

## Climate Change Working Group

7pm on Thursday 28<sup>h</sup> July 2022 – Harpford Village Hall

Present: Gill Cameron Webb, Ted Swan, David Ludlow, Brian Carpenter, Howard Hughes and Maz Dufall

Apologies : Lindi Rich (East Devon AONB), Carla Bilenkj, Geraldine Swan, Rosemary Walker and Steve Filer

### **MINUTES**

1. Brian will arrange for the Climate Change Group to have a standing item on the Parish Council agenda in future.

#### 2. East Devon AONB Nature Recovery Project

2.1. During the school holidays Gill will water the new school trees fortnightly through the boundary fence, using a hosepipe.

Howard will donate recycled compost to suppress grass around the trees and he suggested feeding the trees with NPK mix (nitrogen phosphorus and nitrogen).

2.2. Hopefully Lindi will be at the next meeting to update on the following tasks:

- talking to Beverley about installing wildlife cameras;
- regeneration of the school pond at the end of autumn;
- talking to Kate Ponting about getting contacts with local farmers for possible tree planting and hedge repairs;
- developing a relationship with Tipton St. John 'Eager Beavers' for River Otter riverside management.

#### 2.3. Events

a. The local bat walk takes place on 29<sup>th</sup> July

b. Hopefully Lindi will be at the next meeting to update on the following events:

- a guided river walk via Harpford and Tipton late summer, