



Recycling @ Crowgate

Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped on the site during the summer. It seems to be operating well, (despite someone helping themselves to the padlocks on both the shed and the compound!), as Caepost's figures for the last 3 months show:-

	Cardboard (kg)	Plastic (kg)	Total (kg)
June	1665	882	2547
July	2280	812	3092
August	3060	1008	4068

Fly-tipping is at a manageable level, and may have decreased since any tipped material has been pulled out of sight into the compound, and Shropshire Council are generally quite efficient at quickly removing it.

Wasteless Society AGM

Please note that the Society's AGM will be held at 7.30 pm on Monday, 17th October at the Society's office above the pharmacist in Bishop's Castle. The papers for this meeting are given at the end of this newsletter.

Swapshop Event

IS anyone interested in helping WS to organise another swapshop event? I'm having a hip replacement operation at the start of October, but would really like to get an event going sometime in November – could be at the HES office again, or maybe at the high school – or primary school, or ????

Has anyone got any ideas for venues, themes, dates for something like this? We did one last year and it was good fun and quite successful. We've also done two plant swapshops and they were good fun too.

Get in touch with katee@wasteless.org.uk, or 0158863876

Trip to the Tip

Kate Evans has organised a trip to the great big tip at Llanidloes for the 29th Sept, so far we've got seven people booked in. If this newsletter goes out in time, we've got space for three more. Ring Kate on 01588 638762. If not, then photos will be taken and a report included in a future newsletter.

Neil Hird has also been organising school trips to the Cae Post recycling plant, which is a fascinating set up and well worth a visit!

Wasteless Society volunteers

We are still gasping for new input from members to join the committee and inject some more energy and fresh thinking into the WS. ANY TAKERS?????

Being on the committee doesn't hurt – it's only a quarterly meeting, for a couple of hours – it would be really good to have some new faces though!

We get criticised for not doing enough, but we need some positive feedback and a bit of support folks!

Kate Evans

Crowgate's low carbon energy drive

Continuing the Crowgate low carbon energy drive, assistance is being given to Bishop's Castle Town Council to obtain quotes for consideration for the installation of a 3.5 kWp solar pv system on the south-facing roof of the town's auction yard public lavatory building. Costs have come down by almost 30% since Bishop's Castle Town Council installed a 3.24 kWp system on the east and west elevations of the Town Hall. Following Bishop Castle's example Shropshire County are looking at installing solar pv systems on their local authority buildings throughout the county. The plan is to appoint next year one installer and thereby they hope obtain more competitive equipment and installation costs. Bishop's castle Town Council, as the trustees of the Town's Public Hall, could need help with this building which the Wasteless Society has had surveyed and could carry a 7kWp solar installation on its south-facing roof. Following up the idea of a Bishop's Castle community energy company a £500 grant has been secured to look at the possibility of a 'tracker' 48 kWp solar pv system based at Crowgate or on land alongside the Community College. Mark Love has been very helpful with this idea. What the Society needs to know from Shropshire Council, who have agreed through Bishop's Castle Town Council that some Crowgate land can be allocated to the Wasteless Society, is the actual area and location. Tracker solar pv systems can be up to 40% more efficient than stationary solar pv systems but their cost is considerably higher. If Crowgate land is not secured then working with the Community College's VI Form science students is the alternative. If a local community energy company became a possibility then, providing finance could be found, further projects could be developed. An anaerobic digester fed by the town's household kitchen waste would be a possibility.

Neil Hird

Business Recycling

Shropshire AONB have asked WS to undertake a survey of business recycling in BC and Clun during October and November. We've sent out a request to all businesses we can identify, to fill in a questionnaire either online, or by paper about how much waste local businesses produce, and how they either recycle it, or get rid of it.

If any of our members are business people and haven't had our questionnaire, you can go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/67Z2B66> and fill it in online, or ask us for a paper version and we'll send it out to you.

Any individual information given will be completely confidential, only the collated results will be publicly available. The idea is to get a picture of the amount of recycling already happening, i.e. commercial collections for larger businesses, popping down to Crowgate to use the WS plastics and cardboard facilities, or whatever. And then hopefully identifying possible companies or social enterprises that could take on a co-operative business collection service.

The regulations for commercial waste removal and recycling are about to get more detailed and draconian, and we'd really like to help businesses to reduce their waste in the first place and second, to recycle much more of what is left.

If any of you have ideas or suggestions that might help with this project, do get in touch and let us know.

