



CAG- minutes – Wednesday 3rd December at 6pm

-foyer of the Eco Hub

Group attendance members: Peter Condon, Nicola Jenkins, Hilary Young, Kirstin Rayner (arrived 6.20pm), Kate Laugharne, Emma, Livvy and Molly Leaf-Grimshaw, Emma Surry, Vanessa Tregunna

1. Welcome, and volunteer chair for this meeting- Emma. Apologies from Raff, Mark, Sarah, Miriam.
2. Minutes of the meeting Weds 22nd October and issues arising- Noted- minutes are fine. KR/KL to add minutes to website.
3. Events 2025/26
 - a) Repair Café- planned for 21st March- forms completed and now being advertised to the repairers. HY agreed to act as a repairer. Seed swap will be running at the same time. HY willing to run drop-in repair sessions- DARN it (Name suggested by NJ) to teach repair skills.
 - b) Any other events & Project and theme review for 2026
 - i) Wildlife Gardening Support- update- leaflet and google form ready to go, need grant for plaques- grants applied for no success so far.
 - ii) River water monitoring-KL- all good- session KL to add ELG/HY and VT to River fly Whats App list.
 - iii) Scything workgroup- Haslingfield based work group-people who enjoy scything. Group working to be much the same as last year but more organised. Session 28/29 May with scythe repair/maintenance then a taster session in June. Wandlebury Scything festival-12th July- Hilary is attending. Gamlingay scything areas added to the work schedule for 2026-co-operative calendar. 3 churchyards (one in Gamlingay parish) and Millbridge Meadows (Lower Field). ELG- Scything has made a real difference to Lower Field and Millbridge Meadow. Rakes work on scythed material much better (not mushed by machine cut).
 - iv) Swift Project- MF apologies sent update 4 new boxes arrived today and will be visiting Gamlingay next week to look at some sites- boxes will go up next year-noted.
 - v) Tree planting in The Butts- project/programme Summer shade is needed in The Butts for parents- applied for 6 free trees- try a whip in central location with planting. TCV also applied for a tree pack- on waiting list. Need to water tree- over summer (when dry conditions) so it can become established.
 - vi) Eco tour- Gamlingay Weds January 28th – SCDC- Zero Carbon Initiative tour-help to organise/talks- about CAG, Eco Hub, GCT Ltd, parish council and OMC. SCDC working with parish clerk to set up Great Gamlingay Tour- talks by many green groups- turbine, CAG, PC and Eco Hub. Walk around planned 1.30pm Hub, view of turbine, MBM, Foodbank and possibly OMC, back to Eco Hub for 1.5 hours of talks- Wind turbine, CAG projects, PC, Eco Hub finishing with a tour of building. MF could have a swift table during refreshments-KR to ask. Molly- volunteered to video talks/photos



and ask Miriam to liaise re social media coverage. Anyone wants any activities/topics added to talks please speak to ELG or KR. Open to any residents of South Cambridgeshire- register through SCDC website.

- vii) Butterfly mounds- interest in project? KR explained option for butterfly bank on 'butterfly field' by peace bench (next to Lower Field/Block Bridge. Principle to create shade patterns in full summer to provide safe habitat for butterflies- orientation and height of bank-study information needed from Cambridge Uni research to ensure right environment is created. ELG/KR to look at possible funding options for grants. Current banks 'E' shaped for research purposes.
- viii) South Cambs Climate and Nature Group- session 31st January 2-4pm Eco Hub (ELG)- parish nature groups invited along by Climate and Nature project to share experiences -5 parishes chosen for grants by Nature Recovery Strategy. ELG involved and groups meeting here. Can register for this event on Eventbrite.

c) Parish Council

- i) Biodiversity Audit- articles Gazette and CAPALC bulletin, consultation early 2026. Articles have been submitted- CAPALC article published. Biodiversity Audit will be consulted on in February 2026- display board and some open sessions. ELG to discuss with GW. Some work required to target section to define clearly main targets- ELG and KR to do some work. Consultation on the overall form of strategy (information is accurate) as well as the targets identified- whether they are reasonable.
4. **Grants-** record of proposed grant applications for discussion/approval (standing item-NJ) NJ suggested this section so we can all keep up to date with the grants which have been applied for and projects considered for funding.

GWG- ELG applied for two grants- GCT and The Linnean Society

Scything-GW applied for a new scythe (GCT)

5. **Publicity and promotion-**

- a) Facebook and social media posts -MF has been doing some stuff & MLG doing some Instagram
- b) Articles for the Gazette- request for circulation to group for comment before submission of new articles (NJ) Discussed that entire group circulation before deadlines is not practical. If there is time, writers of articles will try to touch base with group leader/s of projects for accuracy checks-KL and circulate to the group. MF to have last say with her social media/publicity role. HY to take over from PC regarding article writing to encourage more scythers to join- info on starter session/photos and how to get involved- for the April Gazette edition. HY- request for more scythes and places to store them.



- c) Any other items- HY- film showing Ant and Grasshopper- to clarify costs to KL for consideration.
- d) Closure of meeting- next meeting Weds 21st January- 6pm in the Eco Hub foyer- agreed.
- e) Meeting closed at 7.05pm

04-12-25