

## Transition Town Kingston – core group meeting

Tues 28 November 2023, 6.30 - 7.30, at the Spring Grove

### NOTES

**Present:** Marilyn (MM, note-taker), Damon (DHD, chairing), Hilary (HG), Peter (PM)

**Apologies:** Paul (PMc), Janine (JM), Toni (TI)

1. **Last meeting's notes** (sent earlier with Agenda) were confirmed and approved for publishing on website (**MM**).

**Matters & actions arising** were elsewhere on the Agenda, though some had to be deferred because key members were absent.

### 2. Updates

#### - TTK events/projects

Some had been sent ahead of the meeting (see Repair Café and Canbury Community Garden in Appendix 1 + EG update); others continued as usual with no need for updates, and so there were just a few reports at the meeting:

**RBK KE News** – MM reported that it had gone out earlier than usual because there were things happening at the end of Nov.

**Publicity** - [short video about TTK made by Christian from South West Londoner](#), who visited us several times in October, had been published.

#### - Other groups & orgs:

**Energy** - DH-D was putting together a community solar group (currently DHD, HG and Mark Handley from the EG, but not an EG project and would include others) to work in parallel with RBK and Energy4All on local community energy projects. The group would be meeting soon to determine legal entity, registration, constitution etc, and would, once formed, need its own bank account. Those present agreed that TTK could hold any funding they acquired in our bank account as a temporary measure, with the group operating independently of TTK, keeping its own accounts etc.

**Transition Together/Vive** – **MM** would be attending a webinar on membership which might be useful, would report back if so.

**TCC AGM** – MM had attended on-line the mercifully speedy AGM, followed by workshops (see Appendix 2)

**Good Food Group** – **MM** would be attending their meeting on 29<sup>th</sup>, would report anything relevant.

### 3. Events/opps coming up

- **Public appearances:** No one present had time to attend KEC's Annual Fair Fayre on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 12.00 – 4.00pm (though **others** might?).

- **Climate Justice Coalition** #NowWeRise COP28 Day of Action to demand climate justice on Saturday 9 December - see [https://actionnetwork.org/event\\_campaigns/now-we-rise](https://actionnetwork.org/event_campaigns/now-we-rise). The Hive were planning to meet at The Hive and go to the COP-related demo on Sat 9<sup>th</sup>. HG interested in going, and if she needed company/help carrying the TTK banner, MM would go too.

- **End of year celebrations:** numbers for the volunteers' event on Tues 5<sup>th</sup> were creeping up, DHD was thanked for his work on booking the space and the food; **DHD** and **MM/PM** would buy some drinks, and RCK organisers had agreed at their meeting the day before to put £50

towards the catering. It was agreed to take a few minutes at 7pm to introduce the CG and the projects we were responsible for, and that we would encourage volunteers to wear badges with name & group to assist with networking and finding out more about each other and TTK activities.

- **AGM on 30 April** (a normal meeting date) was confirmed, with TTK end of year for project accounts and reports at the end of March (**All project leads**).

#### 4. Continued / held over from previous meetings:

- **Insurance note, insurance risks** had been agreed last meeting – **PM** and **PMc** to talk to broker about renewal (not too early, but not leaving it to the last moment!)

- **Amendments to TTK constitution** – final version of changes to allow for growing CG was agreed as concise and clear, and flexible enough to last a while, t b adopted as of now and confirmed at next AGM:

*“6.3 The Core Group should number no fewer than four, include a representative from every active project group, and appoint a chair (or co-chairs), a treasurer, a secretary/note-taker, and other officers as and when considered necessary. The Core Group may co-opt members to ensure balance, representation from every project group, and sufficient officers to carry out its duties. At least one appointed officer should be present at Core Group meetings for them to be quorate, and they should take and circulate Notes of the meeting to the whole Core Group.”*

(**MM** would add to Constitution on website)

- **Storage at STWC** – HG and DHD had visited The Circulatory and spoken to Hugh who would take it to the STWC board – still waiting to hear more. **HG** and **DHD** would chase.

- **Business planning:** income, contributions from project groups, membership, remit, plans for future, relations with Council – deferred to a future meeting.

