

Present: Jean Ball (Meeting Chair), Jean Todd, Peter Burgess-Allen, Ben Evens, Veronica E Hawthorn and Iain Hawthorn, Charles A Huff and Carol I Huff, Viv Holden.

After introductions round the table and thanks from everyone to Jean Todd for bringing home made apple flapjacks we discussed:

Current Project Updates:

1. The Community Orchard Project – at the moment we have between 50 to 70 trees scattered around the town. Some of the trees have produced fruit which has been taken by passers-by (which is part of the point of the project). We also have some berry bushes which are planted amongst the trees at Cote Heath Park which are still establishing themselves. Local 'Tree Wardens' keep an eye on the trees in their neighbourhood and address any damage issues. Damage in the Cite Heath area has been reported recently – PBA to check. CIH said she had spoken to Jo Holden about the possibility of people donating unwanted fruit. CAH mentioned that the previous evening he had been at a Civic Association Woodland Group meeting at which David Hemstock had mentioned that he knew of a nursery that wished to clear out many young trees. David had been a bit vague about what sorts of tree were involved but CAH said he would investigate. PBA reminded everyone that one can sponsor a tree at the suggested price of £20 per tree. He said that a map of the present trees could be found at [google.communityorchard.buxton](https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1ydsFLbf55sgra2bLNN0M5rSWdQM)
<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1ydsFLbf55sgra2bLNN0M5rSWdQM>
2. Waterswallows Solar Array – VEH reported that the professionals undertaking the feasibility study have visited the site - they were impressed by the scale of the lake and the proximity of Tarmac as a potential 100% customer for the energy to be generated. CAH reported that the Woodlands Group (Civic Association) have an interest in protecting the adjoining SSSI and some archaeological elements within the site.

Ideas, Proposals & Opportunities

1. JB mentioned the need for the group to raise funds. She has relatives who play in a 5-piece band called Oh Man, The Mountain and she has spoken to them about possibly playing for free at an evening fundraising event. She wondered whether people would think that this had potential. There was general agreement that it could be good if an inexpensive venue could be found. JB said she'd provide a link to a YouTube video of the band
<https://youtu.be/BNbvYQsVqWs>
2. CIH is starting to look into possible films that we could screen. The Paupers Pit will soon no longer be available. She has learned that the University are prepared to let out some rooms at the Dome for free if for a worthy cause and will look into this.
3. VEH reminded the group that we also plan to introduce a donation form on our website for people who are willing /able to commit a regular or one off amount to help with funding.
4. PBA gave more details of the thermal imaging camera that had been briefly discussed at the previous meeting. He said he could borrow it if it was agreed that it was a good idea and if good suggestions were forthcoming about its use. BE said maybe we could bulk purchase loft insulation and offer a fitting service to properties that were shown to be most in need. It was generally agreed that it would be better to set up a 'hub' of local traders who might be prepared to offer this service than do it ourselves as a degree of expertise is required. PBA will explore this a bit more over the coming weeks and report back at the next meeting. JB

mentioned that she had spoken briefly to the Principal of Buxton & Leek College 18 months or so ago about including retrofitting skills in their construction / building courses and possibly also offering this as an adult learning opportunity for DIYers to gain the skills to do their own home. There would appear to be a bigger market for these skills than exist in our community so perhaps the college has an important role to play in filling the gap.

5. Transition Buxton needs an Excursion Planner to organise a few trips a year – anyone interested? See Topical news below.
6. Volunteers needed for the Market Stall on 5th Nov and Make Your Own Christmas event on 19 Nov – see Dates for your diary below and email janet@transitionbuxton.co.uk if you can help.

Topical News

There was a short discussion about fracking and it was mentioned that there is a group called Frack Free Derbyshire who have a Facebook page (www.facebook.com/FrackFreeDerbyshire/). JT said that she had raised the issue with the High Peak Borough Council and the Council had agreed that it was not in favour of fracking although any planning applications would be decided by County Council.

JB mentioned a fascinating initiative by the Stoke-on-Trent City Council to set up a Low Carbon District Heat Network to cover, initially, larger commercial and public sector premises in the Stoke, Hanley and Festival Park areas. Details can be found at www.stoke.gov.uk/ccm/navigation/regeneration/green-projects. She suggested this might make an interesting group visit if anyone was prepared to arrange it. She reminded us that we had also discussed a group outing to the floating solar panel farm at Godley Reservoir in Hyde which would be of particular interest as we are hoping to set up a similar operation at Waterswallows.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 17 October & 17th of the month every month, 8pm – 10pm, Green Drinks at The Sun Inn

Wednesday 19 October, 7:30pm, 'Is Technology the key to tackling climate change?' Talk by Dr Paul Beers, Paupers Pit, Old Hall Hotel

Thursday 27th October, 4pm - Transition Buxton Awareness Raising Group Meeting Janet's house (22 West Rd), then **Thursday 24th November, 4pm** - venue tba, then roughly monthly on dates to suit

Tuesday 8 November & 2nd Tuesday of every month, Monthly Open Members meetings, 7:30 – 9pm, Pooles Cavern School Room

The December meeting on 13th will be a bit of a Christmas social.

Saturday 5 November, Stall on Buxton Market – **volunteers needed** so no-one has to be there all day

Saturday 19 November, Make Your Own Christmas Goodies, 1 – 4pm, St Ann's Church Hall, Hardwick Square West - **volunteers needed** to provide food for the 'café' and crafty activities

The meeting closed with IH being volunteered to take the next meeting notes on the 8th November.

CAH 11/10/16