

Transition Town Kingston – core group meeting
Tues 24 September 2024, 6.30 to 7.30pm at Spring Grove
NOTES (Actions in red) – approved for publication at CG meeting, 29/10/24

Present: Damon (DHD, chair), Marilyn (MM, note-taking), Peter (PJM, EG), Marcus (MO, EF), Maya (MF, RCK) + Ben Richmond

Apologies had been received from Hilary, Janine, Paul

1. **Last meeting's notes** were approved for publication (**MM**); **matters and actions arising** were discussed later or deferred to a future meeting when more of us were present. Item #6 in August Notes, re a new policy document/resource for consultations etc (list drafted by MM, considered by EG) had not got any further and was not discussed.

2. **TTK events/projects updates:**

Energy Group (PJM, DHD), Sustainable Sept Open Day: 4 visitors to our Open Homes, MM commented that we could do with a few more recent retrofits and some older, more typical houses, to add to our Open Days and was asking for offers in the next KE News. DHD had given a talk on solar PV and heat-pumps to a group in Surrey. Both PJM and DHD would be absent from next EG meeting on 1st Tuesday of October and **MO** was requested to take charge, Terezia from RBK's Climate Action team would be there.

Abundance – no report

Canbury Community Garden – MM reported that lead gardeners had had a positive meeting to plan future activities, succession, and confirm affiliation to TTK. John Roscoe would be taking over as main coordinator, had some ambitious plans, understood the requirement to report to TTK CG and AGM if TTK PL insurance and bank account was to be available to CCG, even if he couldn't get to many meetings. Handovers (contacts, introductions, responsibilities etc) should be completed by the end of the year, ready for renewal of agreement with RBK in Feb 2025. MM was printing off guidelines for visiting school groups to be signed as agreed and read (on the RCK model)

KE News deadline would be the day after our meeting. DHD confirmed that the item about Kingston community energy should be repeated. In the absence of any feedback from CG about anchor links, apart from the 2 that had already reported that they don't work, MM had abandoned them, changed layout of newsletter to get rid of redundant contents list with links, and moved list of other green groups to the end of the newsletter, reducing clutter at the top of the newsletter (with thanks to PMc for input).

Recycling Minds – no report [though MM had received an item for KE News – see Appendix]

Green chains/ corridors - **MM & DHD** would continue to promote as and when. (MM would have to miss the next Kingston Biodiversity Partnership meeting but was now on their list for meetings, agendas, minutes, actions etc)

3. **Other groups/orgs**

RBK/KEF: DHD had had a conversation with Alison Fure about the non-functioning rain garden on Albert Road, had reported it to RBK Climate team, who had blogged about it – hopefully would lead to action, and was a good example of TTK' working relationship with Council officers.

STWC & KEC had generously contributed food from their community stocks for MM to take and share at a **London Transition Hub** meeting in September. Next one would be in October, probably in Brixton, MM unable to go, hoped someone else from CG would.,

The Kingston Hive - Tisu from the Hive had organised a seminar on 24/9 with Kingston Uni MA Design students to give them ideas for practical local projects, MM had been invited to present on RCK, and there had been some interest.

The Climate Coalition: MM was forwarding notes and meetings to CG as and when, including reminders about TCC's "**Common Grounds**" **day of action on 12th October**, with offers of resources and training. MM had not succeeded in arranging a meeting with Sarah Olney MP, hoped that others in N Kingston might have more luck.

4. Repair Café, standing item

MM would be away for next RCK, had stocked up with refreshment supplies so that all that would be needed was milk (MF offered to bring).

RCK resources: we could have 100s of RCK visitors' forms printed with one or 2 tweaks (move signature to front of form, delete reference number). When new RCK flier was needed we could reduce words. DHD had printed off a sheet of Repair Café inserts for the name badges.

There was some discussion about **growth** – possibly not feasible in the Library space so might involve another group starting a RC somewhere else in the borough? Did we need more volunteer fixers? Was there a way of publicising RCK at RBK's Recycling Centre (MM would ask)?

