TCFG Minutes 13 July 2011

Present: Ivan (chair), Ceri, Rowan, Liz (minutes)

Apologies: Martin, Pippa, Jerry, Dave Fox

The minutes of the previous meeting weren’t available.

Skillsfest 2 July
This was a fantastic success, lots of people came – food-related things were talks on chicken-keeping and grow your own; practical sessions on yogurt-making, sprouting, vegan cooking, jam and chutney. There was also a café with home-made cakes. Those who were there thought it was well worth doing, and could/should be repeated. Possibly next year hold a skillsfest in a tent at the Big Weekend – may be able to get some funding eg from Sustainable City…

Meeting venue
As the URC church is being refurbished from 21 July, we need a new venue. The Emperor on Hills Road would be a possibility. Rowan has contacted Justine at the Friends Meeting House on Hartington Grove for 27 July meeting.

Grafton Centre Event on 15 and 16 July
The energy group will have a stall; Nicola has asked for some extra volunteers – Liz will email the food group.

Tom Curtis talk 22 July
The topic is ‘Can Cambridge Feed Itself?’ Tom’s organisation (landmatters.org) have developed a template to measure this, and have worked on Oxford and Lewes. Ivan and Helen are doing the publicity; their press release is going out this week. The venue is the Friends Meeting House in Jesus Lane, 6.30pm for bring and share meal for Transition people; doors open 7.15.

Permaculture group
The group is visiting the London Permaculture Festival on Saturday; the August meeting will be harvesting plums and making jam at Fen End Farm with Vicky, date tbc. Ivan will circulate a document with links to Youtube clips from Bill Mollison

Growing Communities
Ceri’s in touch with Sean from GC and will chase for a speaker for this winter; to be followed by a visit (for which we could get funding from the LAND project).

Food Garden and Produce Show 17-18 September
Ivan has been speaking to Emma from Oakleigh Fairs (the organisers) and proposed a Square Foot Gardening display, with appropriate display material. Possible growers are Ceri, Rowan, Dave Fox, Anna, Liz, Helen, Stephanie. Ivan’s happy to coordinate and move stuff in his van, and do a press release.
Also possibly the Trumpington chicken co-op – Rowan will create some display material with Ceri.
CASFA
There is a meeting on 1 August, to create materials for the FG&P show.

City Farm
The proposal for a city farm in Cherry Hinton park has been turned down (as being in the wrong place) – however the idea of a city farm is still on the cards, and popular with the planners….

Land near Cambridge
Gareth’s land - one possibility is to use it as Zone 4 (in permaculture terms) – fruits, nuts and coppicing.
Ceri contacted Carolin Grohler from Cambridge Past Present and Future about land closer to Cambridge, and has contact numbers for farm managers.

Key dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 July</td>
<td>Can Cambridge Feed Itself? Tom Curtis talk</td>
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<td>27 July</td>
<td>FG meeting – last one before the summer break</td>
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<td>August</td>
<td>break</td>
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<td>7 September</td>
<td>FG meeting – first one after the</td>
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<td>17-18 September</td>
<td>Food, Garden and Produce show, Parkers Piece</td>
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<td>3 December</td>
<td>Mill Road Winter Fair</td>
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