



Blockley Parish Council Environmental Sustainability Working Group Meeting

Minutes - Thursday 24th June 2021 7.30pm, remote via Zoom.

Present: Cllrs - Clare Turner, Paul Baines, Jon Bryan, Kirsty Derson
Lyn Stokes, Freya Aylmore, Mike Sharpe & Kester Derson
Apologies: Charlie Mackinnon-Little
Sarah Longbottom (Clerk)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence: Charlie Mackinnon-Little
2. Items for Any Other Business: Litter picking, management of data lists, Blockley Environmental Action Group.
3. Objectives of the Environmental Sustainability Working Group (ESWG)

CT explained the rationale behind the migration from a parish council committee to a working group formation, the process of proposing motions to the council and the advantage of a wider community involvement with the group.

4. Drafting a climate and ecological action plan for full Council to consider

In February 2021, BPC declared a climate and ecological emergency and made commitments to review all work areas and decision-making processes. A strategic plan is to be compiled by the working group to list required actions, key performance indicators and time targets. The strategy is to be presented to full council in September with a view to publishing the action plan week commencing the 20th September to coincide with 'The Great Big Green Week' and consult with the parish residents.

5. Facilitation and feasibility of Electric Vehicle charging points

Explorations have been done including a feasibility study with Western Power. There would be a local membership rate and a flexi pay system for visitors. The proposal has been sent to Chris Crookall-Fallon (Head of Climate Action at CDC) to understand the return and any future support from CDC. The next step is to establish the responsible authority of the St Georges car park with St Georges Hall management committee. A draft survey is to be written to understand the future demand from residents to allow for future progression of the matter.

6. Future public consultation of mowing regime

A consultation to understand optimal biodiversity balanced with appearance is to be proposed to full council. A draft questionnaire is to be written to allow for future progression of the matter.

7. Roadside verges (working with partners)

Enquiries are to be made with the County Councillor to understand if there is a strategy to improve biodiversity along the highway verges. Models are to be researched to see where the management of verges has promoted better value flora and fauna.

8. Green infrastructure consultation

Promotion of the CDC draft 2021 Green Infrastructure Strategy consultation is to be publicised and the group are to review the actions suggested for Blockley and discuss with full council responding to the consultation and providing a local understanding of additional actions to enhance the strategy for Blockley. An understanding of how Blockley was assessed is to be obtained.

9. Suggested items for next meeting:

Methods to log and map parish biodiversity by residents

Nik Sanders to present to the council the work of Cotswolds National Landscape (to be publicised to landowners)

Bat boxes and walks

10. Any other business

A communications administrator is needed for the litter picking group to record what has been collected and where.

Discover if the national litter picking programme is running this September.

Once the new IT cloud software is active, exploration of setting up secure contact data lists with mailing lists is required.

Notify Blockley Environmental Action Group (BEAG) of the work and meeting dates of the working group.

11. Date of Next Meeting: 22nd July 7:30pm