

HASL General Meeting, Notes 22.8.2011

Present: Mei-Wah, Jackie, David, Sue, Paul, William, Simon, Les, Sarah

VEG update The VEG group are having regular work days working on the Hanover community centre garden, building raised beds. They need money for a large water butt and for compost and soil. Simon suggested trying Amex and McAlpine as they are doing large building project and might be willing to put something back into community, he suggested asking for large rather than small amounts, we will probably need similar stuff for Cobden Road so could go for both at the same time. He is happy to help Mei-wah with drafting of letter. Part of the draft Hanover Centre environmental policy, which is based on 10 One World principles, is around reducing mains water usage to nil. Hanover Community Centre has big roof so should be able to collect a lot of rainwater. There was also discussion about greening the car parking area with black rubber matting that grass can go through but car park on, this would be expensive but make it less like a car park. Also should check what we might be able to get from community composting scheme. Les will check with BHCC are using ?

Bristol Estate

David is going to show Age of Stupid there on 15th Sept with a couple of people from the environment day they held, including Katy, the hope is HASL 2 will develop.

HASL Public Meeting on 8th October

Decided not to change the date, Bill Randall has been invited, we need to work on the agenda, idea is that he can tell us what they are doing that first in with sustainability agenda, we can discuss what we can work on together and ask for some specific commitments. We could base these around the subgroups, David said one priority is narrowing the income gap, Jackie said she would like to ask about empty buildings in B&H and what is happening with those. In relation to food the people's supermarket meetings have been coming up with a number of suggestions. With regard to transport locally there is the whole car parking issue, it was suggested we could ask for a consultation that started with ideas from local people and Simon suggested we could ask for % of revenue raised from any scheme to be spent locally on e.g. improving bike parking. Possibility of proposing participatory budgeting. There was discussion about whether to focus on Brighton wide issues and make it a Brighton meeting or on Hanover. It was felt that mainly it needed to be relevant to HASL's agenda. It was decided people would go away and think about specific areas, energy, insulation, transport, food. At the next **HASL meeting on Sun 25th Sept** we will firm up agenda and send something to Bill so that he has info in advance. Paul and David have been through manifesto and noted sustainable issues, they will send their notes round to the group.

The first part of the meeting is planned as a food event but food group have not firmed up the ideas, suggestions were that we bring local produce, displays about what can be grown in Hanover, local food café, promote what

is going to happen at Cobden Road, and community centre, bring maps of green spaces in Hanover , inspire people to use other spaces for growing .
Food group will discuss and firm up on 30th Sept. 8pm at Reservoir.

We need to get posters done asap, it would be good to have something in time for Zocalo on the 4th Sept

We have had in principle agreement from Southern Water for Cobden Rd, Sarah will check whether that means we can just go ahead.

Hanover Community Centre

Following initial meeting with Hanover Community Association, attended by Tracey and Paul agreement was made to work on their environmental policy. This is driven partly by rising energy costs. A draft drawn up by Paul and based on One World Principles has been presented to Premises Committee and is now going to Management Committee for approval. The next stage involves looking at baseline measuring current costs and carbon usage and transportation to centre by users and then looking at improving every aspect of their energy use etc.

The plan is to involve students on an environmental course to work on it as an education project, and then have volunteer work days so other people can learn how it is done.

We need to think what we would like from HCA in return for the work we are doing, e.g. publicity board for HASL in entrance, reduced prices for community groups (as opposed to profit making orgs), questions on their User Survey.

Hanover Directory - next article will be publicising food event and Bill Randall event.

Moving Planet Day

There is an international day of action on 24th Sept to move beyond fossil fuels <http://www.moving-planet.org/#/map/55.378051/-3.435973/5>

There was discussion about whether we could do something but decided we don't have the capacity in the time scale.

Date of next HASL General Meeting 24th September 8pm, at The Hanover pub, Community Room.