

GreenTEA AGM 4th May 2022

Secretary's Report

Sadly, this will be the third AGM where we have not been able to meet in person. It was also decided at the January core group that there would be no speaker this time with the hope that we will be able to hold a public event later in the year to advertise the results of the Smart and Fair Futures and the car sharing pilot. This report covers the work of GreenTEA between 1st April 2021 and 31st March 2022. During this time, we welcomed Nigel Pearce as a new member to the core group.

Main Event of the year

In September GreenTEA organized a Great Big Green Week which ran over two weekends as part of a national build up to COP26 in Glasgow. Our aim was to reach out to other groups within Eynsham and to present the public with a wide range of information and activities relating to the environment and energy saving. This year luckily the weather was good and the talks and stalls in the Square provided a focal point and positive 'buzz' for the whole event. A big thank you to everyone who put in hours of hard work to make the nine days a great success. It was calculated that between 200 and 300 people in other groups also organized activities. And a special thanks to Howard and Sue for putting together a video showing highlights of the week. This can be viewed on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J8bHUH6CGZs>

Regular GreenTEA activities

GreenTEA's newsletter The Brew highlighting relevant local, national and international news about the environment continued to be published monthly, thanks to the dedication of Ros and to Lucy's IT and editing skills. We also have Lucy to thank for maintaining the GreenTEA website.

The discussion group met eight times during the year – six via Zoom and two in members' gardens.

Thermal imaging of residential homes was resumed during the winter by Lucy with Sarah's help.

Due to COVID restrictions there were no swapshops during the year and only one GreenTEA café. Both of these have now been reinstated.

Consultations with public and private organisations

GreenTEA, as well as individual members, continued to respond to national and local consultations such as OCC's Vision for Transport and Connectivity; Area Action Plan; Salt Cross and West Eynsham planning applications. These require considerable time as well as expertise. Special thanks go to Sarah, Tony, Nigel, Sue, Ros and Amanda.

Amanda and Sarah have continued to work regularly with Low Carbon Hub and other organisations on the Smart and Fair Futures project.

New Initiatives

Together with the regular winter pruning of apple trees, Sue also organized the planting of fruit trees in Thornbury Green. This was done with local residents who will now take over their care and maintenance.

Tricia has continued to campaign for a 20mph speed limit for Eynsham and has worked with Sue to pilot a carsharing scheme.

Wider links

One of the difficulties in writing this report has been to distinguish between what is a GreenTEA activity and what is an activity closely associated with one or more core group members. This is especially true of Lucy's work with the Eynsham Partnership Academy. Lucy is a governor at Bartholomew School and has been instrumental in promoting activities related to climate change and biodiversity. These have involved school site surveys on biodiversity and energy efficiency, plus a day for pupils on COP26.

Other groups where core members have been actively involved include the Peace Oak Association; Nature Recovery Network; the Community Interest Company First and Last Mile; the Repair Cafe; Extinction Rebellion and Eynsham Parish Council. GreenTEA did, however, march under its own banner on the climate demonstration on November 6th.

Quarterly core group meetings have enabled members to share information about all these activities and to make decisions and coordinate responses. A big thank you to Tony for chairing these meetings. And also to Hywel our treasurer.

Helena Nielsen

26.04.2022

