Minutes of the meeting of the Transition Cambridge Food Group
The Geldart, Ainsworth Street
27.5.2009

Present: Dave Fox, Phillipa Grimstone, Martin Roach, Nicola Terry, Pippa Vine

Apologies: Ceri Galloway, Jason Palmer, Kim Warren, Rowan Wylie

1. Minutes
The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

2. Matters arising
i) Nicola asked for clarification about what she was being asked to do on the website. The problem with large attachments being sent by email was explained. Documents of up to 5MB would need to be uploadable to the site for viewing by group members. Nicola said that documents would need to be in pdf format, not Word, to prevent possible infection by viruses. It was pointed out that pdf documents were not editable. Nicola agreed to look at ftp options.

3A. Party on 1 June
Nicola gave a list of those who had so far responded to the invitation, and several of those present also said that they could come. It was agreed that those on the Grow Your Own course should also be invited. Kim had access to the email distribution list. Nicola was thanked for agreeing to host the occasion.

3B. Arrangements for the Rosie Cox talk, 26 June
Arrangements for running and publicising the talk had been passed to the Food Group by the Steering Group. It was agreed that this was unexpected, but that the talk needed to be successful, and so the group should do whatever it could to make it so. Text and illustrations for an A4 poster and A5 flyer were both discussed. A picture of the speaker, a supermarket trolley and a wheelbarrow full of vegetables were suggested. Pippa agreed to try to contact Rosie Cox to finalise the text, some of which could perhaps be found via the internet, and also ask whether she required a projector or other equipment, explaining that the room had no blinds. Pippa thought that she could ask one of her work colleagues to design the poster. Nicola agreed to produce a design if this was not possible. Options for displaying and distributing posters and flyers were discussed as were numbers required. Nicola agreed to ask James Southwick how many events they were needed for.

4. Grow Your Own
The latest session had taken place on 16 May, and Pippa had taken a number of photographs. She remarked that it had been very enjoyable. The next session was on 6 June, and Martin offered to help with it.

5. Garden Share scheme
Neither Jacky nor Rowan were present to report on progress. Nicola expressed concern that the Garden Share pages had not been updated for a while. She offered to try to rectify this. Pippa reported that she had not had time to work on a press release. The timing of this was briefly discussed. It was noted that Jacky and Rowan had put a request for another co-ordinator into the TC bulletin.

6. Environment Week
Martin explained that a stall and table had been arranged, and that a banner had been purchased. A number of people were producing seedlings. Dave said that the map of Cambridge was available for use, but it was just a map, and further preparation might be needed for the event if it was used. The sourcing of vegetables for display was briefly
discussed, as was a leaflet on local food producers. Nicola agreed to chase Waterland Organics about their idea of promoting their business via a special offer, giving them a deadline of 10 days before the event to reply.

7. EERA
Nicola reported that the information provided by the group in the Wirral was interesting, referencing "Oil crunch". No response had yet been received by Transition Ipswich. Phillipa agreed to email and ask for one. Nicola agreed to contact Tully Wakeman from Transition Norwich again about the matter. It was agreed that a response was likely to be for the 2031 consultation process, not the current one, ending in early July.

8. Allotments
Dave reported that he was still collecting and collating statistics. One or two allotment sites had not been very forthcoming about their figures. He was still hoping to complete the survey.

9. Transition Tavern
Nicola and Martin agreed that they would both speak. It was suggested that specific projects and ways in which people could get involved should be promoted, e.g., tutors for the Grow Your Own course, participants for the Garden Share scheme, or publicity.

10. The Big Lunch
Pippa explained what The Big Lunch was. Phillipa reported that she had contacted the Steering Group to gauge their interest, but had had no response. The date of a picnic was discussed. The Big Lunch would be a national event, with publicity, but a picnic for the end of the Grow Your Own course had already been planned (25 July, or a day later if wet), and it was felt that it would be nice to expand that – a "Late Lunch". The use of the Trumpington Orchard was once more raised.

11. Offer of permaculture advice
Phillipa reported that a lady called Janet Holden had contacted Transition Cambridge, and offered advice about permaculture. She was trained, and had run courses. It was agreed that she should be put in touch with Ceri, as she was attempting to set up permaculture training in the area. In addition, she could perhaps be asked to provide input into the Grow Your Own course, if another was run, or host a forum on the subject on the Transition Cambridge website. Phillipa agreed to contact her about possible options.

12. Themes for future events
This topic was postponed due to lack of time.

13. Next meeting
The Geldart room would be booked for 7.30pm on 10 June. Martin agreed to chair.

14. AOB
(i) It was reported that Lottery-funded Local Food grants had been very over-subscribed, and therefore the deadline for initial applications had been brought forward. Three months were left to apply. The employment of a part-time co-ordinator for the Grow Your Own and Garden Share schemes was briefly discussed, but no conclusion was reached.
(ii) The Food Group leaflet was discussed briefly. A version ideally needed to be ready for Saturday (the Romsey event).
(iii) Support groups for those completing the Grow Your own course were mentioned. A discussion forum was suggested.