



CAG- Minutes – Wednesday 19th February at 6pm

-foyer of the Eco Hub

Group members: Peter Condon , Emma, Livvy and Molly Leaf Grimshaw, Nicola Jenkins, Kirstin Rayner, Kate Laugharne , Raff Land, and Becca Badger (WT).

1. Welcome, introductions and volunteer chair for this meeting -KL
2. Minutes of the meeting Weds 27th November and issues arising- NJ- Repair Café- update requested, Logo- design -referred to future meeting. Add village show to next meeting (involvement)
3. Priorities for 2025- events and actions

Top 4- Making cycling easier- discussed what this could involve-PC emphasis on new footpaths/cycleways etc, bike racks and bike tool store discussed. ELG- Sustrans- ask about things you can do to make cycling safer? Sustrans limited officer time- may be able to get a zoom call/chat about positive approach to encourage cycling. Identify easy cycling circular routes and publicise them? Possible involvement with Gill Kitchener/Breeze group. GSR bike ride- possible links. Repair Café- bike repair access- include and publicise service to get people on their bikes.

Wildlife Gardening Support- identified as a priority in Biodiversity Audit -menu of options lots of things can do/plaque awards for gardens to explain why it looks 'messy'- hedgehog holes /support, wildlife gardening awards- Becca advises there is a dormant scheme run by WT. Could do a gardening craft day. Becca has booklets/could do article in Gazette. RHS/WT has info. Lots can do here.

Library of things- Becca -didn't work in Peterborough- bulky items in central location things back broken, Bedford started- KR to visit and find out most popular items borrowed. PECT- may have info on why Peterborough one did not work.

Streetlights- Gwyn/emma/PC article about turn off between 12 and 4am- how it affects wildlife/bats/insects etc. Issue identified in Biodiversity audit. Need some information on residents' views.

Other- tree planting could fit under wildlife gardening theme. Becca- school has planted 200 trees 2 weeks ago- not sure about longevity/watering regime. Eco Group with parents' initiative.

- a) Voting summary results – top 4 above.
- b) Carbon Copy's 25 Big Local actions- views- similar items
- c) Decide priorities for 2025- concentrate on Wildlife Gardening support theme and work up proposals for events and themes/publicity to encourage wildlife gardening in 2025/6.



4. New GVP- Eco Group at school with Wildlife Trust- opportunities for working together (Rebecca Neal-WT)-discussion

BB discussed current role based at Cambourne/and at Trumpington meadows. BB now running workshops for the Eco group at GVP-year 6 teacher. Nature Ninjas want to know about food, environment, helping wildlife, outside protecting habitats. They want to know how to stop climate change, help species, hibernation, wildfires, how things grow, and identify wildlife. And other aims- to make things for wildlife-litter picking, birdwatching, posters, awareness, and visit places-MBM/ Poppy Fields. BB looking to partnership with Allotment s group, and CAG- group of 30 children. Last weekend planted 200 trees-parents invited-first actions. Could do with mulch/clip drop- ELG tree surgeon register. Clerk to provide contact Charmian/Becca-email contact. BB after school club 3.30-4.30 every 2 weeks -Raff interested in volunteering. Has approached school and DBS processing. BB -Climate Ambassadors -Government School programme- every school needs a climate action plan written. KR- GC- advice.

5. Biodiversity projects

- a) Biodiversity Audit (ELG) – nearly there-actions resulting-next steps mapping-discussion at APM. (Annual parish meeting).
- b) Brook channel improvements (ELG) -update and river monitoring (PC) Lots of ideas to improve water quality- rob Mungovan.3 working party days, woven willow beds need to be fixed, material available from woods/dead hedges. Report to be produced in 4 weeks. Some works possibly this spring- through to next winter. River monitoring- river fly lava a good indication of health of watercourse,8 species, need volunteers to run testing programme (cant be done by children). 1 hour a month- some equipment held by PC. Results entered on natural database. KL could post this on Facebook.
- c) Hedge laying initiative (ELG) Station Rd/Lower Field- finished off. Hedge in churchyard- 1st March planned volunteer work party. WT binders being provided- need to check for nesting birds first. Risk Assessment needed.
- d) Scything-new volunteers and plans (HY) Haslingfield Google group- group of scything volunteers available-working group, come and join/30th March free training session (Haslingfield & Harlton Eco Group w. Jim McVittie) -KL publicise on Facebook.
https://www.hheco.co.uk/whatson/2024/12/1/scything-session-1?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAAR25zytWTwJvDUYSUMk674eCHu0N54n9QtBoD0odKOpj0TqJnWfzU_JXhJO_aem_UpQFRnsYfzII57CuWGZ1uw
- e) Parish Council Grant applications- a) Foam Stream (Glyphosate free -Black Cat Highways England Social Fund) – yet to hear. b) Net zero villages- (Combined Auth/SCDC)-bespoke double glazing for the Old Methodist Chapel- noted

6. Publicity and promotion-

- a) New Facebook page- what to post, when, who (KL) KL agreed to post some things.



b) Any other publicity and promotion – Gazette article/s Streetlights- article about cutting down streetlight time 12 to 4am-Gwyn/emma/KR to write article, Nicola -scything article- not happy with title of article. No feedback received.

c) The Great Collaboration- info, latest on East Anglia pilot- unsuccessful lottery application- applying for Combined Authority money for software, other funding pots are now being investigated (GC is a one stop shop advice website and mapping tool for reducing carbon & biodiversity)

d) Climate leaders Cambridgeshire- book reviews etc, nominated person for South Cambs Environment and Nature Group (Elizabeth Spain) ELG interested in being CAG representative.

7. Any other items- closure of meeting- next meeting Weds 19th March at 6pm
8. Meeting closed 7.05pm

10-03-25- KR