

Transition Larkhall  
Minutes of AGM held 1/2/2017

**Apologies:** Alex MacKichan-Burke (Assistant Treasurer, APCG), Fiona Williams

**Attended by:** Annie Beardsley (APCG), Anthony Waterhouse, Bryn Jones (Chair), Dave Lucas, Di Francis (APCG), Jane Shaw, Joanna Wright (Publicity and Communications), John Ingham, Kathy Cook (APCG), Lin Patterson (Councillor), Mairaid King, Paul Raithby (Committee member), Phil de Souza, Rob Appleyard (Councillor), Ros Hough (Treasurer), Sheila Bowlet.

**Minutes of last TL AGM** held in 2016 were approved (can be viewed on TL website).

**Chair's report** on 2016 activities given by Bryn Jones. This can be viewed on the TL website.

**Finance Report and Accounts** was read by Ros Hough. Accounts can be viewed on the TL website.

**Alice Park Community Garden (APCG) Report** was given by Annie Beardsley and Kathy Cook.  
**Plans for 2017, and activities in 2016**

The APCG Committee have a vision for 2017 of a new team for the Management Committee. The existing Committee has decided that 2017 will be their last growing season as a Committee, **they are looking to hand over the running of APCG to a person or group as a viable project (with money in the bank) to continue the garden's valued work in the community.** This is an opportunity for the Garden and the community.

In 2016 work continued with Duke of Edinburgh Award students, with “Good Gym” in moving mulch, with Bath Area Growers, with “Wild Things” activities for pre-school children, and new ideas for working with St Mark's School. A micro-grant from B&NES resulted in children learning about sustainability and the making of willow art on bees. APCG participated in the Larkhall Festival, and also held a Harvest event with Bake Sale at the Garden. APCG ran “Five to Thrive” training courses, delivered with the aid of grant funding. There are plans to spend the Councillors Ward Initiative (CWI) monies of £1,000, given through local councillor Lin Patterson, on security for the pond and improved signage for the Garden. APCG won a Bath in Bloom “outstanding” award. Links start this month with Vegmead (which is a Transition Bath initiative) to improve the circular bed in Alice Park into an ornamental and edible bed.

John Ingham mentioned that there may be an opportunity for APCG to offer gardening training courses to “jobbing gardeners”.

**The annual newt, frog and toad migration on Charlcombe Lane– volunteers required to help**  
– see information at end of these minutes \*\*

**Website and the Community Matters Research Project.** Joanna Wright reported on these.

**Election of Committee** The existing committee was re-elected. Mairaid King and John Ingham said they are willing to attend Committee meetings from time to time. Bryn issued a standing invitation to our two local councillors Lin and Rob to attend the Committee Meetings. All those named here to be included when date of future committee meetings is sent round by email. Dave Lucas proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee.

## **Ideas for 2017 activities and meetings**

- A meeting with focus on the main Transition Movement worldwide, and/or connection with local Transition groups
- A showing of the film “Demain” (Tomorrow), maybe in co-operation with the New Oriel Hall (NOH) Social Affairs Discussion group (which has been showing monthly films at NOH)
- Safer routes out of Larkhall
- Traffic research and clean air campaign
- To hold one or more TL meeting in the daytime for those who cannot manage evening meetings due to childcare etc
- Dave Lucas mentioned an idea for Bathampton Meadows Park and Ride, which Lin Patterson suggested could be sent to the CTE Committee at B&NES and Anthony Clarke.

## **Presentation given by visiting speaker Adam Reynolds of CycleBath**

Adam presented the various stages of his interesting “Living Heart” transport plan, based on the ideas used in a continental city he visited which has successfully dealt with its city traffic problems to the benefit of all and a reduction in pollution.

Space has been redesigned to prioritise “active travel and accessibility”.

It is based on the idea of a staged process of redirecting traffic to certain through routes, and the use of (rising) bollards to limit access to “residents only” in certain areas of the city centre.

An example of this type of scheme is the “Mini Holland” scheme in Walthamstow.

Rather than banning traffic it relies on “traffic evaporation” such as happened in Paris where traffic turned out to be 40% less than expected overall following the closure of an area of road by the river. The traffic naturally “evaporated” rather than diverting elsewhere in the city.

## **\*\* The annual newt, frog and toad migration on Charlcombe Lane– volunteers required to help! CHARLCOMBE TOAD RESCUE GROUP**

### **VOLUNTEER ROLE PROFILE**

Common toads are declining in the UK. Thousands are killed crossing roads each spring as they make their way to breeding grounds that they have used for generations.

Can YOU spare some time to help local toads, frogs and newts cross a road? Volunteers are needed by Charlcombe Toad Rescue Group to patrol Charlcombe Lane in Bath every evening from 13 February to 27 March 2017 when the road will be closed to through traffic for the amphibian migration. Access for residents, visitors and services is not affected.

All you’ll need is warm/waterproof clothing, and ideally a torch and bucket, although we can lend these. Hi vis clothing and free insurance is also provided. You can take part as little or as often as you like, although being available at short notice is desirable.

You need to be physically fit, and be prepared to work in dark wet conditions. There is significant uphill and downhill walking involved, often at a fast pace, on a paved surface. You also need to be prepared to handle amphibians and keep accurate records as results are collated and sent to Bristol Records Office and Froglife who collect data from around the UK to identify how populations are surviving. Training will be provided around this, and patrollers always go out with at least one other person. You will need your own transport to get to and from Charlcombe Lane, if you do not live locally.

We start at dusk and patrol for at least an hour or two – presence is needed every night, even if no amphibians are visible.

This role is not suitable for children under 14, and children over 14 would need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times.

### **Contact:**

**Helen Hobbs, Volunteer Coordinator**

**Charlcombe Toad Rescue Group**

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