for paying musicians or speakers or hiring and erecting gazebos etc, especially as in the past eco-groups had managed this ourselves and everything (music, stalls, speakers...) had been done voluntarily.

MM had made it clear that TTK would be responsible for **hiring and programming the Market House**, and for any speakers' expenses, but not for anything else apart from a **TTK stall**. As many of us as possible would be needed for at least some of the time to set things up, run the TTK stall, manage the Market House (probably MM all day so unavailable to do other things)...We would need to organise a projector with connecting leads, maybe recording for sessions...**DH-D** would take care of recording, **MM** would ask KEC if they had a projector and laptop + leads that we could borrow, + perhaps an easel for a flip chart survey exercise (or could we source one from STWC in return for a donation?).

MM hadn't heard anything yet about the TCC funding applied for, but fingers were crossed as that would cover the hire cost and any speakers' expenses. Re speakers, MM had lined up Rupert Read, former spokesperson for Extinction Rebellion, to speak on 'Join the 'moderate flank': Beginning from climate-truth, the journey to the massive change we need' (he's quite controversial within XR so it should be exciting) – at 3pm so **All** were invited to come to that. TTK EG would be running a session at 4.15 on "Heat pumps and other scary (green) things" + one earlier in the afternoon on retrofitting an older house, and Lucy Harrison would be running an Inner Transition workshop at 4.00ish. Janine of Sunray had offered a workshop on waste and **MM** would put TI in touch with her re doing something on plastic waste. **MM** would be updating the TTK Events page at <https://e-voice.org.uk/ttkingston/events/item/46111545> as the programme fell into place. And there might eventually be a page or website dedicated to GreenZone.

We discussed whether we actually needed a stall as well as a presence in the Market House – and decided yes because TI would be juicing, though we could share the large TTK gazebo with another group, e.g. Kingston Hive, if they could provide their own table. **MM, DH-D, TI** could be there most of the day and the stall could be left unattended if necessary. **PMc** might also be present, and **PJM** could help set up in the morning and return in the afternoon. Set-up would probably have to be done before 10am, **MM** to confirm times.

MM suggested that printing lots of GZ programmes/brochures would be wasteful, but we could print off A4 programmes to display on every stall + a few A3 ones (**PMc**) for MH walls, doors, windows, the stage...

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

We were open to Bob Bollen's suggestion of "An ongoing **series of speakers** - perhaps jointly branded as TTK & The Hive" but as neither Kingston Hive nor TTK had premises, and as far as we knew The Hive did not have funds for events, it could be more a TTK project and expense than a Hive one – unless The Hive did secure the premises they had viewed that day next to Kingston Station. Decision deferred.

5. Resources:

- **Assets** – the list at <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1e0BDYMeWSyjiQyP5I1bizdoPYGRTw6-GQ-DuDrumHo8/edit?usp=sharing> seemed complete though **DH-D** suggested that we put a value on the thermal camera (**PJM**). Assets (including a good supply of TTK fliers) were currently mostly stored at **MM**'s (one banner-base had gone missing at The Circulatory), and TTK interest had been expressed in hiring storage space at new STWC premises for our property (maybe @ £10 p m).

- **TTK funds - reallocating redundant projects' funding pots**: **DH-D** suggested that we kept things simple and inclusive, and we agreed 3 broad categories that would cover most Transition initiatives: Gardening and Conservation; Waste – recycling, reusing, repairing; Energy; + a General Fund for, e.g. insurance (which the other funds should contribute to), events, printing, publicity, etc. **PMc** would look again at current headings/funding pots and bring suggested re-allocations into these new funding pots to our next meeting.

6. AOB:

- **Relaunch of Kingston Environment Forum**: this was happening on the evening of Sept 12 in the Guildhall, in partnership with the new RBK Climate Action Team, who would value a way of working with as many of Kingston's green groups as possible, rather than one by one (mostly TTK) as at present, and it could mean that some over-arching projects such as GreenZone were passed back to a KEF steering group. **MM** would ensure that TTK core group were invited.

There was no time for further business or some standing items, so the following were held over (yet again in some cases) for discussion later – or never, t b decided:

- **Open Collective** report / training (**PMc**)

- **Website page on community gardens and conservation projects**, draft now created at <https://e-voice.org.uk/ttkingston/ttk-groups-and-projects/outdoor-volunteering/outdoor-volunteering-opportuni/> - How do we get more gardens to participate – or should we give up? (**MM**)

- Should we transfer or update our **URL registration** (**PMc**)?

- Should we close down the **Green Directory** – with circular economy maps being created by Ioanna @ RBK and **PMc** as better more regularly updated alternatives? (**MM**)

- **Green history** - [History spread sheet - dates.xlsx](#) had reappeared – useful as notes to be added as and when to a website time-line (**PMc**)?

- **Resources**: publicity/comms, fliers, TTK funds, website – do they need updates, revisions?

- **TTK 15th birthday** in (April?) 2023 if we survive that long and want to mark it in some way

- **Vive** – <https://vive.transitiontogether.org.uk/dashboard> UK Transition networking group (like Facebook for Transition groups)

7. Date of next meeting: Tues 30 August

APPENDICES - NOTES AND REPORTS

Library of Things

MM has had a couple of meetings about this and applying for Transition Together funding to contribute to cost + working with the Council climate action team on other funding applications; she will ensure that TTK is credited for any help we give the Council in setting up the LoT. If anyone hears about the next Transition Together funding round, please let MM know as it would be an ideal contribution towards a LoT. If there is a surplus of funding (unlikely!) some could be used to set up smaller, volunteer-led LoTs in other venues, e.g. Kingston Hive if it happens.

KVA's "Meet and Greet the Councillors" event, 14/7 (MM)

The event was a bit of a noisy melee, not easy to talk or hear, and not many councillors there though Peter, Damon and I managed to buttonhole the few that came, and we had the odd interesting conversation with them and fellow stall-holders. Cllr Manders (Portfolio Holder for Climate Action and Sustainable Transport) is keen to talk to the EG about RBK energy policy.

The most interesting chat I had was with Cllr Anne Owen who wants to get the residents of the Kingsnympton estate gardening and growing veg et in the green spaces around the flats and was seeking advice. I think TTK learnt from CRED not to do all the work ourselves and from the Tolworth Broadway gardening project that you need to have residents ready to take over, ideally right from the start, but I think it would be an interesting project and we do have experience to share.

Hogsmill garden wants the EG to advise them on increasing the energy they get from solar panels and use for pumping water out of the Hogsmill.