

**Transition Town Kingston – core group meeting
Tues 27 August, 6.30 to 7.30pm @ Spring Grove**

NOTES

Present: PJM (chairing), MM (note-taking), HG, MO + MF later
Apologies received from: DHD, TI, PMc, JM

1. **Last meeting's notes** (sent previously) were confirmed with one amendment (the date) and approved for publication in website resources - https://www.ttkingston.org/files/?folder_id=51527142 (**MM**).
Matters and actions arising were discussed later or deferred.
2. **TTK updates**
 - **TTK events/projects**
 - Energy Group** PJM, reported several new members, next meeting coming up on Tues 3/9.
 - Abundance** – TI had sent news for upcoming *KE News*, harvesting was starting and volunteers welcome.,
 - CCG** – MM would be sorting out its future organisation once lead gardeners available to discuss.
 - KE News** – MM reported that it was about to go out, asked those present if “anchor links” worked for them as they were potentially useful though she had 2 complaints that they didn't work and no confirmations that they did (lack of positive or neutral feedback generally t b expected) – so she would include one experimental anchor to *What else is on?* (last item in the newsletter), **All** to try it and report back to MM.
 - Recycling Minds** – nothing new to report
 - Green chains/ corridors** – MM had been invited onto the Kingston Biodiversity Partnership (via Elliot), a useful group to whom she would do her best to promote the green corridor concept and to represent non-specialist, non-purist perspectives.
 - “Sustainable September”** Green Open Day – MM had invited a few wildlife-friendly gardens and energy-efficient homes to offer opening for an event on Sunday 8th September – see <https://www.ttkingston.org/events/item/53107619>. The 3 community gardens participating weren't taking bookings, so no idea of how much interest, PJM had had a couple of bookings for his house.
3. **Other groups & orgs**, a few updates:
 - RBK/Sustainable Transport/KCC** – KCC had had positive bike rides and conversations with leader of the Council Andreas Kirsch and would now press for action, including on bike theft. **HG** was organising a meeting with Council planning officer Tim Naylor
 - TCC:** MM was forwarding newsletters and requests from TCC as and when, currently mainly about lobbying MPs on 12/10 and training & resources for meeting with MPs – **MM & PJM** would arrange to meet Sarah Olney MP and hoped that **other CG members** would meet with their MPs. **MM** would attend further TCC meetings, pass on updates, and publicise this and other climate campaigns in *KE News*... (Note in Appendix re meeting on 28/8).
 - **Transition Together:** **MM** was trying to keep up with their social medium Vive, tho' thought there was too much that was not relevant. Various TT meetings coming up, including a big TT assembly in 2025; MM would go to a London Hub meeting on Sat September 14th, had been requested to collect and bring food to share from STWC and others.
4. **Repair Café Kingston**
 - **Absences:** HG would be away for September RCK and would contact fixers v soon. MM would be away for October RCK and **HG** would take on refreshments - MM had stocked up on coffee, biscuits etc so only milk needed t b purchased on the day.
 - **Processes:** RCK had had its first serious complaint, HG's response had placated the complainant, but some amendments to our usual processes needed: **MF** would highlight in the booking response

that repairs were undertaken at the owners' risk, and **RCK organisers** would oversee visitors reading and signing disclaimer forms in the waiting area before escorting them to the right table. MM had already amended Guidance for Visitors (re valuables and re risk) on the website

- **Data collection and uses:** **PMc** had emailed that he would be logging the last 2 months of RCK repairs and investigating carbon savings from repairs, for use in end of year summary and possibly in proposed note to visitors about how much carbon their repair had saved, i.e. making the link between fixing and climate, and inviting further green actions e.g. TTK projects, subscribing to KE News (**MM** was drafting a note and would circulate to RCK.)

5. Coming up / held over from previous meetings:

Christmas thankyou party @ Spring Grove - those present agreed that last year's for TTK CG and volunteers had been enjoyable and successful, and PJM suggested that we began planning, booking a date.

6. Resources standing items, to discuss as needed:

publicity, fliers, flag/banner; TTK funds and Open Collective, website, TTK property/assets list... etc - deferred until more of us present. **PMc** would be creating a new draft of the TTK flyer, based on July meeting's inputs.

- A **new TTK policy document/resource** was discussed in the light of ongoing RBK consultations about, and relating to, the Local Plan (a summary of comments on last year's consultation is [published here](#) - the Council is currently updating the Local Plan to take these into account and the next round of consultations will come later this year) + other RBK action plans (e.g. on Climate, Biodiversity...). We discussed the continued working and thinking in silos within RBK, the relative lack of influence of the climate action team, the importance of RBK's on Climate Emergency Declaration... and wondered if a TTK list of asks could make bridges between some of those operational silos, help to prioritise climate across Council depts, promote a hierarchy of aims and outcomes, show co-benefits, e.g. of biodiversity, active travel, energy efficiency... and provide a resource for anyone lobbying the Council to use or select from (similar to TCC training and guidance for their October campaign)... The **EG** would make a start on their contribution and **MM** would draft an outline/list for further input and discussion.

- **Comms/social media:** **PMc** had offered by email to research Twitter/X alternatives (if needed), so some discussion of alternatives to X, and whether engaging with multiple social media was worth the time and effort - **MM** reluctant to do so apart from a few local ones for publicising RCK and other TTK events, and **MF** was supplementing this with Instagram for RCK. Any other interest in comms/offers to take on social media (**All**)? Discussion to be continued.

7. AOB:

- **MM** (with an OK from DHD and PJM) had (re-)adopted the Secretary/Acting Secretary job title as useful for external comms, official meetings etc. Others welcome to share the title if useful to them. (Perhaps we could also have a Deputy Interim Chair if useful to anyone?)

8. Date of next meeting: 24 September (**MM** would send updated Agenda template to DHD)

GREEN DRINKS followed, when we were joined by Ben Richmond – with introductions all round, discussion of UK energy policy, 15-minute cities ...

APPENDIX on TCC meeting, midday 28/8, partly about future plans for TCC and what members want, + some ideas & updates on Common Grounds MP action on 12/10 and members' pack - both will be reported in next TCC newsletter with links to resources.

Confirmed as accurate at CG meeting 24/9/24