

## Minute of the TBI Meeting on 12th July 2010

Present: Vanessa, Maggie, Grant, Teen, Barbel, Richard, Penny, Tommy  
 Apologies: Martin, Anne, Wendy, Ken, Mary

	<b>Action Points</b>
<p><b>Minutes of last meeting</b>            These were accepted as a correct record</p>	
<p><b>Matters Arising</b>            Rob Hopkins can't make the HEN conference. Jonathan Dawson of Ecovillages might be good replacement. Teen to investigate with HEN.</p> <p>TBI has not applied to the Fairburn Wind Farm fund this year. Grant is investigating a community garden in Conan Bridge which might be eligible next year. Some research money might also be available for this from the CCF community gardens budget.</p> <p>Cromarty and Fortrose were also noted as a priority for community gardens although land identification at Cromarty remains an issue.</p> <p>Vanessa has spoken to Simon Barry at Highland Grain. He is personally sympathetic to TBI and is happy to host a visit for TBI on a day from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> August. Carin from Forres has indicated interest. Vanessa is to discuss with Carin and set a date.</p> <p>The group recorded thanks to Maggie Wormald for organising the successful Permaculture Course</p>	<p>Teen to suggest Jonathan Dawson as speaker to HEN</p> <p>Grant to continue to investigate feasibility of Conan Bridge Garden and discuss possible funding with Community Garden group.</p> <p>Vanessa to set up visit to Highland Grain</p>
<p><b>Project Coordinator's Report</b>            Richard introduced his report. It was noted that work is ongoing to ensure monitoring systems are in place. This includes input numbers to ensure reporting on CO2 figures.</p> <p>The shortage of volunteers for some projects, notably the Highland Food Challenge and Community Gardens, and also for manning events, was noted. This links to the intention to e-mail members to request volunteers. It was also suggested that we find a way of targeting individuals directly for specific help.</p> <p>Drawdown of funding seems to be running smoothly.</p> <p>Maggie indicated that she finds the reporting forms difficult. Assistance for Maggie will be discussed in the Communications Group</p>	<p>Maggie to put on agenda of next Comms meeting</p>
<p><b>Finance Report</b>            Penny reported that all appears to be running smoothly. Richard is managing CCF funding effectively so her role has been far less than previously. She has therefore been able to give time to assist the Energy Group.</p> <p>A new Treasurer is still required from April next year.</p>	<p>Penny and everyone to continue hunt for Treasurer</p>
<p><b>Company Structure</b>            Penny reported that Martin has been very busy completing his thesis so little progress has been made. However, very little work is now needed and it will soon be prioritised. Martin wishes to look into Corporation Tax issues before completing the work and he will need to find a tax advisor for an initial consultation. Vanessa indicated that she is happy to continue to help out.</p>	<p>Martin to explore tax implications of incorporation and report to next meeting</p>
<p><b>Food Group Report</b></p> <p><b>Community Gardens</b></p>	

