

Transition Town Kingston – core group meeting

Tues 27 Sept, 6.30pm - 7.30, Spring Grove

NOTES (Actions in red) - confirmed as accurate at our October meeting

Present: Marilyn (MM, Chair, note-taker); Peter (PJM, Energy Group); Toni (TI, Abundance); Damon (DH-D, Energy Group, All-round Deputy) + Alicia, Maya, and, later, Janine and Paul (Sunray Recycle)

Apologies: Paul, Hilary

1. August core group meeting notes + matters & actions arising - forgot to do this bit! - any errors or comments on August Notes? **(All)**

2 Updates::

- PJM & DH-D had had c 30 interested visitors for the **Eco-Homes** days in RBK's Sustainable September and wouldn't mind doing it again (maybe on a Sustainable Saturday, MM's suggestion to spread events about more over the year). DH-D had recorded both the **EG sessions in GreenZone** and recordings, once edited, would be accessible via the website

- **GreenZone 2022:** MM thanked PJM; TI, DH-D and PMc in his absence for all their hard work - it had been a long day, though everyone present was quite positive about their day, had had lots of useful conversations, TI had juiced lots of apples and people had made pledges, contributed to our opinion polls**; speakers and workshop leads (EG, Janine) hadn't minded their small but interested audiences. MM would prefer to host one-off talks and workshops somewhere else with fewer choices and distractions, but DH-D thought we had benefited from passing trade. MM would not be co-organising GZ again but if anyone from TTK wanted to...MM collected some feedback to report back to the GZ organising group.

No one was claiming expenses TI had covered hers in sales, PJM and MM happy to treat theirs (weights and parking) as donations in kind to TTK; and DH-Ds electronic cash machine had worked well (the magic contact being tk@exnet.com - DH-D would have to explain further sometime) and recommended this as a good way of taking donations, e.g., at the Repair Cafe.

- Janine of **SunrayRecycling** proposed bringing her Recycling Minds group under the TTK umbrella, which seemed like a good idea but needing a bit more discussion and the presence of our waste experts to discuss how (at next meeting?). They also do some repairing at their base in Chessington, could we coordinate? NB, MM's note * that people rarely travel far for repair events so overlap/competition unlikely.
- **Funds** - £500 (unsolicited!) would be coming in the form of a cheque(!) from John Lewis, which meant we were not totally dependent on TT funding to get our Repair Café started, though it would be a smaller project than if we got other funding too.
- We had been requested to support **Restart's Right to Repair campaign** in the UK - please do **(All)** and **MM** would publicise in K E News too - see <https://therestartproject.org/right-to-repair/> and <https://therestartproject.org/petition-right-to-repair/> .

3 Future TTK events, activities, projects, participation:

- **Repair café/workshop** - DH-D & MM had done a fair amount of research* and MM felt ready to submit a TT funding application. Those present who had read it and MM's research, approved the draft proposals and application. **Maya** was willing to manage the events, and we thought the RC could start small-ish, with textile repairs (**MM, TI(?)**, Alicia interested in knitting repairs), computer advice/tuning rather than physical repairs (**DH-D(?)**), and small electrical appliances. We would find other expert repairers as and when - we had had advice how and where. We would also map and aim to complement or refer users to other nearby repair events/groups, e.g. Sunray, Dr Bike, repair cafes in nearby boroughs.

No one could go to the next on-line Ask the Team by Transition Together on 13th October, so there was no reason to wait. **MM** would finalise the TT application and send it off [now done, as well as a similar, but with different emphases, application to the Veolia Sustainability Fund, deadline November

4th, with thanks to PJM for help with proof-reading etc]. A venue was by no means secured, but Louisa of the Council Climate Action team and Leonard, Council Waste Reduction Officer, were both supportive and would nudge Kingston Library to consider letting us use the upcoming Library community space (Jan 2023). DH-D suggested that we could use some of any funding we got to improve supply of power points in Library Community Room.

Did anyone know of other large free central spaces (Church/community hall?) we could use if Library falls through?

4 TTK - coming up:

- **KEF relaunch meeting**, new date 29 Sept, 6 - 7.30pm at Guildhall - **DH-D** would try to come, **MM** would be there only to chair the meeting and then stand down (for the 2nd or 3rd time). The hope was that, either from this meeting or a follow-up, a broad-based steering group (including TTK!) would emerge that would decide the way forward, how often to meet, its relationship with the Council etc.

- **TT Thrive training sessions** in Nov-Dec <https://forms.gle/FPZnyeD3G2t25kK46>. - **MM** had registered and **DH-D** would register, thank you to anyone else who'd booked, others welcome as TT encouraged group participation. [**Update from TT**: "Unfortunately, we've had to postpone this training until the New Year. We are in the process of confirming new dates and contacting those who signed up by email."]

6. AOB:

- **TTK future-proofing/sharing responsibilities/decisions/succession planning**: **MM** requested that if **CG members** wanted to elaborate on or alter decisions or plans made at meetings, or suggest new projects or plans between meetings, they discussed it in emails to All - she did not want to decide everything, make decisions undemocratically, or for only a couple of members to know what was going on.

- **Other meetings**: No one present was interested in participating in Kingston Mental Health and Wellbeing meetings every couple of months but **DH-D** had a friend who might be (**MM** would send a contact and some info). **MM** would continue to attend monthly TCC meetings [meeting on Wed 28th highlighted current TCC Letters to Tomorrow campaign (<https://www.letterstomorrow.com/>) - **All** welcome to join in, and a Warm this Winter (<https://www.warmthiswinter.org.uk/>), a new campaign and coalition linking climate concerns with energy crisis and poverty. The meeting was recorded. and **MM** will forward the recording when it arrives.] **DH-D** would continue to attend Kingston Business green recovery meetings. **MM** hoped that TTK would be represented in the revived KEF, if it revived. Any others?

- **Other long held-over discussion items** held over once again to future meetings when perhaps there would be less pressing business.

7. Dates of next meetings: Tues 25 October, 6.30pm, Tues 29 November, 6.30 (December meeting cancelled as it falls on a post-Christmas bank holiday - do we want to have a party instead?)

APPENDIX

MM's notes from conversations and visits to other repair cafes, FYI, with spending possibilities highlighted and a few recent additions now filed for reference at <https://e-voice.org.uk/ttkingston/ttk-repair-cafe-project/>.

Green Drinks, 7.30 to 9.00ish

The business part of the meeting turned seamlessly into Green Drinks, where we continued discussing repairs and visible mending, GZ, the next newsletter, recycling cigarette butts, the machinations of, e g, big oil (cf Michael E Mann)... It was good to see some new faces, so thank you for coming and staying on for a chat!