

Sustainable Villages Steering Committee Meeting 25th November 2014

at Kytton Cottage, Holcombe Rogus

Present: Sally Chapman, Peter Bowers, Richard Wiltshire, Tess Wiltshire, Tim Malyon, Kitty Britton, Neil Dennis-Purves, Gill Gale, Jeni Lupton, Ann Hill, Tim Pointing, Teresa Pointing, Rosalie Chamberlin, Alex Wilson, Stuart Kearney, Helen Kearney, Rose Kearney

Apologies: Christine Mason, Delia Kennedy, Alison Rice

Item	Comments	Action
Welcome	Sally thanked everyone for their hard work and achievements during the year and wished them a Happy Christmas	
Matters Arising	All on agenda	
Brendon Energy	Peter - appointments set up for Sampford Peverell school and Methodist Chapel. Richard - Holcombe Rogus village hall interested and either he or BE will go to their meeting. Burlescombe hall is listed so not suitable, elders at Westleigh URC meeting to discuss this week. Sally - Halberton Parish Council are quite interested. Gill – St Paul's Hall reorganising so can't say yet. Tim Pointing will look at Uffculme properties and approach them. St James church in Tiverton has suitable roof so Peter will speak to the Parish Council. Not contacted Ash Thomas yet. Neil – Halberton Village Hall looking at a different scheme.	All update progress at next meeting Peter send Tim Pointing list of properties in Uffculme
Open Homes Event	Went well and Gill was congratulated for organising. Good exchanges of information. Most effective intervention is insulation. Numbers not all in yet but approx 30 in total – places with most technologies had more visitors. Most said willing to host again. Lessons learnt include not overlapping times and avoid dates of other local events. Suggestion in future to contact radio stations 10, Devon and Somerset. Devon Assn for Renewable Energy have offered to help with future events – Gill would like more time for discussion and to attract new people who may not be able to afford expensive technology.	Gill let Green Open Homes know of problem with website saying event finished when it hadn't.
Plastic Recycling	Sally spoke to Karen at Mid Devon recycling who hope to start recycling plastic next autumn, subject to funding. Also spoke to Chris Firth at Tiverton market who is concerned about people dumping plastic before our plastic collection. He is asking Mid Devon about possible storage space. The collection will be held once a month on a Friday morning with Peninsula collecting in the afternoon. Try for six months then review.	
Apple Pressing Day	Lovely event. Scaled down and seemed about right. Made profit of £190 and funds available if we need any more equipment. Peter thanked for organising for last 5 or 6 years. Someone else needed to organise next year. Uplowman or Uffculme Village Halls may be better venues.	Put on Agenda for next March.
Greenham Reach	Helen and Stuart have 3 children and are planning to move onto Plot A before the end of the year. Helen is a herbalist and works at Reapers in Tiverton on Tuesdays. They will have a herb growing business, grow flowers and fruit, distil witch hazel and run workshops. Alex and	Let Stuart know if anyone has spare Breeze blocks or flagstones.

	Ruth Wilson moved to Plot C with their 2 children in January. They have put in an orchard and grow apples, pears, plums and soft fruit. Also mushrooms and tomatoes and cucumbers in a polytunnel. Establishing a goat herd dairy. The whole site is considering installing a grey water system. They have applied to Fund for Enlightened Agriculture for grant to build a toilet and kitchen on the common land to be used by visiting groups. If successful they would have to crowd fund for half the amount. Site is monitored by an ecologist and Parish Council does visual impact survey. There is a site meeting with the planners next week.	
Beekeeping	All honey now sold. Equipment cleaned and hives tied down for winter. £300 in hand if equipment needed. Insurance position unclear.	
Repair Cafe	Neil reported that the planning is going well and the service will be on Saturday mornings at the Market Youth Drop-in Centre with the launch on Saturday 10th January 2015. This will be the first one in Devon, Somerset or Cornwall. More volunteers needed. 3 PAT testers trained, 2 trained on cycle repairs. Also have sewing and furniture repair volunteers. Leaflet ready to print and facebook page, email address and telephone number set up. There have been articles in local papers. They have received a £1,000 TAP grant and are awaiting result of application for £650 from Heathcote Trust.	Recommend local repairers to repair those items that can't be fixed
Junction 27 Development	Assessment period ending and now there is a consultation period. Council currently deciding if the site will be designated for development in Local Plan. A Planning application will be submitted in January. Tim says there is a lack of coordination between local groups. Developers have held meetings in Sampford Peverell, Halberton and Uffculme and there will be one in Holcombe Rogus Village Hall on 11 th December. If the planning application is approved Tim believes there could be piecemeal development over several years.	Tim recommends all write to their local councillor with their views. He will let us know of any actions that SV may want to take in response to planning application.
Uffculme	<p>Give and Take event last weekend went well despite Craft Fair being on at same time. Being careful not to be seen as competition by other stalls. Leftover items stored in Delia's garage. Suggestion that larger items could be put on Freecycle.</p> <p>Uffculme Green Team. Last year's Green Day raised £300 that is currently being held by Compost Magic but they have suggested Delia set up a new group with interested Uffculme residents. Delia has asked if this group could be a subset of Sustainable Villages. It was agreed to welcome them under our umbrella.</p> <p>There is a Wheelbarrow Carnival at the Christmas Light turning on this Saturday, 29th Nov from 6pm to 7.30pm.</p> <p>As local householders Ann and Jeni have recently been informed of a planned development of 60 houses near Uffculme.</p>	Gill to show Delia films she may want to use at her planned film and discussion evening.

<p>AOB</p>	<p>Communal tree planting. Teresa asked if there would be interest in tree planting event in their field in for a couple of hours one afternoon in February. It was agreed this would be welcome and possibly linking it to Wassailing was suggested. They hope to install a tree bog before then – like a compost loo but using willow.</p> <p>Peter mentioned there are 500 now on the SV mailing list.</p> <p>AGM needs arranging. Suggested we combine with Delia's planned film showing and hold it in either Uffculme or Magelake halls. Jeni will speak to Delia and try and arrange for any evening in the second week of February.</p> <p>Sally shared a leaflet from a commercial company called Natural Green Energy for Investment.</p> <p>Halberton Club, below the village hall, has recently closed. The Mid Devon Show Committee will use it for one or two years. There is a suggestion it could then be used by a local community association to provide a small shop, fitness suite etc. A loose group looking at this at the moment but we will watch future developments.</p> <p>Sally is arranging to speak at the Rotary Club with Dawn. Peter will clarify date.</p> <p>Sally showed some cork insulation she has installed in her house on a solid cob wall. It is stuck on using a breathable adhesive and then covered with mesh and lime plaster. Can be used inside or outside. Cost for 10sqm was £250 (Mike Wye & Associates) for materials and £500 labour for two walls.</p>	<p>Jeni speak to Delia about AGM.</p> <p>Peter clarify date of Rotary Club talk</p>
<p>Next meeting</p>	<p>Tuesday, 13th January 2015 at Sally's house - The Barn, 3 Lower Town, Halberton. EX16 7AU.</p>	