

Principle P5 FIVE

Reviving Co-operative Culture

The purpose of the Principle 5 resource centre and study group is to support people who want to change the world for the better. Not through competition which benefits private interests, but through co-operation where people pull together for collective well being.

This group is not for study for its own sake, it's a means of support for co-operative action.

There is no need greater than for communities to build up resilience in the face of the consequences of climate chaos. That is why I was very pleased when Dennis Chambers came to the Centre with the view that Westfield can become a resilient community. Towns and villages and housing estates throughout the world are rising to this necessity, thank goodness for that.

Greening Wingrove is a good example of what can be achieved. The Co-operative Movement's successes have come about through collaboration - co-operatives learning from each other and being mutually supportive. We can take a few tips from Greening Wingrove. It's a co-operative partnership with a number of organisations and is itself is a co-operative.

<http://greeningwingrove.org.uk/>

Perhaps we can learn also from the Transition Towns Network.

<https://transitionnetwork.org/>

There is a necessity for communities to become more self reliant as the provision of resources become more unstable. This might be expressed as community solidarity (solidarity is a co-operative kind of word). As individuals, people are at the mercy of an ever more alienating market driven world.

There is a necessity for communities to become more sustainable. And there is a necessity for communities to protect their biodiversity - trees, woodlands, nature reserves, rivers and streams, meadows. Trees and all kinds of plants help to reverse the harmful effects of carbon emissions.

A study session took place at Principle 5 to explore how the people at Westfield could take the first steps to becoming a resilient community.

Steve Thompson
28th July 2015

Useful books which are in the Principle 5 library

The Transition Handbook
Rob Hopkins

The Power of Just Doing Stuff
Rob Hopkins

Small Is Beautiful: Economics as if People Mattered
E.F.Schumacher

Co-opportunity
John Grant

<http://eu.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0470684364.html>

This Changes Everything
Naomi Klein

<http://books.simonandschuster.com/This-Changes-Everything/Naomi-Klein/9781451697384>

One Million Climate Jobs

<http://www.climate-change-jobs.org/>

on PDF

http://www.campaigncc.org/sites/data/files/Docs/one_million_climate_jobs_2014.pdf