Transition Town Hastings – Core Group Meeting

AGENDA – Friday, 17th July 2020 – ZOOM

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| 10.30 am  START | ATTENDEES | Sherry Clark (chair), Sarah Macbeth (past chair), Chris Petts (treasurer; community garden), Kate Meakin (special advisor – community energy), Kathy Bor (special advisor – education), Andrea Corso (secretary) |
| APOLOGIES | Anna Locke (special advisor – permaculture), Ursula (special advisor – sustainability and communications), Hannah Robbins (special advisor – sustainability and marketing) |
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| **TRANSITION NETWORK UK**  **NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND 2020** bid  Richard Couldrey (TN England) got back in touch.  Last year’s work on the national network bid has not been lost, just postponed until Spring 2021.  As an interim measure, TN has been awarded £250k for a 6-month programme to support the development of local TT groups. The funding includes:  £140k for “seed funding” for action in local communities  Funding to cover a 3-month “What Next” summit at TT National Level. Topics are September “What is?”, October “What if?”, November “What Next?” and December “Focussed actions” – to plan the updated bid (Spring 2021)  Sherry is contributing to a national co-design conversation on Monday (20 July, 6-9pm) to shape the distribution of the seed-funding. | |
| LEARNING FROM TT EDINBURGH  Recent webinar by Katherine Trebeck (Wellbeing Economy Alliance) on building back better. Included examples of Amsterdam’s whole city approach to implementing the donut economic framework, as well as Scotland and Wales’ mapping of local resources centred around Doughnut Economics. This could be a topic we can apply for to TN? Sam Kinch (Hasting Community Hub) is also doing something along these lines around food (HBC and ESCC level). Andy Arnold (ESCC) trying to get a clearer focus on Climate Change, which at the moment has been lost. e.g. Maya Evans (HBC) remit has now been moved to “Natural Environment and Leisure”, and there is no dedicated “Climate-change” portfolio anymore. Leader of HBC council promises that climate-change and carbon reduction will underpin all the council’s work now.  <https://www.scottishcommunitiescan.org.uk/event-katherine-trebeck-wellbeing-economics-amsterdam-city-doughnut-6pm-25-june/>  <https://wellbeingeconomy.org/Scotland>  <https://www.katherinetrebeck.com/> | |
| NEW PROJECT BID SUBMITTED - EMERGING FUTURES FUND (National Lottery)  A local alliance formed through the Hastings Community Hub (bid holder is Leisure & Learning) has bid for £50k for the next 6 months (support systems related to Covid-19). It has a community learning element that includes Doughnut Economics and Wheel of Wellbeing frameworks (Sherry leads on this element of the bid). Notification expected end of July. | |
| TTH COMMUNITY GARDEN OPEN GARDEN: Sunday 26th July, 4-6pm – aim is to get more volunteers for the garden.  HIP article (17 July issue). Garden as it is needs more regular work, it’s quite rough at the moment. Regular watering session happening on Monday evening with Chris and a few kids. | |
| TREE-PLANTING LOCALLY: recent email from Maya Evans (HB councillor)– confirming she is very interested in working together on the topic of tree-planting, working with a “coalition of groups” | |
| SUSTAINABILITY ON SEA (SOS): Anna Locke is going to doing some more workshops and is keen to promote TTH/SOS. Sarah and Sherry discussed the possibility of SOS branding being used on a series of events and activities run by others. Possible dates Monday, 28 September – Sunday, 4 October. 3-4 October is Fun Palace weekend and Catherine Orbach (CultureShift) and ESCC were meeting pre-lockdown to run a Fun Palace - focus could be on sustainability.  To be discussed at the next meeting | |
| BIKE LAB: the council has given up completely on them, after lots of meetings. ESCC and Sustrans have funding for local “active transport” (including bike lanes), but very little was allocated to Hastings (more went to Eastbourne and Lewes). Sustrans and ESCC work is fragmented, confusing and unclear– but mostly due to lack of human resource. Active Travel update meeting on Tuesday (Sherry/ ESCC/ Sustrans).  However, the Bike Lab groups may have found a suitable warehouse (close to St Leonards’ station) where they could be based. Plans are to share the space with the Hastings Buddy project which would run a community café, similar to the previous one in ‘I Love Mel’ space on the seafront. Kate Meakin is involved. | |
| DEVELOPING A LOCAL GREEN HUB: could also grow out of that same location as Bike Lab, if they make some spaces / cabins available for rent. (Kate Meakin) | |
| NEW ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT: Sarah Hinks at CultureShift has contacted Sherry about a project around young people and energy saving (ESC aware of it but there is no funding around it for cooperation). Sherry meeting with Sarah on Monday (20 July). | |
| ENERGISE SUSSEX COAST (ESC) UPDATE: Kate reported that ESC is in the early stages of setting up a Green Team to help homes and businesses become more energy efficient. The plan is to start work this Sept/Oct. | |
| AOB HVA has secured funding to take over the Isabel Blackman building (Old Town), and are looking for someone to do their website. Rory McCourt is HVA contact. | |
| COMMS | Facebook page needs monitoring so that it stays POSITIVE and LOCAL. New members needs to be approved. Inappropriate posts can be deleted. Decision that monitoring can stay collaborative (Chris, Sarah, Kate – possibly Alison) Chris to make Andrea an Admin  Regular posting on Social media – new person needs to be identified  Sarah suggested we look to TNUK for dedicated funding for TTH comms. Noted that TT Lewes pay a designer to produce their newsletter monthly  Newsletter to stay with Andrea |
| FINANCE | Invoice for Rock Hotel paid |
|  | **NEXT MEETINGS** | **Friday, 31 July, 9- 11.30am** on zoom |
| 11.30 am | ENDS |