

Minutes of ECONET meeting 11.10.04 BTCV office, Caversham

Present

Kit Brownlee RUWG, Dave Kenny Balmore, Dave Booth RBC, Judith Oliver FOCC,
Paul Fincher CROW, Andy Noyes BTCV, John Lerpiniere CROW, Phil Allen BeC.
Apology for absence Anne Latto FOCC.

Matters Arising

Trees are available from RUWG as two allotments are being relinquished leaving one.

Concerning the Prudential Development in the lower Kennet a meeting is being arranged to coordinate approach and activity by different groups.

The threat of development at Kings Meadow has been lifted mainly due to the pool being a listed building.

Most cheques have been issued to groups due Christmas tree money but there is a hold up while a new cheque book is sought.

The new version of the constitution will be put on the website.

Christmas tree sales

There is some doubt as to whether the tenants at Caversham Court will allow sales at this site. Time is very short for inclusion in the RBC events diary. Kit to follow up with Caversham Court and RBC. If this is unsuccessful in the next few days there will be no sale this year. Provisional dates for sales are December 4th, 5th, 11th, 12th, 18th, 19th.

Problems could arise transporting trees as BeC van, BBOWT van, and RBC truck are too small or not available. RBC help is probably the best bet.

A spring sale was also discussed as a possibility.

FOCC - an amazing 72 people attended the Red Kite talk.

a megatask on footpath work is being planned for April in readiness for Woodlands Day.

CROW - continue to arrange weekly tasks meeting at Prospect Park 9.30 each Wed but numbers are small at the moment. The ECOSS youngsters participate regularly.

Money

No decision was made about the money put by for a brush cutting machine, the money is now in the ECONET account. One consideration was to split some of it between groups who built up the fund through Christmas tree sales. Another was to wait until RBC plans for Prospect Park become clearer as this will affect tool storage and purchase among other issues although RBC would probably fund changes rather than ECONET. The account currently holds around £2000.

A pleasing £100 was transferred to the account from FOMcIlroys who found this surplus to requirements.

BTCV conference

This is to be held on Saturday 16th October at the Milestone Centre, Caversham Park Village to celebrate achievement and share ideas between Berkshire groups. A talk will be followed by a selection of workshops. So far 18 forms have been received from nine groups.

A new ECONET leaflet is being prepared by Judith for circulation and libraries. A draft will be presented at the next meeting. Currently a BTCV leaflet listing groups can be found at libraries.

Thanks to Andy for his hospitality tonight.

The next meeting will be held at Prospect Park Environment Centre on 10th January at 7.30.