



CAG minutes- 9th August 2023- 7.30pm via Zoom

Apologies from AS, ELG, JY,GK,NJ, Sarah Howe Attended:- Hilary Young, Kate Laugharne, P Condon, K Rayner (Minutes)

- 1) **Chair vacancy** -Agreed to do this on a rolling chair basis- items for agenda to be sent to KR week prior to meeting and chair to be appointed at each meeting.
- 2) **Place Based initiative ltd**
KR summarised national initiative to provide support and help to community groups and parish councils – new initiative. Currently working on a quick survey to do nationally, putting together a website and personal forum/potential for officer contact/support by county.
- 3) **Village Show** -16th September- Group would like to put some information on display board to try to encourage new members- KL- put out a sign-up list, KR to forward to the group basic information- for amendment/additions to encourage residents to ask more. Possibly use Keith's report /provide copies. Ask for names and email addresses etc.
- 4) **Gamlingay Food Festival** 15th October- KR contacted by SCDC at Cambridgeshire Sustainable Food-AS successful in grant to run a food festival centring around sustainable food. Suggestion that WI might be best to set up a table about preserving/jam recipes., and tasting etc. - KR to contact Jean York. GK- possibly locally sourced meat/turkeys, KL- live turkey present? Farm shop- low carbon mile food, reducing packaging- what they do,, etc, also locally grown honey etc. HY- Food project/community fridge- table and sharing message about reducing food waste and volunteering opportunities etc. HY to speak to AS about what is required- Ros likely to be main person. KL asked about sloe gin – sale/information- to check with AS due to setting. Also local refill shops- possibly ask them to attend or provide information about their service... (St Neots). Contact ? Vegan treats- PC thinks group no longer trading.
- 5) **Rewilding of churchyard and grassland management**
HY updated on scything- some areas done- need to sort composting area by hedge. Review of project- AH- KR advised to email with information and queries and these can be added to the agenda of the next planned council meeting. HY wants PC to purchase 2 scythes- about £100 each- want to formalise and get more volunteers involved in scything and raking- more information coming out in Gazette and MBM Facebook page shortly. Looking at options to provide free hay- need making equipment- drying racks and baling equipment. See if anyone is interested in labouring for free hay- need to ensure ragwort removal before scything. HY up for an award for churchyard management-now looking to create a compost heap.
- 6) **Millbridge Meadows**- Rake Off is 27th September- early evening. Also MBM group trying to fund a hedge laying group/training session- HY is interested in this. Tiny Forest doing OK- ELF monitoring. 10th Anniversary MBM 6th May 2024- likely to be community event- ideas for community event from climate perspective, likely to be redoing the maze feature/ as deteriorated. Ideas for climate activities/interactive displays please let me know if you have any ideas.
- 7) **Any other items**- deferred- Nicola unable to attend- wants to discuss RELAS, Swifts, Community Ownership Fund, The Princes Trust small grants, Wildlife Trust events, CAG Facebook (Who does this?), and widening the group to more parishes. HY- lots of residents



with climate/community biodiversity knowledge and experience- need to get more to join group.

Next meeting first week in October . KR to send around invitation- try to meet in person.

KR 10-08-23