#### 5. Resources:

- **A high-definition TTK logo** was needed for the new flag style banner and for a banner for CCG – an opportunity to revise and modernise the design and enlarge the font. Those present thought a squarish design (as now) would do for those and other purposes, and that it would be good for “brand” recognition to keep some elements of the current design, including the colours. Was this something **PMc** could do, or DHD’s contact (for a fee)?

- **Do we need any money** or envisage any new activities that might? E g, Transition Together Seed Funding round, RBK’s Green Grants (See Appendix 3) or the Mayor of London’s LCEF (for feasibility studies, maybe for DHD’s community energy group).

DHD informed us that £500 was coming TTK’s way, for either the general fund or specific projects (t b decided).

- **Transfers of 10%** project funds/surpluses after expenses – should be done at the end of the TTK year, i e March. How to do it remained to discuss when treasurer **PMc** was present.

**6. Dates of forthcoming meetings:** December’s (Boxing Day) cancelled; 30 Jan, 27 Feb, 26 Mar, 30 April (AGM)...

No one joined us at 7.30 for **Green Drinks** so we enjoyed an informal chat and then went home quite early.

## APPENDICES

### 1. TTK & TTK Project updates

- **See Repair Café Project group** notes for updates (link circulated earlier with Agenda for those interested). RCK @ Veolia launch of EVs on 10/11 – event cancelled. Library of Things is likely to come to Kingston Library.
- MM spoke about TTK and RCK to **KU sustainable design students** in Nov – Divya and Tisu from The Hive organised, invited and chaired, also participating were Des and Hugh from STWC.
- MM was asked by **Ioanna at RBK** for advice on formalising arrangements (website, constitution, independent bank account...) for Green Business forum.
- **CCG** – MM attended a useful Capital Growth webinar on protecting community gardens and has shared the following useful resources for community gardens:  
Sustain's guidance on [protecting](#) and [saving](#) food growing sites under threat  
Capital Growth's [Growing for Change Campaign & Handbook](#)  
[Thrive](#): the gardening for health charity uses gardening to bring positive changes in the lives of people living with disabilities or ill health, or who are isolated, disadvantaged or vulnerable.  
[Capital Growth's Fringe Farming](#) briefing, aimed at policy-makers and councils, makes the case for growing food locally on smaller nature and climate friendly farms at the edges of our cities across the UK.  
Has the donation of £34 (earmarked for a banner for out gate) from Educare Small School arrived yet?
- **Energy Group** – PM had given a talk on heat-pumps to Esher FoE. Another talk is planned for a residents' association in Richmond.

### 2. Other updates

#### - The Climate Coalition

**AGM and discussion** recording will be available in due course. AGM business was quite short, most of the meeting was spent in discussing "Long Crisis scenarios" led by Jon Alexander, in breakout workshops and collectively. Background reading: [An introduction to the Long Crisis scenarios](#); [Why we need a new story of self and society](#), an article by Jon Alexander; [The Long Crisis Scenarios are a Call to Citizen Thinking](#), a blog by Jon Alexander. Quite Transitiony, IMO, and so felt a bit like inventing the wheel, but led to some interesting agreements about the difficulties of leaving everything to communities and citizens.

Reminder about their **Local Intelligence Hub** - <https://www.localintelligencehub.com/> - data about local MPs, constituencies, public opinion and the climate and nature movement in order to support local campaigning and organising efforts, currently for TCC members only, soon to be open access.

**TTC General election** campaign reported last time, more briefing coming soon, be prepared!

**Great Big Green Week, June 18 – 16, 2024** – should we start planning now?

### 3. Funding opportunities:

**Transition Together** Seed Funding round. 'Ask the Team' webinar on 27th November – did anyone attend? <https://vive.transitiontogether.org.uk/u/chris/mac/calendar/entry/view?id=104>

**RBK's Green Grants** - see [here](#), deadline 12 January 2024. These are grants specifically for community and voluntary organisations to help support the delivery of the Climate Action Plan. The grants will be £5,000 - £10,000 per year in size for 3-5 years.