

**LOW CARBON LYMM (LCL)
Forum Meeting Minutes
24th September 2012**



Attendees

Su Williams	Nick Rigg
Chris Reeves	Steph Davies
John Reed	Rachel Waggett
Helen Reed	Steve Walsh
Marilyn Ashworth	Richard Pearce
Bob McCulloch	Maureen Dunford
Pauline McCulloch	

This meeting was focussed on a film showing 'In Transition 2.0, an inspirational immersion in the Transition movement, gathering stories from around the world of ordinary people doing extraordinary things'

1. Welcome and Announcements

A warm welcome to everyone attending tonight and participating in LCL by email forum/facebook/website.

Next meeting on Monday 26th November will be our AGM, including a formal meeting and workshops to set our agenda for the following year 2013.

Note that Jo Yellen has set up a joint project on coppicing, with an event on **Sunday October 14th** for anyone who would like to get involved in coppicing. Meet at Spud Wood car park at 1pm. For directions and a map see <http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/en/our-woods/Pages/wood-details.aspx?wood=4937>

2. Quick update on project progress:

Energy efficiency in Lymm. Lymm's Leaf project was completed earlier this year – the outcome of this was a decision to 'help Lymm save £1m per year' on installing insulation and boiler replacements. Based on where we know savings are likely to be made we can target homes that might benefit from these solutions. We will be launching this in the next 2-3 weeks, we hope to generate lots of savings across Lymm.

The first port of call for people should be to access funding by phoning the Energy Saving Trust for example, they can put people in touch with free offers on insulation etc.
<http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Insulation/Roof-and-loft-insulation>

If your home is already insulated then there will be other things that can be done but they might cost more and might not be free. Later this year the Government are aiming to launch the Green Deal which will help with more costly items. The launch dates have not yet been determined.

EON are interested in getting people involved in a focus group that will explore how their Green Deal offer will work. More information will be available from the steering group and from Richard Pearce – please get in touch if you are interested in getting involved!

Plastic Bag Free Lymm: The Sextons and Lymm.com companies got together to get hessian bags made which have been sold in the village and also have been given away at various events such as



the Lymm 10k. Stickers have been produced by LCL to encourage people to remember bags when they go shopping. An article in Lymm Life has publicised the stickers and encouraged people to reuse bags. There has been a good response from shops. Design was done by Ron Eden. Next steps is to start with one of the schools and work with them to disseminate information and give out to parents.

Information on success from retailers has been provided. Sextons report that previously they used 20,000 plastic disposable bags a week, now down to 4,000 a week. This is saving them money as well as really affecting this problem.

If anyone has time to volunteer to canvass people and give out stickers etc outside shops such as co-op and Sainsburys then please volunteer! Stickers and information are to be distributed to all those in the Heatley Mere area who will be alerted by email beforehand. Any other ideas for getting the message out then please do let us know.

Steering Group Update

Steering Group are trying to involve David Mowat MP in LCL issues, he has agreed to put LCL material i.e. on energy efficiency in his newsletter.

Bins in Lymm centre are not recycling bins and instead are combined waste that cannot be recycled. Unfortunately we can't simply change these bins into recycling bins due to collection requirements. However maybe we could look at labelling these bins to indicate that this material is not disposed of sustainably i.e. landfill or similar. Noted that there is a lack of bin provision in certain areas of Lymm currently, such as beside the canal where there is no provision for canal users to dispose of their waste, consequently the public waste bins become overfull very quickly. This could be an issue that we might be able to influence, could discuss this in a future meeting.

3. In Transition 2.0 Screening

After the film screening a general discussion allowed us to talk about thoughts and ideas that the film had inspired:

- The example of planting fruit and veg in the raised beds on the underground station – if all stations had this, it would be a real difference!
- Timebanking is a really good idea that could work here. Stronger Together in Warrington has started timebanking http://www.warringtonva.org.uk/?page_id=198 . This means that you are swapping skills, such as decorating, gardening etc. The time bank does all the security checks etc.
- Street by Street projects in Totnes – maybe this is the next place to go with the LEAF project, to assemble projects on this scale.
- Lewes project was amazing getting the brewery to agree to lease their roof for a solar project.
- The trash carnival was very good and showed how much fun is important in the process, and physically creating something.
- Community shop in Yorkshire was really fantastic, showed what can be achieved.
- It's going back to how we used to be, community co-operatives where you might not have much money but you can work together to share.
- Remember your neighbours, you don't need to be part of an organised group to do this. Watching out for particular needs, such as through church or youth groups etc.
- Lymm is an ideal size to make some of these initiatives happen – the bag initiative is an example of this where a lot of people are very interested in the issue and ready to take it on.

If these points have made you curious about the film, please contact Low Carbon Lymm to borrow the DVD for yourself.

4. Next steps

We need to reiterate our priorities: energy efficiency, and visibility in the village centre

We need to remember that we are all about being in Lymm as well as being about low carbon. We need to emphasise the 'Lymm-ness'.

5. Funding

We would really like to raise more funding to support our activities.

1. We need to have projects 'on the shelf' that we can pull off ready to submit if funding bids become available.
2. Seek funding to allow us to get some dedicated resource to allow us to take on some of these more ambitious projects like those outlined in the film.

If anyone has any skills or expertise in obtaining funding, or time/interest in helping develop projects and seek funding for them, please get in touch!

6. AOB and general discussion

Lymm & District Round Table have moneys that they are interested in distributing to local charities, so if anyone knows of people or groups that have a funding issue please pass it on.

No newspapers in the bring scheme at Davies Way car park. This is important for the inaccessible homes along i.e. canal bank who can't get kerbside recycling. Could the canal be used to collect the waste and recycling?

Waste collection for boaters – none along this stretch of the Bridgewater canal. The canal is owned and operated by Peel Holdings. Perhaps this is something we could look into.

The Council won't come onto private land to empty bins, such as canal banks to empty dog poo bins, however Peel have said that they will provide bins but they are not able to empty them. Can anything be done to resolve this?

7. Date of Next Meeting – it's our Annual General Meeting – please come along and help us plan our next year! Monday 26th November at 7.30pm.