



CAG- Minutes – Wednesday 4th June at 6pm

-foyer of the Eco Hub

Group members: Peter Condon, Emma, Livvy and Molly Leaf Grimshaw, Kirstin Rayner, Kate Laugharne, Raff Land, and Hilary Young.

1. Welcome, and volunteer chair for this meeting-KL. Apologies from Miriam, Nicola
2. Minutes of the meeting Weds 30th April and issues arising- all fine
3. Events 2025

a) BioBlitz- Green Week – 11th June (Weds) -Emma/Kate

Co-Op supporting the event and providing some food/drink. Banana themed activities planned for children. ELG- Walks sorted-H&S briefing . Evening session Vic/Emma brownies will be based on Lower field/Millbridge Meadows. Photos to be taken to aid identification. Using dots to identify species. ELG to add to database and results to feed into Biodiversity Audit. E Surry walk- will take ID/list on their walk.

b) Big Butterfly Count- 18th July to 10th August

<https://butterfly-conservation.org/events/the-big-butterfly-count-2025>

3 walks-Facebook for publicity- butterfly poster next week- advertise during Bioblitz-Raff- to amend the poster for event. Walk- planned for rear of Chapel fields, MBM and Lower Field (30th July- Wednesday), 23rd July- Log Field only (not back to hub) 6th August (Weds) St Marys Churchyard at 10.30am and Lower Field later on. Sessions 2-4pm in Library for art. Meet 1.30pm Green Acres Bridge for Log Field. PC to provide some printing of materials.

c) Any other events

i) Wildlife Gardening Support – for Village Show Sept 2025- planning

Plaque grant application- CAG to apply for grant for wildlife Gardening plaques-meet to discuss this. Wood signs likely to cost £7.00. Gransden farmers market-source-hand crafted. (To apply to Nature Serve). PC considering grant for scything equipment- group application to support the agreed theme for the year. Consideration of other grants which might help scything group- forward to PC. Possibly Zero Carbon Communities Grant? (SCDC)

ii) River water monitoring-PC

2nd July- location tbc-those who want to take part-email Ruth. Raff/Hilary may be able to attend.



- iii) Scything workgroup-St Marys Churchyard-PC and HY

Revised dates- larger Haslingfield group has committed to being there-Tues 15th July, Sun 27th July and Tuesday 29th July, 6.30pm to 8pm. Tea Biscuits, rakes required (preferably fan)- KR to ask handyman. KR spare tarpaulin- to provide to HY.

d) Parish Council

- i) Old Methodist Chapel- latest- roof works and 12 solar tiles to be installed Summer 2025 with battery provision. KR will need to write a small article about this once its been done.
- ii) Millbridge Brook- report and next steps-ELG

Postponed event -willow clearance and flow deflectors repair. GW decided to delay actions until IDB have met on site and considered proposals. Bigger works might need IDB approval so site meeting proposed way forward. GW is leading. Plans are to encourage flow and create gravel bed again with more light through canopy., by using riffles etc.

4. Publicity and promotion-

a) Facebook posts-KL to post next events- butterflies-Raff, HY butterfly hunt to mention in church newsletter. Article written by Miriam- many thanks for September Gazette. Next March proposed next Repair Café- possibly with a seed swap for wildflower meadow planting.

b) Any other items-

Future regular nature group-Raff advised they were setting up a new group to help mental health involving nature – with E Surry. Group supportive of new initiative.

SEN group- help with churchyard -haymaking? HY/PC- KR to forward details on from the volunteer group who may be able to help rake and make hay/other small jobs. KR to forward details onto HY. (Ages 5-24) Group can work under Churches insurance policy (HY)

Raff Suggested speaking to the Gardening Club about Wildlife Gardening possibly Jan 2026- Kate to find out when they arrange their annual speakers list.

HY- Eco Farming talk (soil health) by M Astor- Hilary to write to on behalf of group -proposed section in Biodiversity Audit- Emma happy to discuss inclusion.

ELG- taking over SUMA from Sandy rep- so will be bulk buying to reduce plastic and more sustainable local supplies. Anyone wanting products to contact her. Can publicise availability in Gamlingay from July onwards.

c) closure of meeting- next meeting Weds 9th July 6pm –mainly to sort out plans for Village Show
12-06-25- KR



Diary dates

Weds 11th June- Bioblitz- 10-30,2pm and 6pm location (CAG members) (Big Green Week)

Weds 9th July- Next CAG meeting

15th July- Scything- St Marys 6.30pm-8pm-Tuesday

23rd July (weds) Butterfly Hunt- Log Field -1.30pm

27th July- Scything St Marys 6.30pm- 8pm Sunday

29th July (may change) 6.30pm to 8pm-Tuesday

30th July Butterfly hunt- Chapelfields MBM 1.30pm followed by Butterfly Art

6th August- St Marys Churchyard at 10.30am and later at Lower Field-Butterfly art 2-4pm

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

Jan 2026- Gardening talk- Raff- Wildlife gardening?

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