

WBGE AGM & Forum

Wednesday 26th September 2018 – 7.30 pm
St George's Church, Wash Common

In Attendance: Richard Foster (Chair), Yvonne Redgrave (Secretary), Ken Neal (Treasurer), Richard Marshall, Tony Calvertz-Jons, Robert Pattison, Gill Hall, Mel Alexander, Frances Lofthouse.

Welcome

Richard Foster welcomed the group to the Forum and AGM. He announced that after the AGM there would be a presentation by Richard Marshall called 'Plastics we can do Better'.

Apologies

Adrian Foster-Fletcher, Sue Hale, John Gardner, Evangeline Haggarty

Minutes of last AGM

Richard Marshall proposed that the Minutes for 2017 be accepted as correct. Tony Calvertz-Jons seconded.

Matters Arising

No matters arising.

Chairman's Report

Richard Foster gave the Chairman's Report – See [“WBGE Chairman's Report 2018”](#)

He noted a change during the lifetime of WBGE whereby people were now more generally aware of climate change but did not give it the priority in their lives that it deserves. He summarised the WBGE events of last year and drew attention to the forthcoming conference on “Towards a carbon-zero West Berkshire”. He reminded people that funds were still available to assist communities embarking on projects aimed at reducing climate change, and finished by thanking the committee for their work during the year.

Treasurers Report

Ken Neal gave the Treasurer's Report.

The current balance is £4,393.93 of which £4,385.18 is in the bank and £8.75 is petty cash. The account is split into £3,847.50 from Greenham Common for grants and £546.43 for running WBGE.

There were no significant expenditures in the last year. Expenditure was mostly on general expenses.

Electing Officers for the Management Committee

Richard announced that the all the current members of the committee were happy to continue. The continuation of Richard Foster as Chairman, Yvonne Redgrave as Secretary and Ken Neal as Treasurer was proposed by Robert Pattison and seconded by Tony Calvertz-Jons. Other continuing committee members are Tony Calvertz-Jons and Richard Marshall.

Richard asked if anyone else wished to join the committee and Gill Hall offered to help and was accepted.

AOB

It was mentioned that Newbury were investing £60,000 in electric charging points.

Gill Hall mentioned a recent programme on TV on Monday 24th September that was presented by Liz Bonin and was called Drowning in Plastic which she recommended.

It was also mentioned that FoE were showing the film ' A Plastic Ocean' at the ACE Space in Westfields on Friday 12th October.

It was suggested that maybe it would be a good idea to re-constitute the council, business and local parties partnership now that climate change and plastics has become a more discussed subject.

The AGM was closed by Richard Foster and then Richard Marshall provided a talk on plastics.

The talk covered the following areas:-

- Impacts across entire Supply chain from farm to home
- Why we use packaging
- Types of packaging
- Why are plastics so popular
- Which of them are polluting
- Negative impacts of plastic materials
- Alternative options for packaging

After the presentation there were questions on what we can do and whether there is any place for plastics.