Minutes of Greening Steyning meeting 2nd May 2023

Present: Laura, Melissa, Nicola, Robin, Ronnie and Vicci

Apologies Geoff, Malcolm, Sally, Sarah, Shona,

1. Comms pipeline - discussed and Melissa will circulate. For Your Steyning Ronnie writing a piece on wildlife Gardens (June), Laura on life on the verge (August) and Robin on the joint project with the school and SDS on starfruit (July)


3. Accounts - Nicola to circulate. We need more grants to break even. Nicola to research?

4. Sharing what we do - link to leaflet online? Melissa will have a look at how we do this so people can download the leaflet

5. Lending out Sum up - we have or plan to lend our SumUp to other local groups. As long as it’s used on a discreet date, we can send all takings into the Greening Steyning bank account on that day to the group

6. Lending library (lending tools or equipment between the community) - a website may take the hard work, storage and insurance issues out of the process. Robin and Nicola will research and see if Sustainable Henfield want to launch as a joint initiative. May be a grant opportunity.

7. Date of next meeting: 8PM Tues July 11th .

Updates previously circulated

Transport group - not much new to report but things are progressing well with white bridge link and slowly with speed reductions on bypass.

Life on the verge and recycling - nothing to report

Nature Map update - have surveyed two hedgerows so far this season. Everything was late because of the weather so it has got off to a slow start. There is potential for planning new hedgerow on the farm we are surviving at the moment. New volunteers have started.

Fridge update - Income for April was £231.30 and outgoing were £386.49 giving us a deficit of £155.19. We paid £350 for electricity and received a donation from a local company called Fishawack for £159.00. The Church generously only passed on 57% of the total electricity cost despite our agreement saying we will pay 100%. I have applied for a grant for £500 from Hubbub, an organisation for Fridges nationally.

We will not open the Fridge on any of the May holidays. We will work around the Art Trail at the end of the month.
A representative from Age Concern will have a presence at the Fridge once a month in order to make contact with anyone who might be able to make use of their services.

Finally, two schoolgirls have volunteered to help with the Fridge on Monday evenings, the Farmers Market and the Repair Cafe for three months. Once I have a start date I'll put them in touch with Robin and Su (recycling rota lead)

Repair Cafe update - Busy March cafe, no April due to Easter Clash. 3 new electrical repairers now established. 2 fabulous home repairs by Brendan and Adrian of Sit-on kids Herbie car and WW1 field phones for rifle range open days respectively. Registered for the big fix and need link to it on our SM posts for next repair cafe. (Action Nicola)

Energy Helpdesk update - We are now at Steyning Library, 10.30-12 last Tuesday of the Month and upper Beeding Hub last Wednesday mornings, alternate months, from May. We have a stall at the Amberley eco fair, 10th June. Also are in talks with other communities about starting similar Helpdesk provisions.