



Friends of the Earth Torfaen

www.torfaenfoe.org.uk

**Friends of
the Earth
Cymru**
**Cyfeillion
y Ddaear
Cymru**

Newsletter - Autumn 2005

Torfaen Friends of the Earth Group takes up the challenge and continues with the campaign to protect the environment in the South Sebastopol area, along with other environmental campaigns.

- Q So, with Fight the Plan Group finished, won't anyone fight for South Sebastopol then?
A **YES** - Friends of the Earth's Torfaen group has taken up the challenge of protecting the environment of the South Sebastopol site.
- Q How will that happen?
A By making a positive contribution to the management plan for the site ie the specific rules for developing the area - as proposed by Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC).
- Q What does that involve then?
A TCBC have agreed to include Friends of the Earth representatives in consultations on the finer detail and phasing of the development.
- Q Finer detail?
A Yes - issues like the planning gain agreements (bargaining tools) procedure. Torfaen FOE will soon be scrutinizing this information and advising local councillors of its views with regard to the environment (local councillors have to approve the agreements before the letter of consent can be issued to the developers).
- Q What happens when the letter of consent is eventually issued?
A Torfaen FOE will get a copy and have it evaluated by its professional advisory team to ensure that all public interest issues previously identified have been addressed.
- Q Professional advisory team? Is that the same as for Fight the Plan Group (FTPG)?
A Similar, but with some vital differences: Friends of the Earth has its very own legal team which can be used by groups such as Torfaen FOE, so the lawyers previously engaged by FTPG have now been paid and the accounts closed. G Powys Jones the planning consultant who advised FTPG previously will continue to be consulted.
- Q Incidentally, how will Torfaen FOE fund planning advice, newsletters etc?
A Glad you asked that, fund raising organised previously by Fight the Plan Group will continue, see details of various events and opportunities to support the group overleaf.
- Q And are there opportunities for getting involved myself?
A Yes - you can join the group as an individual member, or as a family. Details are overleaf. Also, if you'd like to offer hands-on help in some way (securing sponsorship/advertising for newsletters, delivering newsletters in your area, selling quiz sheets, Christmas cards, calendars, joining an outdoor campaign day etc.), then the group would be thrilled to hear from you.

CONTACT US

Any questions? Your answers may be found on the web-site www.torfaenfoe.org.uk , or you can email majacobfoe@hotmail.com or noddingdog4@hotmail.com or Telephone 01633 875627.

To join Torfaen Friends of the Earth PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS:

FULL NAME			
EMAIL ADDRESS			
POSTAL ADDRESS & POSTCODE			
TEL. NO.			
MEM. FEE*	£	+ additional DONATION if you wish to make one	£

*Annual membership fees:

Total £

Individual membership £5 / Family membership £8 / Concessionary membership £3

Cheques are most welcome, please make out to "Torfaen Friends of the Earth" and post to:
Torfaen FOE Treasurer, c/o Mrs C Jones, 2 Railway Terrace, Sebastopol, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 5EJ
(or bring to a meeting).



Torfaen Friends of the Earth meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30 pm –
Greenmeadow Golf Club, Treherbert Road, Croesyceiliog Cwmbran - **Please come along**

Plans for 2005/2006

- ❑ Cause a rethink of the South Sebastopol development at the detailed planning application stage of the proposals.
- ❑ Engage constructively with the council to reduce the damage to the environment which may be caused by the South Sebastopol development.
- ❑ Promote selected national Friends of the Earth campaigns.
- ❑ Maintain communications with the public through newsletters and the web-site
- ❑ Improve the financial resources of Torfaen Friends of the Earth to keep up the campaign for the environment.



Fund Raising Events Autumn/Winter 2005

Treasure Hunt (on foot) – date and venue to be confirmed

Quiz Evening with Fish & Chip Supper – November 19th

Christmas Cards & Calendars (local views) – on sale soon

Call ☎ 01495 751594 or email noddingdog4@hotmail.com to book, volunteer assistance or for more information on any of these events

