

Minutes of TLT Steering Group Meeting, 7.30pm, 8th July 2025

In person at Plas Madoc

and on Zoom

Present were: Geoff, Penny, Janice, Sian, David, Sally

1. Apologies – Hilary, Catherine. Standing apologies for those with no defined role (Heulyn, Angela) will no longer be recorded, as the steering group consists simply of members attending on the day.

2. June minutes and matters arising

There was further discussion concerning the possible purchase of a strimmer for the Pomarium. It was considered that this would cause problems with the insurance and H&S, as they are dangerous. Operators would need to be trained. Geoff has discussed this with Hilary and she has now withdrawn this request and wants to purchase a gazebo instead. Carnival – this had been very successful. New interest was attracted including a new member and new contacts through Janice who want news via her at this point – Cyril and Heather. Sian spoke to a high volume of people. About 8 Morsbags were distributed. It was wondered if we could resurrect the customised labels we had once for our group, to go on the bags. There is no magic in the idea of making bags and we don't have to align with the name Morsbags. Geoff will contact Flo to find out where the labels came from. **GG**

Janice suggested we could branch out into aprons, e.g. for Pomarium and I.E.

Sian's Food Trail idea had attracted no responses. Penny to talk to Michelle Pearce who may be interested in promoting this idea and is herself a food producer and writer **PN**

The minutes were accepted as accurate.

3. Project updates:

- a) Green Coffee – had gone ahead last month. Regrettably Alan Fay is moving away from the area, having been a long time supporter of TLT and Green Chat – thanks Alan.
- b) Incredible Edible and Seed Library – Catherine is away so no update from her. David said he had updated the A5 flyer for the Seed Library.
- c) Pomarium and Forest Garden – Hilary had emailed saying
'After an interesting evening in the Forest Garden on biochar and soil improvement by Steve Jones last Tuesday, several people showed an

interest in joining as volunteers, but most worked during the week. This being the case, we may have an additional weekend session to accommodate them, as we are desperate for more help!

On Thursday we had a very useful morning, clearing around the strawberry beds and weeding the raised beds on the tarmac for growing herbs. There is still glass being thrown around, but it was not too bad that day.'

Sally mentioned a project with the Blackthorn Trust, involving a Herb Walk by her, in the offing. Hilary had also emailed Geoff concerning £200 due to the Pomarium from the Green Flag success. Geoff explained that the organisation could not pay out to a private individual and so he had supplied them with the TLT account details so that he can account for it before it is transferred to the Pomarium petty cash.

There was some discussion about the previous decision of this group concerning upper limits on expenditure in petty cash by individual projects. Individual items could not exceed a certain amount (previous minutes would have to be referred to). In any case, Geoff had suggested to Hilary she goes and buys a good value gazebo from Aldi, though was not sure if they had already sold out. This led onto discussion about the price and quality of gazebos and the fact that they are often useful to promote TLT at events. Geoff said he had one which he is willing to lend out as necessary.

David wanted to top up the Pomarium steps with stone. Geoff said there was a pile of spare stone on the site, otherwise Steve Gealy from the Council would probably oblige, before any needed to be purchased. Geoff had done some research about biochar following last month's event. *The fruits of that are reproduced at the foot of these minutes, for interest.* He had a call from Lisa Sture at Pentwyn to say they have a fortnightly biochar burning session. Geoff said that to make it to the required standard, 700 degrees were needed. He wasn't sure if that could be achieved but will do his own test and report back, having purchased a suitable thermometer.

d) Repair Café and Morsbags

Hilary wrote:

Another busy afternoon on 14th June, with lots of items being repaired. We are getting close to 2,000 items having been repaired! No regular receptionists, so I had to step in - totally exhausting! Two heavy waves of

visitors, all wanting attention! this was a real eye-opener for me, so I sent an email of appreciation and thanks to Angela, Sally, MT and Iona (refreshments) for all they do in the less glamorous side of things.

Morsbags had been discussed earlier.

4. Town council liaison – Information of interest remains confidential to the TC until officially released. Nothing to report at this time.
5. Future monthly talks-
 - a) Tir Coed has no funding from the end of September so that is on hold at present
 - b) Riversimple have offered a tour at 6pm on July 29th on a first come, first served basis, RSVPs to Penny asap. We already have a possible 13 so probably not necessary to advertise more widely, though Geoff to let the Repair Café people know as there was interest last time. **GG**
 - c) August will be a rest month, though Geoff does have an interesting film which could be slotted in.
 - d) 23rd September is Mike Eccles and Heulyn on the Hay-on-Wye resilience project
 - e) Janice made an interesting contact at the Carnival concerning Bee Rescue and will supply details to Penny to follow up **JS/PN**
 - f) David has his contact re a talk on recycling of waste to follow up. Penny said that currently October and November were free, otherwise the new year, as December is the Christmas do. **DS**
 - g) David suggested a possible 'energy event' rather than stage something for or against the turbines issue, which seems to be very polarised. In this way people could be interactive. **DS** to bring forward to a future meeting
 - h) There is still Dorianne and her thesis on food self-sufficiency. PN to contact her for a possible talk **PN**
6. Hilary – request for funding for Green Flag celebration for the Pomarium and Forest Garden – see above.
7. Review of TLT publicity leaflet. David is willing to re-draft this. Feedback had been given some time ago. There is some repetition. It is not sufficiently eye-catching. The Transition Together publicity cards were good and the quote on there is inspiring. There was reference to TLT being a member of PACE, but did anyone attend? John Senior is no

longer involved through ill health but used to be the link. Sian said she will attend when it is not double-booked with a TC meeting.

8. AOB – Mention was made of a Transition Together project on its mission and operations and David intends to report further in due course. Sally is also very interested and will be involved when she has more time.