

Climate Change Working Group

Thursday 14th April 2022

Present: Carla Bilenkyj (Acting Chair), Brian Carpenter, Steve Filer, Lindi Rich (East Devon AONB), Geraldine Swan, Ted Swan, Rosemary Walker

Engagement with Newton Poppleford Primary School

Lindi and Steve have planted ten trees and a hedge at the school; Lindi has surveyed the school grounds for other opportunities to engage children.

It may be possible to regenerate the school pond, although is likely to have to be done by an adult group.

It may be possible to plant wildflower seeds and to involve groups of schoolchildren in tree planting elsewhere in the parish.

East Devon AONB Nature Recovery Project

Lindi has made contact with Clinton Devon Estates to try to obtain contacts with local farmers for possible tree planting, hedge repairs, etc. The Devon Wildlife Trust's *Saving Devon's Treescapes* project may be a source of trees.

Lindi has made contact with the person who runs Tipton St. John 'Eager Beavers' and will look to develop a relationship with them. There may be the possibility of extending 'Balsam Bashing' to the River Otter around Tipton.

There will be a bluebell walk in Harpford Woods on Sunday 8th May.

Lindi will run a guided river walk via Harpford and Tipton in late summer. This will be focused on trees and wildlife but could involve an introduction to river pollution monitoring.

Lindi has been in touch with Kate Ponting (Clinton Devon Estates Countryside Learning Officer) about activities on the Pebblebed Heaths during the summer. These will hopefully include a bat evening, a moth evening and a butterfly walk.

Lindi reported that Catherine Causley, the East Devon District Council Climate Officer, is keen to come to speak in Newton Poppleford.

Tree Planting and Related Matters

Ted, Lindi, Gill Cameron-Webb and possibly Howard Hughes are going to tour the parish on Monday 25th April to identify sites for possible planting of trees in autumn 2022.

Recommendations will be made to the Parish Council after that, hopefully at its May meeting.

There will be a 'Tree Walk' on Thursday 2nd June as part of the parish Jubilee celebrations.

Other Matters

There will be a parish 'Open Morning' at the pavilion at some point after the Jubilee. This will include the Climate Change Working Group, and we will also work towards a specific Climate Change event in the late summer or early autumn. This would be used as a way of informing parishioners about the activities of the group and giving advice about energy saving.

With this in mind, everyone is going to research energy saving and funding tips before the next meeting.

Next Meeting

7 p.m. on Thursday 9th June, at the pavilion.