CAG- Minutes – Wednesday 16TH September 2026 at 6pm

-foyer of the Eco Hub

Group members: Peter Condon, Emma, Mark and Molly Leaf Grimshaw, Nicola Jenkins, Kirstin Rayner, Kate Laugharne, Hilary Young (delayed). Apologies from Sue Barrett, and Mark Fitzpatrick.

1. Welcome, appoint Chair- for the meeting -KL
2. Minutes of the meeting Weds 22nd July 2026-approved- to be put on website.
3. Action planning and Terms of Reference- review- KR (Parish Council) Explained review of strategic documents and long-term planning- there is a need for a review of the Terms of Reference for the group and its role in delivering the Climate action planning for the village. KR to find model TOR from similar group to adapt and will report back at future meeting. Work to commence on a new Neighbourhood Plan Nov 2027 and a new Emergency Plan.

   Discussed terrestrial carbon footprint- PC advised that Gamlingay ahead of the curve due to existence of GEAG/reference to article in Gazette. Parish council (KR) to redo calculations on carbon for 2025-6 and in general how village is doing-use impact measurement tool. ELG- High compared with nationally on foreign travel, consumption of gas (Gamlingay) oil (Hatley) transport /travel (rural location large proportion of major roads in Cambridgeshire statistic). Also consumption /shopping and fish/meat consumption. Look to compare Impact model 2019 and 2026 to see comparison/differences.

4. Vacancy- social media (Miriam standing down) Molly will do Instagram and work with Kate on publishing stuff on Facebook.
5. Events 2026

a) Village Show-19th September 1-4pm table and activities/volunteers- MLG advised that there will be environment quiz with creatures and environments for participants on the CAG table. Prizes are wild seed packets. Display boards- parish councils has Bio Audit- will be some leaflets-and SUMA products and information. Wild Garden plaques and scheme leaflets. Nicola to bring display stuff to the Hub for Kate to deliver to the show on Saturday morning. MLG- sort out QR codes to link to website pages. ELG to take post its notes for people to supply contact information if they want to. PC may not be at the show-prior engagement. Nicola attending 2-4pm. Tables in marquee should be close together.
b) Repair Café- next date ELG-21st November 1-4pm- need more repairers especially electrical. Kate to do the new Repair Café Poster to advertise at the show. (KATE TO DO FRIDAY)
c) Wildlife Gardening Support- latest-ELG/MF 15 applications, of which 13 were awarded. Do another push at the show-and article in the Gazette.
d) River fly monitoring- report-KL- all good- water remained in the stream bed throughout the drought which was positive for the wildlife. Bedfordshire region now looking to do river fly

monitoring testing. ELG obtained an earth watch testing kit for nitrates and phosphates- will gather sample shortly. (This weekend).

e) Millbridge Brook works-ELG- IDB is meant to be removing large tree and willow and some banks clearance. Once done, Gwyn and ELG to start replacing riffles and hurdles as agreed with the IDB- probably Spring 2027 due to water level needing to be low. Will need volunteers to deliver this work.

f) Scything workgroup-report-PC- 15 sessions in June- large group carrying out scything from Cambridge/Wandlebury/Everton/Haslingfield/Gamlingay. Scything page on Haslingfield and Harlston website can see diary and timetable. KL- need to advise the group of how many sessions and where next year- now down to PC (Hilary no longer in the village) PC-Training occurs early June- need to advertise this to encourage new members. Discussed scything in Churchyard- grass too brittle for scything this year- need contract to be carried out for 1 year and then to be reviewed. Ann Davis now main contact on maintenance issues. Discussion of yellow rattle- to Ann.

g) Swift Project-report-MF provided a written report- more boxes to go up this autumn and new ones being made.

h) Biodiversity Audit- Adoption and action planning -ELG Now adopted and published and shared with WT, SCDC CNRS, Merton College. 10 Umbrella actions shared with group. Tree canopy -GW identified canopy coverage for cooling should be a priority. Working with farmers discussed. (mainly led by Central Government policy)

i) Bioblitz and butterflies- report-ELG- good year for butterflies- more species recorded especially on butterfly bank area. Need to discuss management of butterfly banks with WT (vegetation/versus bare earth) Thanks to Emma with fab work on this.

j) Log Field hedging and trees project (Strategy) Winter 2026- funding from Turbine Fund confirmed 60m of hedgerow to go in – about 240 trees and a few stand-alone oaks- need to map out where the oaks are going and send to Merton College for approval. Potential weekend of 14-15 November earmarked- request Woodland Trust 1st October. Discussed hedge laying- top work slightly on churchyard hedge (PC) -planned by ELG/Gwyn.

k) Suggestion of winter talks programme- NJ- report- talked to GW not got too far- thinking about who would be the audience? 2 themes- school/young people/careers or wider general population- Suggestions to Nicola. NJ talked to HY re soil film. HY/NJ to ask M Astor about 23 October or dates in November for 6 inches of soil film showing date.

HY arrived at the meeting. Discussed potential opportunity for regular use of film equipment on a Friday night once a month- potential screening of 6 inches of soil, the Grasshopper film and 3 other film showings- Benedict Cumberbatch U tube film releasing shortly- could show that. Suggestions to KL/budget is limited.

l) Parish Council- terms of reference review- previously discussed- priorities from NEB- deferred

6. **Grants-** record of proposed grant applications for discussion/approval – none at present.

Proposals for grant applications 2026- Community chest approved grant for two large trees- The Butts- Installation autumn 2026, GCT- Log Field and Everton hedges- approved.

7. **Publicity and promotion**-

a) Facebook and social media posts – MLG- to publicize
b) Articles for the Gazette- review and discuss schedule -ideas

November edition- feedback on Biodiversity Audit consultation results and what is next

December/January edition- Hedgerow planting and The Log Field project

February edition- Adopt a tree- Sue? other suggestions?

c) Any other items- SB- tree watering adopt a tree idea- Summer 2027.HY thanks to PC for taking over her 'hot bin'. Discussed wormeries and possibly do a talk /engagement with Gardening Club/Allotment society on wormeries and soil.

d) Closure of meeting- next meeting Weds 4th November at 6pm

Meeting closed 7.00pm

KR

17-09-26