

TS Council meeting 7pm 9th May 2024

Present:

Directors and volunteers: Adrian Oldman (AO), Martin Whiteside (MW), Caroline Pankhurst (CP), Isabel Clark (IC), Gill Thomas (GT), Shalize Nicholas (SN)

Other: Jess Farr, Coordinator(JF), Chris Carnegy, Treasurer (CC), Kerri Tyler, Communications Coordinator (KT)

Apologies from Directors and volunteers: Katherina Child, Nigel Westaway, Dmytro Bojaniwskyj, Richard Lupo

KT introduced herself to the Directors and gave comments on social reach. Reach is currently low.

Actions:

- KT to resurrect Insta, JF to send over password for access
- All Directors to share and comment on social posts
- SIT project team to rename SIT as something more outward facing
- IC to be next Transitioneer in newsletter

Finances

We should have core costs covered to some extent from next financial year on (i.e., from August) but have yet to find out the amount in proposed SDC service level agreement. Initially asked for £6.5k (raising over 3 years) but have asked for more than this now based on increased freelance fees.

Decided on longer term strategy of aiming for 20% core in grants in future if possible. Also voted to allow JF to sign off on small and regular / expected invoices.

Actions:

- JF to start trying to anticipate her costs and flag ahead and check in with each project lead on each strand to help reduce core costs
- JF to sign off on small / regular invoices

GreenSeen

If an MOU cannot be agreed, possibly the best way forward is for TS to lead on GreenSeen alone. Need decisions on the MOU and the licencing costs (£300 ish, depending).

JF put time into further fundraising but this will cost time & therefore money. Needs to happen in any case, but we are due a refresh of the funding round now. Suggest SDC community pot up to £1,000 (need to let Georgia at SDC know though). This would actually cover a lot of immediate costs for GS and push needing further / more continuous funding into 2025.

Actions:

- AO and CP to meet with Wild Stroud and see if there is an amicable way forward.
- JF to look into time / technical management of transferring licencing over to TS
- JF to look into SDC community funding pot

E-bikes loans

Recent social media push paying dividends - 3 more bookings. So far bookings have brought in £250. Booking system may need reviewing. May need to consider just administrating in house for ease and just asking volunteers to meet & greet.

Brimscombe bikes are going to feature in upcoming Fill the Mill fundraiser and a e-bikes try-out day for ChalCAN. Would be great to have more events like this & testing days for under confident riders. Maybe link in with the 1st of the month cycle ride?

Actions:

- JF to send round Lend Engine link to all Directors
- Submit editorial on the e-bike loans project to Stroud Times (didn;t have a name against this action - any takers?)

Potential GCC e-bike loan project

Up to 20 ebikes available, with half designated at affordable rates for job seekers. AO has raised potential issues over suggested prices not matching existing scheme, with AO, JF and CC working on best way to resolve this potential issue. In total: £20k over 2 years, with £5k up front to set up and launch project, with per loan payments to follow. Suggested that someone be recruited to sign e-bikes out and in if taken on, with storage options being explored in centre of Stroud.

Stroud Imagines Transition

Provisional date 29th Sept at St Lawrences' church hall not considered best option. Directors prefer Sat 28th date, but more work needs to be done to secure the right venue urgently to achieve this. Directors gave further venue suggestions.

Actions:

- **Action needed: appointing Charlie Mitchell to SIT Coordination role**
- JF and GT to research further venue options
- JF to design monitoring framework

Just Transition update

IC Attended last action learning / series on just transition. Needs an investment of 2 hours / month. Opportunity to bring a problem and ask qs, and work through options. One other Director needed to act as a second in this group.

Actions:

- GT and IC to continue to attend these sessions

Big Green Week

Standish group want to hold a Climate Fresk for this, which JF is supporting on. And also the launch of a new Climate Cafe in Stonehouse.

CEB and CANs / SDC

CAN Forum and GAPTC are meeting with CEB this month to discuss identifying / targeting an area that doesn't have a CAN but might have potential to develop one and see if CEB volunteers can help to work / consult on this. Feedback from Directors appreciated on this. Also, a course of intros for new Counsellors and reps following elections.

Actions:

- JF to let Georgia at SDC know about AO sitting in for DB on CEB while he is still away

Stroud Citizens Assembly

Update from AO: The group that is moving towards plans for a Citizen's Assembly in Stroud is looking to become associated to TS through being an Action Group. They have sent through tier constitution. Whilst realising that it's too late for detailed consideration tonight, I'm happy to answer any questions, and perhaps people can send their thoughts on accepting them as an Action Group through to JF.

AOB

- Yard Trail - AO saw 250 people. Big success. JF and AO to provide content for TS website.
- DB is happy to be nominated for the Stroud TC environment award
- JF is working on alterations to the website to bring it more in line with current projects and activities, and bringfunder logos up to date.
- JF needs a Director to take on the meeting with EcoTricity as she has a clash. AO and SN agree to meet instead. JF to send through details and set up.
- IC has offered support on fundraising.