

ECO CHURCH HARBOROUGH 16th May 2017 at Catholic Church

Present:

Andrew Quigley, Alistair Michaelwaite St Nick's, Little Bowden

Mary-Ann Lund Ss Peter & Paul, Great Bowden

Richard Pickering Congregational Church

Anita Beer & Gill Dromey MH Methodist Church

Kathryn Morrison, Jill Copston, Roy Bills Kibworth Methodist

Tim Appleton Evangelical Church

Janet Smith Baptist Church

Brian Davis (Gaulby Group of Churches)

Gavin Fletcher Sustainable Harborough

Apologies: Mark Baverstock St Hugh's; Carol & David Baldam RC; Simon Bentley and others

1. Election Hustings : everyone encouraged to attend - at Methodist Church Centre Friday 26th May 7.30pm

2. Eco Lent Course - Caring for Creation - 5 week study course - 146 people took part in Churches Together groups in MH, plus 12 at Kibworth & 22 at Gaulby - and others (250 copies printed)

3. 'I love MH' - 1st July. 9.00 - 4.00pm. We agreed to run stall - to show what we've done & what's coming up.

a) Eco Church - try A Rocha for visuals (BD)

b) Plants for show and/or sale - get people to bring

c) Air Pollution - Spider plants (Kathryn has some)

People to help - Mary-Ann (Can't help on day) - 'Messy Church' - something on WATER ?

Janet Smith - will help on day

4. News from Leicester C of E Diocese (Andrew Quigley & Gavin Fletcher): solar panels on Vicarages (25 - to begin with); Energy buying scheme.

5. Sustainable Harborough: happy to work with local churches. **Gavin will produce a paper for BD to circulate - on Energy Buying & Solar Panels**

6. News from thr Churches on progress to becoming ECO CHURCHES?

a) Baptists : aiming for Bronze Award, good progress.

b) Harborough Congregational Church, have an eco group

c) Harborough Methodist Church - now have Bronze award. Investigating 'Electric Hand dryers'

d) Kibworth Methodist Church - Registered to work for Bronze - but old buildings a problem. Asked about an Energy Survey

e) St Nick's Little Bowden - aiming at Bronze. Instalng LED lighting

f) Evangelical Church - looking at new heating (boiler needs replacing); solar panels GRANTS available from Leics CC

7. TREES Harb. Transitional Town has acquired land north of Gt Bowden from Bowden Charities - to create an orchard. Several trees already planted. (Get MP to open it?)

8. Decided to have a Morning of WORKSHOPS at Methodist Church Centre - late Sept/Early Oct.

- a) ? Feedback from churches
- b) Involve young families / children - using 'Messy Church' ideas - green church ideas, ALL AGES
- c) Apple pressing
- d) invite local MP to open

WORKSHOPS -

- i) Alternative Energy Sust. Harb.
- ii) Building Audits Sust. Harb.
- iii) Life Style ? Baptist Church
- iv) Refugees (this is a very 'live' issue - raising issues to do with climate change, & sustainable living - opportunities for re-cycling Mary-Ann Lund

Small group to organise the morning: Andrew Quigley; Gavin Fletcher; Tim Appleton; Mary-Ann Lund; Anita Beer & BD

OTHER IDEAS:

- We need to keep up pressure on Harb. District Council. Become an 'Eco Town' ? (BUT need to find a different name?) **Going green is still not mainstream enough.**

NEXT MEETING FOR ALL REPRESENTATIVES : Tuesday 11th July at RC church