Kate Evans

Crowgate's Cae Post educational visits visits

Although Shropshire Waste Partnership no longer finances the relative coach costs Cae Post educational visits by local primary schools continue because the Wasteless Society agreed to finance up to £80 of the coach cost. This term Farlow Primary School sent fourteen of their youngsters, who thoroughly enjoyed their visit, to Cae Post and the Andrew Logan Museum. Norbury Primary School plan to send thirty children later in the term. Five primary schools will then have been to Cae Post and the number of children involved will be 134. Apart from Cae Post the schools visit the Andrew Logan Museum in Berriew. There the children see how 'waste' material is turned into art ! Depending on the cost the Wasteless Society will consider requests from two further primary schools at Clun and Newcastle. Primary school youngsters are an important market to promote the value of recycling household waste and they can see what is called waste is infact made up of valuable resources which should be recycled and not land filled.

Neil Hird

A Personal Viewpoint

WIND FARMS - A NECESSARY BLOT ON THE LANDSCAPE?

No-one likes wind farms - they have to be built on high ground and they spoil the view. Governments dislike them because of the fierce and divisive planning disputes they generate, and because the high installation costs have to be subsidised by higher electricity charges levied on consumers (aka voters). So why do governments, by forcing consumers to provide the subsidies, promote wind farms? There are two inter-related reasons, both concerned with long-term planning:-

(1) to reduce the UK's reliance for power generation on imported fuel - which will inevitable become more costly as world demand increases and cheaper sources are used up, and much of which comes from politically unstable areas; and

(2) to reduce the amount of fossil fuel used for power generation, thus limiting CO2 emissions and the resulting adverse consequences of global warming. Governments reluctantly conclude that long-term threats are more important than short-term unpopularity.

Wind farm opponents (like all of us, one way or another) are primarily 'nimbys', though in this case it is not just local back yards which are the issue but any landscape valued by the public at large. Landscape spoiling is certainly an entirely valid argument against wind farms, but this dis-benefit is difficult to quantify and opponents often support their objections with some invalid arguments. Here are three:-

- Because wind speeds are often too low (or too high), wind farms only operate at a "derisory" (to quote from a recent article) fraction of their rated capacity, e.g. a turbine with a rated capacity of 1 MW might only generate 0.25 MW over the course of the year. This is quite correct, but ignores the fact that the power generation and economic calculations are based on the actual output figure of 0.25 and not on the theoretical maximum of 1.0 which would apply only if the wind blew for 365 days per year. If a car with a maximum speed of 100 mph clocks its annual mileage at an average speed of 30 mph, no-one would say that it runs at only 30% of its rated capacity.
- Wind farms need 100% back-up generating capacity for periods when there is no wind. Wind power only accounts for about 2% of total demand at present and no back-up is needed because there is sufficient flexibility already in the system. Even if wind power rises to the planned 20% of the total the back-up needed would only be 25% of the total wind farm capacity and it will never reach 100%.
- Wind farm development uses more energy than the installation generates. Totally false - the energy pay back period is months, not years, and over its entire life a wind farm will generate over 20 times the amount of energy used in its manufacture and installation. Also, as wind is a carbon-free source the lifetime carbon footprint of wind farms is one of the lowest there is (and far lower than that of the most efficient fossil-fuel power station).

So, we probably have to learn to live with wind farms - but we can certainly campaign hard for their connecting power lines to be put underground and not on ugly pylons.

Dennis Twist

THE WASTELESS SOCIETY

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held at 7.30 pm on Monday 17th October 2011 at the Company's office (The Old Primary School, Church Street, Bishop's Castle)

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22nd October 2010
3. Directors' Report
4. Adoption of the Annual Accounts for the year to 31 March 2011
5. Re-appointment of Directors

The following Directors are standing for re-appointment: Jim Gaffney, Jim Pratt

Notes: 1. *Jim Gaffney and Jim Pratt are retiring under the terms of the Company's Articles of Association which require the retirement each year of the one third of the Directors who have been longest in office since their last appointment or re-appointment. The number of Directors is currently six so two are required to retire.*
2. *The re-appointment of the remainder of the current Directors (Kate Evans, Robert Smith, Keith Wood and Dennis Twist) is not required under the terms of the Company's Articles of Association as they were appointed or re-appointed more recently.*

6. Re-appointment of Auditors
To re-appoint the Auditors, The Counting House, Whitchurch, Shropshire, and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

D R Twist, Secretary

Tea, coffee, etc will be provided at the meeting

THE WASTELESS SOCIETY DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2011

The purpose of this report is to supplement the very brief one in the statutory accounts which is purely formal and doesn't include any record of the Society's activities during the year.

The main continuing activity (other than production of newsletters, etc) is operating the plastics and cardboard collection facility at Crowgate - a service provided to the community at large which is extremely popular with both domestic and commercial users. The plastics intake fell sharply when kerbside collections were introduced in November 2010 but has since risen to over 75% of previous figures. Cardboard collections have risen steadily - largely due to deposits by local businesses (while technically illegal, this is currently tolerated by the authorities).

