

**Drastic Plastic Meeting  
Wednesday 19th September**

**Minutes**

<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>Present:</b>	Penny, Konia, Kathryn, Birgit, Sarah, Lesley, Julie, Anna	
<b>Welcome:</b>		
<b>Additions to AOB:</b>	Waste Event: Update (Vanessa) Rowan: Assets, Aims & Objectives for Drastic Plastic: (Anna) The World's Most Beautiful Beaches: (Konia)	
<b>Apologies:</b>	Julie Gibson, Jane, Penny Edwards, Alaine, Peter, Trish, Bob, Martin, Ewen Jimmie, Pam, Vanessa (coming later)	
<b>Recap: Open Meeting</b>	Why people came & What they wanted out of the meeting to learn about plastic & their issues, to get involved, to share anxieties, to take action, to learn of other alternatives, to get to the truth, to campaign What's Drastic About Plastic? Health issues, lack of information & true info, single use plastic, micro plastic contamination in sea, rivers, food chain, water, soil. Recycling issues: unclear, non renewable energy production, Environmental issues, Wildlife issues, litter, toxins its made from What Can We Do On A Personal Level?: Do a household audit, grow own food, use good footprint companies, use recycled or alternative containers for shopping, shop local where we know their practices, individual campaigning/petitions online. Social media to spread word & info Constraints: Low income makes local shopping difficult What Can We Do On A TBI Level?: Collective Action, Campaigning, Publicity Events, Education for all: Children/Teacher led projects, use art & creativity to highlight issues, Have an Action Day, name & shame, praise those businesses making efforts, Question relevant authorities, Campaign re access to refill water bottles in schools, businesses etc., raise awareness, TBI website: info, tips, action, links, social media	

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**Planning**

**Publicity & Events**

It was agreed that as we are a new group we would try and 'Piggy Back' onto another event in 2019

Suggestions of which events were:

Inverness Science Fair

UHI: renewable, Sustainable event

Centre for Health Science

Eden Court: a stand at one of their events

Film Night: at the Hub, Muir of Ord

Suggestions of what we could do at an event were:

Plastic Waste Sculptures, provide information, appropriate activities, involve children

Other suggestions:

TBI produces our own bamboo mugs & bio degradable dog waste bags for sale

NB: It was agreed that we want to inspire and encourage people to start looking at ways they can reduce & recycle their plastic waste, as a lot of the media coverage is very disheartening

Birgit to check out the event to see if we can have a stand

Konia to check out

**Education**

Suggestions put forward were:

Holding a TBI workshop on making waxed food storage bags and food container tops

Those present felt that they needed to know more about the subject themselves before going out to educate others. Therefore it was suggested to contact Highland Council Recycling Department, in Dingwall in order to ask a representative to come along to the next Drastic Plastic Group meeting and hold a 20 minute question & answer session.

We would also ask them if they could provide us with leaflets, which we would be able to give out at events & markets etc

Penny to ask Julie Gibson about this possibility

Penny to contact Highland Council Recycling Dept in Dingwall, to organise.

Prior to that Penny to liase with Anna who may be able to make contact at a recycling event she is attending shortly

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Waste Event: in the process of being organised by Vanessa:  
see Any Other Business

**Campaigning**

Suggestions for this were:

Signing On Line Petitions - as individuals

Collecting signatures for Petitions at Markets & outside supermarkets

Joining in with National organisations on their campaigns eg Greenpeace

Letter writing - as both individuals and collectively to local Supermarket

Managers asking if they would consider allowing people to bring their own containers for purchasing certain foods.

Letter writing to targeted local businesses, asking if they would consider other packaging options to plastic. We would also aim to be able to provide information & suggestions on alternatives eg Vegeware & Biodore, plus details of costs & savings to their business

NB: It was agreed that we must acquire accurate information before targeting any businesses

It was agreed that we should all start to check out local businesses to see what packaging they are using, whether they allow people to use their own containers & which businesses are already taking steps to change & what those changes are.

**Website**

We have a new Drastic Plastic Webpage on the TBI Website which Peter has set up for us

Julie Shortreed kindly offered to run this Webpage for the time being

It was agreed that a Dropbox will be set up for the group to collect information regarding local businesses & their use of plastic or alternative packaging  
The Dropbox Folder Titles will be: Shop Name, Date Visited, Location, Comments

Articles & information for inclusion on the page, to be emailed to Julie Shortreed

Birgit to set this up

Penny to provide Birgit with email addresses for those present at the meeting

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**Any Other Business**

Waste Event: This event is being organised by Vanessa Halliday for sometime late October. No other details are known at present

Penny to contact Vanessa for further details

Rowan: Anna updated us regarding Rowan (Waste Awareness Organisation) which is currently in the process of 'winding' up. There is possible funding available plus a container of potentially useful items & use of their website  
Penny compiled a short Aims & Objectives profile of the Drastic Plastic Group & what they hope to achieve. This was submitted to Rowan for consideration in view of the above  
It is hoped that we will hear back from Rowan in Mid October

Anna to check out contents of container

Penny to send out this profile to members of the group

The World's Most Beautiful Beaches@beaches of the planet: set up by Konia  
People are encouraged to collect litter from the beaches & post pictures of it onto the Facebook page for others to 'like', share & get more people to join in

Penny to liase with Konia & Julie to get the link on our webpage

**Date of Next Meeting**

Date to be set in November

Penny to set up a Doodle Poll