**Transition Cambridge Food Group Minutes 7/Oct/2009**

**Present:** Martin (chair), Nicola (minutes), Ali Mussel (new), Nick Palmer, David Rose (guest), Dave Fox, Dave Jackson, Ceri, Pippa, Kim, Jacky, Ivan

**Apologies:** Rowan

**Corrections to previous minutes:**
point 10: The printers quote was approved and Pippa had the go-ahead
point 11: The group was to be 'Making the most of food' not 'Making use of food'.

**Next meeting:** 21st is a social so it will be 4/Nov/2009, Pippa to chair and Martin as secretary if available.

**Room booking**
There was a collective failure to book the room for this meeting.  
**Action:** Jason will be responsible for this in future.

**Anglesey Abbey**
Jacky reported that Anglesey Abbey, in the person of Ewan Hughes (?) would like our cooperation on setting up a community growing group on their land near Lode. They expect to create 40 allotments leaving a central growing area for groups and possibly experimental plots. There will be a pavilion with a kitchen. They have funding until March 2011, after that it must be self financing.

Our help would involve at least publicising and possibly taking part in e.g. digging days and so on. Some of our contacts might be interested in the allotments too. Ewan hopes that a lot of people involved will be local so we would not need to do much. This could be a good opportunity to raise awareness of transition issues.

**Action:** Jacky to make a site visit and draft an announcement for the bulletin. Also to make helpful suggestions such as that they should contact Garden Organic for advice, that they should ask the local GP if he would 'prescribe' garden work and so on.

**Radio 209**
This is a local community radio station for Cambridge (http://www.209radio.co.uk). No-one has any idea how many listeners they have, not even them. It is a charity and is run mostly by volunteers. Ian and Pippa went to visit them and they are offering us a regular spot on their program 'Nature's Voice', possibly monthly. This is on Saturday at 1.30pm (30 mins but our spot would presumably be shorter e.g. 10-15). We need ideas of what to discuss. If nothing else we could publicise stuff from the bulletin and it would help to raise awareness and give more credibility to the TC brand,

**Action all:** send in ideas for what to talk about on the show

Pippa already appeared on their breakfast show on 7th Oct to publicise the Making the Most of Food event. A podcast is available: http://www.209radio.co.uk/mp3archive/breakfast071009.mp3 (30Mb for 2 hours but Pippa's bit is about 25 mins starting at 16 mins in.

**Food Garden and Produce festival**
**Action Ivan** to do do a write up for the website and give Nicola the signup sheets (pending from last meeting)
Leaflets
1000 have been printed and a lot are already distributed in various places.
**Action Martin** to pay printers invoice
**Action Nicola** to thank Hilary, the designer: – invite her to Christmas party and we will pay for her meal, help her publicise her friend's permaculture course in Wales. Also to put her name on the website.

NB. Leaflets have been left in the Cambridge central library and they are going fast. But does the library know about us as an organisation? (Do they have a directory we should be on).

Christmas Party
We have about 9/10 acceptances now for the party on 16/12.

Fruit map
Will only mention TC and link to website, not say it is from TC. Will be completely editable in the first instance. Needs to emphasise seasonality and variable harvest issue and give guidance on what to say about each site.
**Action Nicola** to update the map and make it public

Abundance
Ali would like to start a group along the lines of various Abundance groups (e.g. Manchester) whereby volunteers in groups go to people's gardens to pick fruit and do something useful with it. e.g. Nick Palmer has a small cider press which is one possibility. Ceri knows of an orchard which will press your fruit and bottle the juice for very little.

This needs a separate map which is not public to show private fruit availability and a diary for when it is available. It might be a good idea to advertise now as people will remember this year's harvest.
**Action Ali** to draft an item for the bulletin, asking if people are interested in picking or have potential fruit or use for the harvest.

Making the Most of Food
Is taking place this Saturday. There are 8 signups so far. Pippa has publicised it widely including Local Secrets and on Gumtree http://cambridge.gumtree.com/
**Action Nicola** to put an add on We're All Neighbours
**Action Nicola** to help Pippa on the day

Cambridge Matters article
Jackie still intends to collate recipes etc. for Christmas leftovers, if not for the Cambridge Matters (which may not happen) then for the website.
**Action all:** send Jacky recipes for using up leftover e.g. cooked chicken/turkey, ham, vegetables, Christmas pudding.

Transition University lunchtime market
David Rose presented his idea to us for a market run by students where students, and other local residents, could buy cheap food at lunchtime which is locally produced. The aim being to raise awareness of healthy eating and food sourcing issues and of transition generally. The market would be competing with e.g. Tesco sandwiches and MacDonalds. In time, it might use a Cambridge pound like the Totnes pound. Initially he would like to set up just one session as an experiment. TC Food will support the brand and this will encourage stakeholders such as college kitchens and other food providers to get involved. Jacky gave David a document outlining food standards which he would probably have to adhere to. Ali is involved with the community Café on Jesus Lane which is
certified by the FSA and about to be inspected so he could also give advice. Also, Dave recommended that David should go to Wild Thyme for advice as they have experience of providing one-off meals for large numbers of people. (David subsequently asked not to be included on emails as he has left TC).

**Action David** to write a paragraph or two for us to put on the website projects page to help endorse this project.

**Grants**

It seems that it should be fairly easy to get grants for specific projects, e.g. from Sustainable City and from the Co-op. We need to plan the projects first so we know how much money we need. Martin will be the contact for grant admin.

**Action all:** send in ideas for events

**Gardenshare**

Is still looking for a volunteer to help with admin for a few hours per week


**GYO feedback session**

Ceri has booked the Trumpington Pavillion for 17th October. About half the students are coming. Lunch will be provided at a cost of up to £30. The helpers for next year will be present (we are still looking for an overall organiser).

Kim has drafted a questionnaire to be used to structure discussion if necessary and to send to people who are not present but she would like feedback to make sure she is asking the right questions. This is to help plan the courses next year. The document is on the website now.

**Action all:** read and comment on the document which can be read at [http://www.transitioncambridge.org/thewiki/ttwiki/pmwiki.php?n=TTFood.GYO-Feedback](http://www.transitioncambridge.org/thewiki/ttwiki/pmwiki.php?n=TTFood.GYO-Feedback)

By 13th please

**Permaculture**

Ceri will try to contact Janet but not much is going to happen until after Ceri's wedding in November.

**The vanishing of the bees**

This film is being shown at the Arts Cinema on Tuesday 13th.

**Action Dave J** will attend and write a review for the website

**Growing schemes in schools**

No-one wants to champion this so it will not be discussed further at this time to end of last sentence

**Mill Road Winter Fair 5th Dec.**

TC has 3 pitches and we will have one.

**Action Nicola:** ask for volunteers

**Romsey Garden Club**

have asked if we would like to speak to them on May 11th 2010
Action Pippa(?): Say yes