<p>Tommy reported that he and Toni had met to discuss coordination of the two gardens. Topics covered included the baseline survey, web pages, the link to 'on-line garden planning' to enable monitoring of produce, and the budget. They identified some funding for additional work on garden structures including willow weaving and composts.</p> <p>At Netherton, Romay has offered extra land for a notice-board and entrance willow structure. Community Councillor Bruce Morrison (now also a TBI member) will visit the garden on Wednesday to look at how the garden can contribute to community life. This may lead to a wider group visiting the site from the Community Council.</p> <p>Tommy and Toni have asked for information on spend to date so that they can keep track of the split of spend between the two gardens. Penny will supply this from Gail. Tommy and Toni will then discuss with Richard</p> <p><b>Highland Food Challenge</b> Anne has produced a list of events. Richard has done some draft work on a task list. A shorter challenge (3 month programme) has been proposed than previously suggested.</p> <p>A small group put themselves forward to assist in developing and launching the challenge. These are Anne, Wendy, Maggie, Vanessa, Teen, Tommy and Freya. Maggie will try to organise a meeting for next Tuesday. Anne will be on holiday.</p> <p>Details of the challenge and how it is to be delivered, including budget, will need to be agreed very quickly. Then it must be decided if it will be possible to launch at the Black Isle Show. Teen advised that it should either be a full launch, or nothing, as we have launched a trial once before.</p> <p>Teen needs more details quickly to get into the next newsletter. It was agreed that a pottery prize would be appropriate.</p> <p>Maggie introduced a new idea 'Dine at Mine' as a social way of eating local food together. Maggie will progress.</p> <p>An inter-active section of the web site on recipes is also being developed.</p>	<p>Penny to ask Gail to supply print out of Community Gardens spend and sent to Tommy and Toni</p> <p>Maggie will organise meeting for HFC</p> <p>HFC group to decide if it can be launched at BIS</p> <p>HFC to provide details to Teen for inclusion in Newsletter</p> <p>Maggie to trial Dine at Mine</p>
<p><b>Communications Group</b> Maggie reported that: Barbel is taking a lead on schools Maggie is looking at a new membership form</p> <p>Tables have been booked for St Boniface Fair including produce sales and craft sales from Barbel Dister and Susan Finlay (10% to TBI). Barbel, Susan and Maggie will be manning the stand.</p> <p>The Black Isle Show needs more volunteers. Maggie, Vanessa, Teen, Barbel and Grant have agreed to assist. It was agreed that TBI would pay entry fees for up to 6 people from the Communications budget.</p> <p>Talks to community groups are being planned using the Powerpoint presentation that Verity is preparing. Resolis WRI, Knockbain Community Council and youth groups in Cromarty have been planned. More groups need to be identified.</p> <p>A talk from Ailsa Villegas is also proposed. Teen is also investigating possible talks by Tim Jackson and Tim Schmidt.</p>	<p>URGENT - One more volunteer needed for BI Show</p> <p>Comms group to finalise details</p>
<p><b>Web Site</b> Teen reported on good web site visitor statistics which are available on request from Teen.</p>	

<p>There was discussion about the future of the Forum given that it was clear that there is less 'chat' going on with the forum than there had been on the google group. Two options were identified:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Stick with the forum but include a new facility to show recent additions</li> <li>2) Return to google group but pull topics from google group onto web site. If you click on one of these you get diverted back to google group.</li> </ol> <p>Everyone round the table was asked to comment on their perspective on this and express a preference. Option 1 was unanimously agreed. A Forum administrator is really needed – ideally 2-3 volunteers to help shape it and keep it tidy.</p> <p>Penny will contact Agric to ask him to correct the Heart and Soul group name in the forum</p> <p>Penny will ask John to close the google group.</p>	<p>Teen will action the new facility with Plexus</p> <p>Penny to speak to John and Agric</p>
<p><b>Energy Group</b> In Martin's absence Penny spoke to Martin's paper.</p> <p>The planning for Greening Homes and Gardens is progressing well. Ideally we are look for additional exhibitors on the garden side of things. Teen suggested Ian Finlay might be able to help with Whirligrows and permaculture. Penny will discuss with Teen. It was agreed that ideally another group will be invited to do the teas at the event.</p> <p>Smart Meter project is progressing well.</p> <p>There is new action on the Wind Farm idea with a high level report recently received from Carbon Free via Anne. Martin has been discussion the new information with Community Energy Scotland to see if a further study can be funded.</p>	<p>Penny to speak to Teen and Ian Finlay about GHG</p> <p>Penny will find another group to do teas.</p>
<p><b>Heart and Soul</b> Discussion was deferred to the next meeting when others in the group are present.</p>	
<p><b>Links with other organisations</b> Vanessa reported that the Black Isle Partnership had had an AGM and appointed a new Board including at least 3 Councillors. The first meeting is next week. Two of the previous directors have stayed on including Vanessa, but not Ken. Vanessa can provide a link to TBI.</p> <p>Black Isle Brewery are planning a mini festival to celebrate their new brewery. There may be an opportunity to link with them.</p> <p>Richard suggested there may be an opportunity for TBI to have a stand at the Black isle Words Festival.</p>	<p>Vanessa to report back from BIP meetings</p> <p>Teen to monitor options</p>
<p><b>AOB</b> Transition Scotland have asked if we would like to arrange something on the topic of 'poverty and peak oil' for which they could give us funding of up to £500. It was agreed that we do not have the capacity to do this.</p> <p>Teen asked for assistance to distribute the next newsletter. An e-mail asking for help will go to all members.</p>	<p>Teen to report back to Transition Scotland</p> <p>Teen to request assistance in Newsletter distribution</p>
<p><b>Date of next meetings</b></p> <p>12<sup>th</sup> August 18<sup>th</sup> Sept 18<sup>th</sup> Oct 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 16<sup>th</sup> Dec</p>	

