



CAG minutes- 4th October 2023- 6pm

Apologies from ELG, GK,ME,AS. Attended:- Kate Laugharne, P Condon, K Rayner (Minutes), Jean York, Nicola Jenkins, Hilary Young arrived at the end of the meeting.

1. Welcome, introductions and volunteer for chair for this meeting- KL to chair, must finish by 7pm
2. Rake Off- feedback on session Weds 27th September, promotion, future sessions.(Kate)

Successful second event just now, completed half the field. Lots of volunteers turned out-8-12 very enthusiastic helpers. Raking's will need to be disposed of- will take some time. Rakes /equipment owned by MBM group- equipment available for future rake offs. Well done to KL and organiser Gwyn Williams.

3. Village Show- Feedback- how to improve outreach and promotion of group (all)

NJ- not a lot of interest, children keen on freebies, bits from Wildlife Trust etc.

Discussed role of promotion of events and social media presence. Need a volunteer who has publicity/social media experience/branding to promote group and engage more actively. KL/KR to ask about Facebook group access (although privacy levels issue needs resolving). Logo/branding information for the group- request this from KW. KR write something short for Dec/Jan Gazette asking for a specific volunteer to help with raising the profile of the group.

4. Baptist sustainable Food Festival- 15th October- group involvement- update (AS)

JY requesting more information about this event. Planning to do some displays on pickling, and jam. KR to find out the email contact for SCambs for Jean to ask about arrangements. KL to provide some Sloe Gin to Jean for the event.

5. Feedback on rewilding of the Churchyard- (Hilary) lessons, improvements, promotion- PC advised HY secured a bronze award for her work in the churchyard on rewilding this year. Plans to try to achieve silver award next year. AH written a report for discussion at the PC meeting next Tuesday. Water trays/small water features in situ to provide drinking water. Discussion on requirement for more volunteers needed to help with labour intensive management tasks- particularly scything. Refresher course might be needed for new volunteers. Potential location-cemetery shed – for storage- as now padlocked (empty). KL has been rescuing hedgehogs. Discussed future potential for drying and making hay bales. Brownies possibly could help to make bales. Use of empty wheelie bin and string potential method. HY to report back to next meeting. PC to record calendar of volunteer activities when help is needed, what tasks and provide to KR. To work on complete volunteer timetable calendar for MBM Churchyard, hedge laying and Tiny Forest etc for publication.



6. Millbridge Meadows- Tiny Forest (Emma) and potential for 10th anniversary event/s (May 2024)- group discussion, ideas to parish council (Kirstin)

Apologies from ELG. 10th Anniversary- plans are to have May festival on green matters centring on 10th anniversary of MBM – possibly one event every week in May. Ideas- scouts/brook clearance, Gardening Society -possibly a question time combined with plant sale, Greensand Festival- add to programme/publicity. Any ideas/suggestions to KR to pass on to JE. Swift project occurs in May, swift boxes, Bee Day- could incorporate event first weekend in May (Monday was the opening day). Wi could possibly follow theme with speaker- Jean to check what has been arranged and ask if they could do something. If anyone wants to help or has any suggestions- please let KR know.

7. Any other items-Nicola's email- RELAS- closing date has now passed- there will be a meeting in Abbotsley next year. NJ concern about expansion to long haul flights. Swifts- Mark Fitzpatrick helps put swift boxes up. 11 counted at the Swift event this year. Community ownership Fund- can purchase community land/buildings- additional funding stream now available. The Princes Trust small grants- NJ to check if this is still open- up to £5k available for community projects. Wildlife Trust events- Becca Badger has been in contact with Kate. PC- advised that GEAG residue funds have now been passed over to the PCC for environmental projects within the parishes- ringfenced for that purpose. (£1,016)(Nick Ingle) NJ and PC to look at GEAG records on previous large events-for ideas (Green Day). NJ- Latest South Cambs magazine has some good articles in it.

Food waste project- reusing waste- continues to be successful in the village, flowers from M&S appreciated.

KL to help JY sort out her zoom problems-so she can log in effectively. Option to have future zoom meeting. Venue, OK, a bit barky, but dogs were enjoyed!

Next meeting first week in December. KR to send around invitation- try to meet in person. Thursdays preferred. KL may be able to lay on some Christmas drinks.....

Meeting closed at 7pm

KR 05-10-23