



CAG- minutes – Wednesday 18th March 2026 at 6pm

-foyer of the Eco Hub

Group attendance members: Peter Condon, Hilary Young, Kirstin Rayner (delayed), Kate Laugharne, Emma, Livvy and Molly Leaf-Grimshaw, Vanessa Tregunna, Miriam Foster, Mark Fitzpatrick, Rebecca Beattie, Jan Royal

1. Welcome, and volunteer chair for this meeting- Miriam agreed to chair.
2. Minutes of the meeting Weds 21st January and issues arising- none Minutes approved for website.
3. Events 2026
 - a) Repair Café-ELG- 21st May – Fully booked-less repairers this time advertising for more repairers needed. Seed swap advertised, will be organised by Miriam. Idea for next time- bike tyre repairs. PC_ s there anywhere that does bike recycling to Africa-PC to search
 - b) Wildlife Gardening Support- update- Plaques have arrived. Leaflet is on website googleform is on website launch when Gazette comes out-ELG and MF will follow up applications.
 - c) Riverfly monitoring- all good- happening tomorrow.
 - d) Scything workgroup-report season about to start, maintenance session in Haslingfield, followed by another with scything expert in May (Richard Broen). PC &HY to write article for the May Gazette (submission date 25th March). Discussion on scything needs on Lower Meadow-needs to be done soon. Scythers to set up a group to organise a date for reed scything on Lower Field in early April.
 - e) Swift Project-report- MFitz- Priority getting more boxes , spending grant money on emplin semi detached buildings- permission granted by Merton College for installs if tenants are happy. Permission to be discussed for install on Church Hall. Needs dates for summer swift days- swift information date will be 21st April at the eco Hub.
 - f) Biodiversity Audit- report – ELG- consultation ongoing suggestion for cycleway to Potton- more responses to Bio Audit wanted- please submit- 6 online currently. 2 good sessions with residents already completed.
 - g) Tree planting strategy- report and several offers of trees- Merton College have agreed t tree planting and hedge planting and owl boxes on Log Field. Local Businessman has offered some tree funding-aiming for planting in November/December 2026.
 - h) SCDC Climate and Nature Strategy- noted and Eco tour- Gamlingay Weds 27th May – KR to check every speakers availability/finalise schedule- then publish the schedule on Cambridge Climate event website/SCDC website.
 - i) Parish Council



- i) Great Collaboration and the National emergency Briefing- film 7th April- 13th May at 7pm booked – small hall – can advertise. (30 seats) – depressing film needs to be followed with community action film/practical ways to make a difference- GC and others preparing short films to inspire taking action.
- ii) Community energy-Schools energy latest- CAT interested in scheme for solar panels- community shares to be offered to cover the cost of installation and supply of equipment- community investment through a CIC set up by Energy4 All/Cambs CC on Gamlingay VP site.

4. **Grants-** record of proposed grant applications for discussion/approval

A421 Fund- Bowls Club- solar array and battery storage for energy needs- Jan 2026- application submitted

Proposals for grant applications 2026- discussion-HSCDC ZCC grants £2k-£19k relaunch. MFitz- may make further application for swifts, HY interested-solar/heating for church- terms and conditions will need to be researched to see if project qualifies.

5. **Publicity and promotion-**

- a) Facebook and social media posts -MF- MLG doing instagram posts,
- b) Articles for the Gazette- review and discuss schedule

April -KR to do article on the Great Gamlingay Tour. KR to request Gazette deadline dates for MF and MFitz. Request for 1 page per edition to fill- KR to request. Want to get away from articles being 'chopped up', if possible.

May edition- Scything PC/HY,

June edition- Marks Swifts- need to be written by end of April

July/August edition- feedback on Biodiversity Audit consultation results and what is next

September- results of Bio audit/butterfly monitoring report -ELG

- c) Any other items-

- i. Great Big Green Week- 6-14 June 2026- ideas? [The Great Big Green Week](#)

HY- Ants and Grasshopper film- speak to KL- prefer large screen/Kingspan hall.

HY- M Astor talk on soils and farming- HY to pick a date/liase with MA. We can publicize through social media.

Bioblitz- Tues 9th June, Thurs 11th June (back up date if weather inclement) Evening with Swifts- MFitz to finalise- HY offered cheese and wine at church before event.



- ii. Energy Saving Volunteers-thermal imagery camera-VT- important to provide buddying- in addition to householder help- group to arrange support for roll out offer to community Sept/November.
- iii. ELG- BB count-7th July 21st July- butterflies, also 4th August and 18th August. July- article on butterflies- ELG.
- iv. MFitz- BTO conference- breeding bird census launched April to July- in any public spaces- promote this- Birds in Open Spaces – could roll this in with Bioblitz work....

d) Closure of meeting- 7.30pm. Next meeting Weds 20th May at 6pm

KR

19-03-26