

Transition Town Kingston – management team meeting

Tuesday 22 Feb 2022, 6.00 – 7.00pm, at Spring Grove pub

NOTES, confirmed at next meeting (**Actions in red**),

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

Apologies had been received from John Fellowes and Patrick Manwell

1. **January meeting's notes** were confirmed as accurate and approved for publication (by **MM**) on TTK website. **Matters arising** and actions – were discussed under #2 and #3.
2. **Updates:** some were deferred until needed.
 - **Project groups**, e.g., Abundance, Canbury Community Garden, had not yet approached other possible umbrella groups for their activities and funds in the event of TTK ending, but would do. In the meantime, MM was making sure that TTK logo was visible on renewed Canbury Community Garden notices.
 - **KE News** deadline was the next day, MM had drafted a piece showing that TTK had in fact continued to operate and raise useful funds during the pandemic, was in the process of reviving, and would welcome more help.
 - **STWC** was still due to move out of The Circulatory in September.
 - **RBK** was looking for reps from community groups for the next stage of its visioning – DH-D and MM pointed out that some of us were already involved and there was considerable overlap between all the Council groups, meetings and remits.
 - **The Hive** had a website, lots of ideas, a legal entity (CIC, intending to become a CIO), a constitution, directors – but still awaited the main event, premises; until then a **Climate Café** was suggested though if in someone else's venue (e.g., KU's Town House?) it would have to be limited to set times and would need a host – **All** to consider further.
 - **The Climate Coalition** – no one could attend the meeting on 23rd, but **MM** would probably receive Minutes and presentations and could circulate those.
 - PMc was liaising with Ioanna at the Council about creating a **Kingston Circular Economy map**, something he had made a good start on previously.
 - **Stitch in Time** was taking a break until there was more help, more interest, and accessible premises (The Hive?).
 - **Energy Group** were assisting Park Brewery with plans for solar [as well as advising Tamesis sailing club on energy efficiency and maximising its use of renewable energy].
3. **Future TTK events, activities, projects** – to pursue or not...
 - **Transition Healthcheck** <https://transitiongroups.org/healthcheck/> - some of us had made a start on this in a shared document at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/16RPePiXSDQJVBnyKFOBNytPD_tJQMI1YI0XZ74yw4fs/edit?usp=sharing – and **All** were invited to add their scores or comments in the next week, after which **PMc** would make a summary to bring to our March meeting. (MM had previously circulated links to earlier visioning exercises, e.g., TTK 2009 <https://e-voice.org.uk/ttkingston/assets/other/visioningday2009report> with picture at <https://e-voice.org.uk/ttkingston/assets/other/vision4kingston20150-pdf>, and wondered how much had changed since then – maybe greater public awareness of climate change and the current energy crisis?)

- MM raised whether the **e-Green Directory** was worth continuing as it was impossible to keep accurate and up-to-date – the number of editors had declined to just one, her, and updates from businesses or consumers were virtually non-existent. **All** – to consider and discuss later.
- **A history of environmental activism in Kingston** – this came up as a PS to our January meeting as interesting and potentially useful for putting all the green groups, old and new, in Kingston into a context and as a way of preserving local stories which could otherwise be lost. MM had begun research and found a few dates (e.g., there is a history of the Green Fair from May 1987 - 2008 at <http://thegreenfairkingston.org/home.html>), and a news report on Swampy and the poplar trees in Canbury Gardens (Nov 1997 - <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/environment-threat-to-kingston-s-poplar-trees-draws-the-ecoveteran-warriors-1294025.html>). Could we collect enough material to do something with Kingston Museum? Would **PMc** help to create web-based resources such as a time-line and a “family tree” to show evolution and relationships? Could **HG** help with/train us on collecting oral histories from key players? Possible deadline summer 2022.
- A future **joint event with Global Justice Now** was considered feasible, probably outdoors one summer Saturday, possibly in Canbury Community Garden. We or GJN could use the TTK gazebo. But was Kingston Carnival with a Green Zone in the town centre also a possibility – **MM** would try to find out from KREC?
- **MM** would contact Lucy Harrison to ask if there was any possibility of reviving **Inner Transition**, something we thought should be on offer [we mention “personal resilience” in our flier but aren’t doing anything explicitly about it] and which had some overlap with The Hive asks.
- **Comms** – MM commented that we needed to do better at keeping websites, Facebook etc updated, telling people what we are doing and intend to do - and taking credit for things we have done.
- **Other possible events and activities** – decisions and discussion were deferred, e.g., on investing in professional Zoom, collaborative debates along the lines of [Woking Debates](#), Energy Group outreach events...

4. Resources:

- MM suggested that we created a **list of TTK assets/possessions**, as it was all too easy to lose track of them when they were scattered around our homes, sheds, The Circulatory etc. **MM** would (try to) set up a shared Google spreadsheet, and **All** were requested to fill it in.
- We also discussed our **insurance policy**, whether it covered too little or too much – **PMc** would send the policy docs to **PJM** and **DH-D** who would check them out.
- **Funds**: **PMc** proposed that <https://opencollective.com/> be considered as a good way to reduce overheads and the management burden, and keep track of TTK’s ring-fenced funds, something we should return to.
- **Minor revisions of the Constitution** - **MM** would send round a Draft with her suggested updates tracked (re peak oil, management team/ core group...), for future discussion; final draft would need to be approved at an AGM, as previous amendments had been.

5. AOB:

We agreed to (re-)join **London and SE Transition Hub** - <https://transitiongroups.org/hub/london-south-east/> - **MM** would implement and **DH-D** offered to be the main TTK contact.

- 6. **Date of next meeting**: Tues 29 March, 6.30pm (we agreed to make it and Green Drinks half an hour later as more convenient, and to overlap with Green Drinks if necessary, which we tend to do anyway – **DH-D** would amend entry on GD website, **MM** would amend times in KE News)

[AGM due in June? We should probably get a date into our diary, and would need to stand formally as a committee/core group/management team at an AGM, along with all the usual reports, presentations of any proposed changes in TTK practice, Constitution... Last year's AGM agenda + some notes on the website at https://e-voice.org.uk/ttkingston/files/index?folder_id=45277988 but no Minutes? It looks as though we probably won't need an **EGM/SGM** just yet?]

GREEN DRINKS followed, when we were joined by Brian Mulley (who suggested some community garden joint publicity, new fliers, social prescribing, training... which he and **MM** would discuss further, and something **PMc** could add to his green map of Kingston), Dan Falchikov (who updated us on local politics and Kingston's regeneration/rationalisation plans), and Des Kay (who updated us on STWC). But not all the chat was as serious as that!