

Sustainable Villages Annual General Meeting
On 8th November 2012 in Sampford Peverell

Apologies: Christopher Chesney, Pat Bell, John and Dawn Hampshire and Rachel Hart

Present: Derek(Chair), Pete B(Treasurer), Gill B(Secretary), Tess & Richard Wiltshire, Gill Gale, Ann Hill, Christine Mason, David Buss, Sally Chapman, Tim Malyon, Peter Smith.

Minutes of the last meeting were accepted

Chairman's Report: Derek welcomed everyone for coming before giving his report of events during the year. We had a Climate Change Talk in March at and with Uffculme School. Year 7 gave two presentations and Rob Varley gave a very informative talk.

The Monthly Markets started in March with local people having stalls selling cakes, savouries, jams, jewellery, cards and many other crafts as well as garden plants and produce, although this has not been a good year for garden produce. The Freecycle still going well.

Peter Smith gave two talks on Energy called "Behind the Switch". The first talk was in Uffculme and the second in SP. He explained how electricity is made and how it gets from the power stations to the switch in our wall.

Richard is now helping Gill Gale with the transition website and a website of our own is under construction.

We ran some more skill sharing workshops this year. Another Tool sharpening and an Aromatherapy first Aid in the home. We ran, in conjunction with On Your Bike (A charity based in Rockwell Green) two bike maintenance workshops. At these you could have a free bike check and often minor adjustments made there and then by Ben. On your bike are looking for volunteers to be trained and kitted out by them, to work in their local village as a bicycle repair person. We had a couple of volunteers but they are looking for more.

Swishing happened in May (and will again on Saturday 10th November). This was successful and they had fashion shows put on by some charity shops. The next one will be for ladies, men's and children's clothes this time.

Julie Goodhew gave a talk in September about her work with Plymouth University and thermal imaging. The talk was based more on how to get people motivated to do something about energy saving.

Four committee members met with Carol from HogCo re a grant for a food related project. The project is to help us make the most out of the food available. We will be buying a dehydrator for community use with the grant. A day on food preserving in various forms will happen in June 2013 with many people sharing their knowledge and skills.

Community Bee Keeping. This project is in process and will hopefully be up and running next year. Some grant funding has been obtained for this project and some beehives have been generously donated.

The Canal Rangers have asked us to help with a community orchard at Fenacre Bridge. At the moment they are still waiting for planning permission.

Community Electricity. There is potential for a small wind farm in the north of Sampford Peverell parish on a site identified by the landowners. The idea would be to make this a community scheme and some research is about to begin into how such schemes are run.

Apple Fairs in SP, Holcombe Rogus and Uffculme. There was a poor turnout in the latter two. SP was more successful but poor weather resulted in most of the event being held indoors.

Future Events:

Open Space. Andi Tobe kindly came and gave us a talk on how to run an open space meeting, which we hope to run this year.

Food preservation skills workshop in June.

Cold Harbour Mill solar panels. This again is in early stages with no planning permission as yet.

Treasurer's Report: See attached accounts.

Pete said that the accounts are still healthy. We started the year with £2,043 and ended it with £50 less. Last year's Apple Fair made £100 and there donations for the hire of the equipment. A new press was bought too. Since then we have had a grant of £500 for the Community Bee Project and £250 from Hogco, some of which will go towards the Community Bee Project too. Against that we made a loss at Sampford and Uffculme Apple Fairs which, although not finalised yet will be approximately £500.

Accounts accepted as a true and fair view: Proposed: Richard
Seconded: Ann
All agreed.

Election of Officers:

Chairman: Derek Thomas Nominated by: Pete Bowers
Seconded by: Christine
All agreed.

Derek said he was happy to stand for one more year but next year we should have someone else – fresh blood.

Treasurer: Peter Bowers Nominated by: Ann
Seconded: Gill Gale
All agreed.

Secretary: Gill Bowers Nominated by: Richard
Seconded by Ann
All Agreed.

Election of steering Committee: All other people present were on the steering committee and it was agreed to elect them on block:

Nominated: Gill Gale
Seconded Pete
All Agreed.

Gill B said she would ask other members that had been on the steering committee if they still wished to stand. Ann Hill thanked Derek, Pete and Gill for all their hard work.

AOB

Richard said that there is a Climate Week coming up in March 2013 and one of the things they had suggested was a Give and Take day. This was something we had intended to do anyway so Richard agreed to send away for their information pack.

Gill Gale said she had brought a letter re Greenham Reach Project in Holcombe Rogus. This has gone to appeal and any correspondence has to be in by 15th November. She had written a letter in support for people to sign if they wished.

Refreshments were then served and the film "Crisis in Civilisation" was watched.