

SHARK Johnshaven

Meeting held at the Ship Hotel, Johnshaven Sunday 12th April 2015

Present: Rebecca Chambers, Sue Calder, Maureen and Niall Young, Alyson and Neil Wilkie,
Vera Fillingham
Apologies Walter Fillingham

1/ Tractor and Trailer – Tractor and trailer have been serviced. Neil noted a couple of problems with the trailer lifting mechanism which will be checked before the next collection. The credit with McIntosh Trailers has now been used up and future servicing will be referred to Millend Garage.

2/ Collections – First two have gone satisfactorily. The new supply of green bags should be used to replace existing ones. A number of old bags are known to be held by former members but it is not clear what can be done to recover these. Important to check the list of paid-up members on collections. We have 3 new (younger!) volunteers to help this year.

3/ Compost Site – It has not been possible to start the generator so far and it will be taken to Millend Garage to investigate. 7 bags of compost were hand sieved for delivery to members, more are needed.

4/ Events Held – Gorse Clearing on the Railway Line on February 8th had 10 volunteers on a cold miserable day. Beach Clean on 8th March had 10 volunteers covering Seagreens to Cove Hill where a large amount of rubbish was collected. Keep Scotland Beautiful Village Cleanup on 4th April also had 10 volunteers – somewhat disappointing although we have been thanked by the Community Council for our efforts.

5/ Plastic Bag Free – Efforts to attract funding from the Community Council and Tullo Wind Farm have been rejected. Rebecca spoke to Primary School pupils who are enthusiastic about designing a new Johnshaven reusable bag. It was agreed we should explore costs for a reduced number of bags so the project can go ahead. Vera suggested an exhibition of the school designs which will help publicise the initiative and thank the pupils publicly, possibly at the NEOS Café in September.

6/ Living Roof – Proposals for roof construction were discussed. Following re-measuring the roof accurately we should go ahead and purchase materials. We will ask Doug Beedie to assist with lifting the assembled sections into place. Timetable to be confirmed once materials are ordered. We should try to complete in the course of a weekend.

7/ Facebook and Website – The new Facebook page is up and running and has been visited by a significant number of people. The Website now contains a breakdown of 10 years worth of Beach Clean statistics, and a New Projects page describing the Plastic Bag and Living Roof projects.

8/ Accounts – The current Bank balance is expected to be £1860.65 once receipts from this year's garden waste memberships have been paid in.

9/ AOB – Rebecca wanted to bring Marine Conservation Scotland's Plastic Challenge to our attention: 1st to 30th June – give up plastic altogether! See www.mcsuk.org/plasticchallenge

Next Meeting : Sunday 26th July 2015 at 7pm in the Ship.