K Uni Design students might turn up at upcoming sessions to observe, research, spot gaps, assist etc. Would they be interested in **HG's** discussion with KU Sustainability lead, Stephanie, about a RC at KU?

5. Coming up / held over from previous meetings: DHD booked date and space at Spring Grove for TTK **Christmas party for volunteers** on Tuesday November 26th, 7.30pm, after our usual CG meeting, numbers, catering etc t b c at next CG meeting. CG would not be meeting on last Tues of December (New Year's Eve!). (DHD was still owed for last year's party - should claim!)

6. Resources standing item, discussed this time:

- Some tweaks and updates to **TTK A5 flier** were proposed and discussed, including: TTK's legal entity; references to advocacy and holding Council to account; action rather than awareness; skill-sharing; nature; "fostering"... MM would draft with suggested changes and send round an amended version for comment. MM had asked the Library if they could let us know if more RCK or TTK fliers are needed in the branches to give us some idea of numbers needed in the next few months. (Fliers in Libraries etc that people could take away, keep and read seemed to be one of the more effective forms of publicity.)

7. AOB:

- Some discussion about the merits of meeting at Spring Grove: pros – it's central, relatively quiet most Tuesday evenings, it's where TTK started, fits neatly with Green Drinks; cons – pub venue could put off some people. The Hive for meetings followed by GD in a nearby pub were discussed but no decision was made – t b continued.

- MM raised the possibility of linking charity shops and refugee groups as in the Tooting project, **Sewing and Sanctuary**, a project bringing together an Oxfam shop and women refugees who craft/sew/repair/upcycle the donated textiles that the shop can't sell in a room above the shop. This could be something we "broker" rather than organise, via our contacts at charity shops, STWC, Refugee Action, Voices of Hope...MM would plant the idea...

8. Date of next meeting: Tues 29 October

GREEN DRINKS followed

APPENDIX: SunrayRecycle & our Sunray Community Allotment Plot (for newsletter)

Did you know that SunrayRecycle is not just about collecting hard to recycle items - it was about joining the community with our allotment space at Knollmead Allotments - we had so many other ideas and still do! Do you fancy joining us to get some of these ideas started?

SunrayRecycle have a new headquarters, thanks to RBK councils Resilliance Fund, we have moved into the area behind Sunray Community Centre in Tolworth KT5 9QP.

The 'hard to recycle' collection bins remain in the same location, against the Knollmead Allotment fence.

We still collect:

- Any brand of plastic toothbrush, toothbrush heads & floss containers
- PPE gloves
- Pringles tubes & Tic Tac boxes
- Marigold Gloves
- Printer Ink Cartridges (not Toners)
- Bras
- Candles, Tea Lights & Wax Melts

Some collections have stopped like plastic writing instruments and coffee pouches, but SunrayRecycle are on Facebook & Instagram to let you know where you can take all these difficult items that we don't collect.

Please join us on Facebook  

Please Note: All plastic carrier bags & food wrappings (soft plastics) can be taken to larger supermarkets - ignore the packaging labels - if it doesn't rip easily its probably plastic!

You can also take:

- fruit net bags (even with metal tag)
- bubble wrap
- film of cheese or punnets of fruit

Just make sure it's shaken free of crumbs and dry. You can squash into another carrier bag & drop off when you go shopping into the designated bins located in stores.

But DO NOT put in compostable or biodegradable items.

We are also ready to accept new volunteers to help sort donations, list items on ebay, crack on with some outreach work & also organise some workshops and activities.

Our Volunteer days are Tuesdays & Thursdays, usually 10 - 2pm. But not everyone can do these, so we are quite flexible!

We also have a Community Allotment Plot on Knollmead Allotments (it is the first plot you come to as you enter - 1A). We have various fruit trees, a couple of roses and several raised beds that we need help with. No experience necessary. Just good comfortable footwear, gloves and clothing fit for gardening!

Get in touch with Janine via email on SunrayRecycle@gmail.com or WhatsApp 07886552574