Transition Cambridge Food Group Minutes 10 February 2010

Present: Pippa (chair), Jerry, Ivan, Lindsey Berends, Lindsey O’Donnell, Rowan, Anne Lally, Nicola Terry, Liz (minutes)

Apologies: Chris Pike and Alex Price from Slow Food, Ceri (until March), Jacky (until March), Martin Roach (until April), Jason (for a while).

The minutes from 27 January were approved.

Matters arising

Pippa will do the Radio 209 slot next Wednesday on Grow Zones.

Land at Shelford

Further conversations between Ivan and the owners – they are still keen. There have been some ‘peek over the fence’ style visits. Next steps: Ivan will meet a social enterprise adviser on Friday re business plan and possible sources of funding. Contacts with the Soil Association and Making Local Food Work. Ivan will ask Iain Webb to visit to assess biodiversity/wildlife value.

Action Ivan to convene CSA group meeting – Wednesday 17 February at CB2.

ISEC Roadshow

Local food roadshow will happen in the next 6 months. There is a powerpoint presentation, a booklet, and posters. ISEC could train a local person who could do the presentation and recruit people for our projects. ‘Roots of Change’ is a package for a study group.

Action Ivan to follow up and find out more.

Grow Zones

They have got funding. Cambridge will be their second launch. Everyone is invited – Wednesday 3 March at the URC church in Cherry Hinton Road. The format will be a presentation by Grow Zones rep, and something about Transition, followed by geographical clustering of participants. Each group chooses a coordinator, permaculture information is provided and it takes off. It’s a good idea to have a local permaculture person. There’s a v good video on the Grow Zones website.

Anne will help with posters.

Poster sites – Ceri promised a list, but it hasn’t appeared yet. We need a better system for poster sites – this is an issue for the awareness raising group.

Action Nicola and Pippa to raise it at the hub meeting on 23 February.

Pig Business

Martin found the BBC website page re food labelling – the Pig Business site is better. There’s more information; it is quite complicated. Pork can be labelled as ‘British’ if it is processed here. Nicola says the film is v good – effects on farmers. Anne has contacts with Origin8 café and could find a good pig farmer through them - Nicola offered to join for a visit. Slow Food is showing it next week – wanted a food expert on the panel. We could show it during the Environment Festival – Rosie Cox could be a food expert.

Food Conference

There is a local food conference in Manchester in May – would be good to follow this for inspiration. A committee is needed – could be recruited at the food group social on Friday 12
February. Pippa will join the group after Grow Zones is launched. Scale is 1 day (Saturday or Sunday), 100+ people, purpose to raise awareness and inspire people to action. Cover successful models eg CSA. Call it ‘event’ or ‘Cambridge Food Forum’. It could also act as a catalyst to help people get more involved.

Environment Festival 12-26 June

The theme is Biodiversity. We will have a stall on the first weekend (12-13 June) on Parker’s Piece. Rowan will do storytelling at Milton Country Park on the weekend of 19-20 June. The deadline for the programme is end of February. Ideas:

Anne will try to get Pig Business and a panel discussion.

Lindsey O’Donnell will contact Cambridge Cooking School re using their kitchen.

Link between biodiversity and farming – possibilities include FWAG (Farming and Wildlife Action Group), Simon Saggers, Countryside Restoration Trust; the Wildlife Trust has contacts with farmers and landowners, there is a RSPB demonstration farm – a real farmer who does biodiversity. Open day at a local farm? Anne will go to the Farmers Outlet in Lensfield Road to seek contacts.

Action All to think about how we could make it attractive, to bring ideas to the next meeting to weave something together.

Growing Food in Schools

There’s a report by Pippa’s cousin. Pippa and Lindsey O’D are interested; could liaise with Education group.

Garden Share

There is a new pairing today, and Jacky’s ‘possible’ is confirmed. There is a total of 12 pairings. They are not going with Age Concern until there is more resource. Rowan will say something at the Grow Zones launch. Gardeners working with vulnerable women need to be CRB checked.

GYO

There was a meeting of 8 interested people at Liz’s – Lindsey Berends and Sarah are going to grow at Martin’s allotment at Holbrook Road – Jason and Rowan offering support. Liz will hear whether her half-plot at Stourbridge Grove can be used after the committee meeting on 25 February.

Steering Group evolution

There is a hub meeting on Monday 15 February (and 3rd Monday of the month thereafter). All groups will send 2 representatives, who are asked to commit to attending both the group and hub meetings for 4-6 months. Pippa and Nicola were chosen. The substitutes are Lindsey O’Donnell (interested for later), Liz, Jerry (if not working evenings) Anne, Lindsey Berends (September onwards).

Any other business

- CCF water workshop on 15 February.
- Transition Tales story competition.
- Fairtrade fortnight is 22 February to 7 March. Oxfam will be running stalls, and there will be a pineapple farmer.

Action Liz to put something in the Transition bulletin.
**Agenda items for next time**

Food Group leaflet – update before Environment Festival

Growing Food in Schools

**Next meeting**

24th Feb at 19:30 at the Geldart.

Jason or Nicola to chair. Jerry - minutes.

**Calendar**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 22nd</td>
<td>GYO theory with Keith Jordan</td>
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<td>Feb 22 - March 7</td>
<td>Fair Trade fortnight</td>
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<td>March 3rd</td>
<td>Launch of Growzones</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>Deadline for sorting out storage for display boards</td>
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<td>May</td>
<td>ISEC Roadshow</td>
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<td>May 11th</td>
<td>Talk to Romsey Gardening Club</td>
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<td>June 4th</td>
<td>Strawberry Fair</td>
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<td>June 12th - 26th</td>
<td>Environment Festival - deadline for programme (text, logos, high-res photos) is end of February.</td>
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<td>September 3rd-17th</td>
<td>Organic Food Fortnight</td>
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<td>September 18th-19th</td>
<td>Cambridge Food, Garden and Produce Festival</td>
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<td>September?</td>
<td>Food Conference</td>
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<td>December 4th</td>
<td>Mill Road Winter Fair</td>
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