



CAG- Minutes – Wednesday 3rd September at 6pm

Present: Kate Laugharne, Emma Leaf-Grimshaw, Livvy Leaf Grimshaw, Molly Leaf-Grimshaw, Miriam Foster, Peter Condon, Kirstin Rayner (minutes)

Apologies from Nicola Jenkins, Hilary Young, Raff Land

1. Welcome, and volunteer chair for this meeting. KL agreed to chair this meeting. Miriam volunteered next time.
2. Minutes of the meeting Weds 9th July and issues arising- village show- final arrangements- on agenda. PC- St Marys churchyard issues- HY asked to contact the clerk.
3. Events 2025
 - a) Big Butterfly Count- 18th July to 10th August- feedback – Some good sessions- approx. 13 people at churchyard session, approx. 20 people in total-lots of butterflies- recorded on ap. Summary ELG to send to MF for social posting the results. ELG will participate next year. Thanks to Vic Brown- very helpful expert on hand to identify creatures. (Dog paws) Orchard Lower Field and butterfly field areas most popular-particularly the uncut bank.
 - b) Any other events
 - i) Village Show-organisation Wildlife Gardening Support – 20th Sept 2025- planning and grants. Demo plaque now been received- need funding for more plaques- possibly turbine fund. (Dog paws) Help at the show- Miriam can help all day. ELG can set up (up to 2pm), KL can take down/transport away. Gardens for nature table- Miriam bring small examples of things you can do in your garden to encourage nature. ELG- make bug hotels- rolling newspapers. Allotments- examples of what you can do. Mark Fitzpatrick- Swift box being brought for table. Need Sellotape (KR) and straws and newspapers- kids activity for gazebo. KL&ELG look out Gazebo to use. Google form for entries/contact details/like a visit- registration. Instagram- what we've been up to – Miriam/Molly. Put some photos on PC website- Kate to start to populate PC webpage. PC- offered to write a year review-Kate can post.
 - ii) River water monitoring-PC- happening this Friday-1.30pm Steppingstones. Beetles/check water quality- fine so far. Bring wellies. Water testing every month- water level/conditions allowing.
 - iii) Scything workgroup-latest- PC and ELG- Lower Field- Scheme using Cambridge Scything workgroup is going well- one session and three new scythers. Volunteers must scythe in other areas-Gt Gidding/Haslingfield /Harlton etc. Scythe again Lower field tomorrow- half the area has been done. ELG to provide photos. Looking to scythe/rake a larger area next year. Product may be good enough for sheep/goats. Early October- workshop and peening advice- South Norfolk.
 - iv) Approach by Mark Fitzpatrick-Swift box scheme- Agreed that the swift campaign run by Mark can be included in the CAG group, and under the umbrella of CAG.
 - c) Parish Council



- i) Millbridge Brook- latest-ELG- awaiting a response from IDB- some initial plans have been reassessed and revised scheme has been submitted to IDB for consideration. Hope works can commence March/late spring. Admin/permissions from IDB- KR to support group with this.
- ii) Biodiversity Audit- further consultation and mapping-KL/KR to have a go at maps Monday 8th. Audit needs wider consultation- Gwyn writing article for November Gazette-(deadline 25 September) Consultation Nov/Dec. Miriam to do social media for consultation.

4. Publicity and promotion-

- a) Nature Recovery Strategy consultation- CAG response? (deadline 10th September) Parish Council response for info. Agreed members write their own response – a good number of responses will show local community interest. Noted PC's response.
- b) Facebook posts- KL to put stuff on Facebook-send stuff to Kate. CAG members to suggest posts for Facebook. KR send stuff around, needs reminding to forward stuff for social media. Miriam new job- will have more time next month.
- c) Any other items- Project and theme review -2026- priorities- KR to send environment section around to CAG for suggestions for 2026/7- for use at Village Show. Need responses back within a week. (KR). LCA conference 17 October- register if want to go. KR/ELG going. (possibly PC and NJ?)
- d) KR send stuff through from Climate Leaders- especially food related. Miriam to post article Gardens for Nature after the village Show. PC suggested yearly review of CAG activities.

PC speech at Shuttleworth- some place may be available-contact Peter.

- c) Closure of meeting- 6.45pm. Next meeting Weds 22nd October 2025-6pm

Diary dates

Saturday 20th September- Village Show- CAG Wildlife theme table and activities (CAG members)

November/December- consultation Biodiversity Audit

Jan 2026- Gardening talk- Raff- Wildlife gardening?

March 2026- repair Café (4) and seed swap?