The year saw the completion of the Society's contribution to the Bishop's Castle Zero Waste project - a Shropshire Council initiative - after which the Society continued to provide waste awareness/minimisation workshops to local schools. A number of individual events took place during the year: a visit to the Cae Post Recycling Centre at Trewern, near Welshpool; a garden swapshop; and a visit to the hydro-electric plant at Ludlow Mill on the Green combined with a talk by River Simple staff (in their nearby office) on their revolutionary electric car which is powered by hydrogen via a fuel cell.

Last year's Report noted that while the Society's running costs were much higher than its subscription income the difference was more than made up by substantial grants which, though paid regularly to date, might not be available in future. One of these has now stopped and while the other is still being paid there is no certainty that it will be continued indefinitely. Meanwhile, the Society's reserves, while declining quite rapidly, are still substantial.

The Society's membership at 31 March was 100, compared with 112 a year earlier and will probably show a further fall this year. There are several reasons for the decline, but the most important is that there have been very few new members to replace the inevitable resignations.
September, 2011

THE WASTELESS SOCIETY

(Company limited by guarantee, no. 4374233)

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT THE OLD PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHURCH STREET, BISHOP'S CASTLE ON 22nd OCTOBER 2010

PRESENT

Directors Jim Gaffney (chair), Jim Pratt & Dennis Twist

Other Members Rosa James and, as Proxies held by Dennis Twist: K Evans, N Hird, & Proxies D Luckhurst, P Norton, D Thomlinson, R Smith, M Whithouse & K Wood

APOLOGIES: A Donaldson, M Hofland, M Newman (and those listed above as Proxies)

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 3rd NOVEMBER 2009

The Minutes were approved unanimously (proposed by D Twist, seconded by R James).

DIRECTORS' REPORT

J Gaffney presented the Directors' Report, commenting on the variety and number of activities recorded. This report, the production of which is not a statutory requirement, was noted with approval.

REPORT & ACCOUNTS

The statutory Report & Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2009 were unanimously approved (proposed by J Gaffney, seconded by R James).

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The retiring Directors (Kate Evans, Robert Smith & Dennis Twist) and the other existing Directors (Jim Gaffney, Jim Pratt & Keith Wood) being willing to serve again were, in the absence of any other nominations, unanimously re-elected en bloc (proposed by R James, seconded by J Gaffney).

RE-APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

The resolution to re-appoint the Auditors, The Counting House (of Whitchurch, Shropshire) and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration was agreed unanimously (proposed by D Twist, seconded by J Gaffney).

D R Twist, Secretary

THE WASTELESS SOCIETY

(Company limited by guarantee, company no. 04374233)

**Short version of the Annual Accounts for the year to 31st March 2011
which were approved by the Directors on 4th July 2011**

	2011, £	2010, £
Profit & Loss Account		
Turnover	3,276	9,896
Cost of Sales	<u>(3,084)</u>	<u>(7,419)</u>
Gross Income	192	2,477
Administrative Expenses	<u>(2,032)</u>	<u>(2,706)</u>
Operating Income	(1,840)	(229)
Other Income	239	405
Surplus for the year before taxation	<u>(1,601)</u>	<u>176</u>
Tax	nil	(1)
Surplus for the year after taxation	<u>(1,601)</u>	<u>175</u>
Retained Surplus brought forward	8,498	8,323
Retained Surplus carried forward	<u><u>6,897</u></u>	<u><u>8,498</u></u>

Balance Sheet as at 31 March

Fixed Assets	nil	nil
Current Assets	nil	4,949
Debtors		
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>7,207</u>	<u>3,825</u>
	<u>7,207</u>	<u>8,784</u>
Less: Creditors	<u>(310)</u>	<u>(286)</u>
Net Assets (= Reserves)	<u><u>6,897</u></u>	<u><u>8,498</u></u>

Explanatory note:

"Turnover" and "Cost of Sales" relate to income-earning activities which, in the year to 31 March 2011, included two grants of £1,000.

Copies of the full Report & Accounts (compiled by The Counting House, Whitchurch, Shropshire) are available on request from

The Company Secretary

Mardu Cottage

Mardu

Clun

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Wasteless Society Board Members :-

- Kate Evans : katee (@wasteless.org.uk)
 - Jim Gaffney : jimg (@wasteless.org.uk)
 - Jim Pratt : jimp (@wasteless.org.uk)
 - Robert Smith : roberts (@wasteless.org.uk)
 - Dennis Twist : dennist (@wasteless.org.uk)
 - Keith Wood : keithw (@wasteless.org.uk)
- Publicity Officer (Newsletter items)**
Mike Watkins : publicity (@wasteless.org.uk or mikejwatkins@hotmail.co.uk)

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