

## **Minutes of Transition Chesterfield AGM held on 9 August 2018 Held at Inspire Community Garden, Ashgate, Chesterfield.**

**In Attendance:**, Darryl Cowley, Alison Cowley, Chris Brooks, Meghann Staton, Stuart Church, Margaret Hersee, Sue Scott, Steve Sansom, Steph Futcher, Martin Baxter, Paul King, Lisa Hopkinson.

**Apologies:** Polly Bentley

**Secretaries Report:** Lisa circulated a written report of the year's activities with short verbal reports by those responsible (Steve – potato day and Inspire community garden; Margaret – repair café, Martin – seed swap; Polly – Abundance, Lisa – divestment and fracking campaigns). Highlights of the year included: over 50 volunteers helping and £1400 in pre-orders taken for Potato Day; weekly workshops plus extra polytunnel, greenhouse, solar lighting and decking at Inspire community garden; monthly repair cafes in 2018 and a double page spread in the Derbyshire Times; apple pressing at Brampton Food Festival and the community garden, plus a new motorised apple press; 2 good seed swaps at Potato Day and Brampton Food Festival; a presentation in support of divestment to the Derbyshire Pensions Committee; and presentations at the Planning Enquiry for a proposed exploratory fracking well, and action by the Council in response to a complaint about walking and cycling access to the new leisure centre.

In addition Steve noted the profit from Potato Day was £1500, and Transition Loughborough also take part in the event. Steve informed the group about the sale of the carpark and potential loss of vehicle access to Inspire. The developer will built a 4 foot wall to make the carpark level. Steve had been told by the Council Leader that the group would not get access. Margaret noted that Repair Café had recruited more fixers, and the monthly events attracted more people. Martin noted that for seed swap people don't have to swap and can just take, and can bring seeds into Inspire anytime. Alison noted that for Abundance she had visited Big Eat and Speedwell as outlets for the fruit, and was going to put posters up at Volunteer Centre and Monkey Park.

**Minutes:** It was proposed that the Minutes of the previous AGM be taken as read, which was accepted. (Margaret proposed, Chris seconded).

**Treasurers Report:** Steve circulated a copy of the accounts for year ending 31 March 2018 which balanced and had been checked by Steph Mannion the examiner. The group made an operating surplus of £176.17 largely due to a donation of £1250.00 to Inspire. Most of the income was from Potato Day (£3747), plus some from Repair Café and donations which funded other activities and expenses (meeting room hire, insurance, events etc). Total assets as of 31 March 2018 were £5,851.83, with £1,380.66 in the bank. Thanks to Steph M for auditing.

**Proposed constitutional changes:** Due to the difficulties of finding new officers it had been proposed to change the constitution to enable the Secretary and Treasurer to serve for an additional year if there was no one to replace them (paragraph 10). There were also a number of tidying up amendments to paragraphs 5, 7, 8, 12 and 17. Steph objected to the changes to paragraph 10 as she thought it was important to elect new officers to ensure that the group remained egalitarian and non-hierarchical. It was suggested that people who may be interested in being officers could shadow the existing officers. Stuart and Meghann suggested they would not mind standing as Secretary and Treasurer if they could shadow. It was agreed that the amendment to paragraph 10 was no longer needed. The group voted on each amendment and amendments to paragraphs 5, 7, 8, 12 and 17 were passed.

**Election of Officers:** The group currently has 4 signatories (Steve: Treasurer; Lisa: Secretary, Margaret and Chris Brooks). Steve and Lisa stepped down as they had already served 4 years. Meghann offered to be Treasurer, Stuart offered to be Secretary and Darryl offered to be a signatory and were unanimously voted in. Margaret stepped down as the constitution prevents two married people being signatories at the same time. Steph proposed a vote of thanks for the retiring signatories.

**Any Other Business:**

Lisa noted upcoming events included Repair Café on Sat 11 Aug, a river clean up on Wed 15 Aug, and the next TC monthly meeting on Thurs 13 Sep.

**Thanks and Close.**