Minutes for Transition Town Wellington monthly meeting

Date: 7th October 2026

Present: Steve Saunders, Mo Ostler, Greg, Stewart, Flip, Anita Roy, Kathleen Power, Sue Rickard, Adrian Rose, Charles Biscoe, Diana Fox, Helen Gillingham, Cllr Keith Wheatley

Apologies: Bridgette, Kate, Martine, Sabi, Lizzie.

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	Actions
1 Presentation by Cllr Keith Wheatley	Keith has been a member of Wellington Town Council for 4.5 years. His purpose for speaking to the group was to encourage individuals to consider standing for election to the Town Council at the elections in May 2027 at which nearly one third of the currently serving councillors will not be standing. Keith provided us with copies of a leaflet "Make A Change: Become A Councillor" which describes what is involved in the role. Keith went on to say that in his time in office he believes Wellington Town Council has gone "from strength to strength" and named the follow reasons for his view on this: • Strong collaborative group of Councillors , largely apolitical, good internal relations, good at "getting things done" • Somerset County Council has devolved services to the Town Council, resulting in new financial opportunities eg Open Spaces, Kings Arms Community Hub, new Pump Track. • Strong staff team with the merits of Town Clerk Dave Farrow praised in particular.	

2 Action Points from September's meeting	• Charles will organise for the transfer of Membermojo Stripe account funds to be transferred to the TTW current account • Anita Roy's endeavours to contact Greenshank Enviro: continued • Discussion on shelter/rainwater harvesting on Fox's Field: there are now £1,000 worth of grant applications pending towards materials for the project • Data system – Paul is working on the app consulting with Helen during the process. Aiming to provide a demonstration by the end of the year.	
3 Treasurer'ssummary & grant applications	Helen presented a quarterly treasurer's report. Adrian reported that since the last meeting grant applications have been submitted to small grant funds managed by Groundworks: (a) £1k for materials for building shelter on Fox's Field (b) £1.4k unrestricted core costs	
4 Supporting team members	There was a brief discussion about supporting team members in terms of IT equipment and also training opportunities.	These items to be included in considerations at Planning Meeting on 19th October
5 TTW T-shirts	Two designs have been provided with the scythe designed currently being finessed. Further ideas for design and production were suggested and we asked that ideas continue to be forward to Anita Corbin for collation.	Payment of £200 is due to the designer.
6 Website information and updates	Anita Roy, Flip and Roger have collaborated on updating the 'About' page	Anita Roy, Helen, Flip and Roger will continue to collaborate on website review and amendments
7. Apple juicing project.	We received a verbal report from Greg and a written report from Anita Corbin. Anita's report is attached to these minutes. We express deep thanks to Anita Corbin for the work in organising the project and all the volunteers who have made this project a success once again.	

8. Rainwater harvesting and management 2026-27		Adrian to consult with Dave Farrow about permission for the FF shelter and rainwater harvesting off the container.
9. Recent events (review)	We discussed the recent local events which TTW has either organised or collaborated in: • Independent market stall 5th September • Pop-up shop week 7-12th September • Swaine's Lane apple juicing/scything event 19th September • Biochar trip/Blackdown Hills Eco-Hub 1st October • Somerset Community Food "Rooted in Community" 3rd October Mo reported that the market stall went very well. Helen and others had found the Somerset Community Food gathering highly valuable and expressed an intention to go again next year.	
10. Upcoming events		Anita Roy will contact Cllr George Western about the prospects for another Peoples Emergency Briefing screening.
11. Childrens' gardening ideas	Helen reported meeting Lara of Skool Beanz CIC at the Somerset Community Food day and is enthused about the prospect of learning from and reproducing the Skool Beanz model within TTW. Helen aims to make a visit to the project near Yeovil on 21st October and will report back to us. Website: https://www.skoolbeanzcic.com	
12. Rights of nature training and 'wild pets'	Sue Rickard reported that she has done an online workshop and gathered information and perspectives of likely relevance to our group. This could be the basis for a talk to the general public.	Sue will write a summary including information sources for the next TTW newsletter.

13. TTW ‘holiday’ in November	We agreed not to have a monthly business meeting in November and that December’s meeting will focus on • the forest garden • Rights of Nature	
[ENDS]		

Report on Apple Juice Project 2026 by Anita Corbin:

We had a very successful season of Apple picking and pressing this year, despite the worries about drought and harvest dropping early.

About 22 x volunteers helped overall, with the picking and pressing this year, so thank you every-one who helped everything run so smoothly, we are like a well-oiled machine !

We picked in 7 x different local Orchards (2 new ones) and pressed 83 x crates of apples - a mix-ture of cookers, eaters and cider apples, apples that would have gone to waste!

We made a record-breaking 692 x bottles in a marathon pressing day at the Greenhouse.
And we only had to buy 10 x new bottles as we had recycled 682 x bottles from last year’s sales.

This means that we will be making a profit of approx £2.88 a bottle, so total, if we sell 625 bottles, is projected at approx £1800. Woohoo!

Other bottles were given to 7 x orchards and 22 x volunteers, and to co-op for crates.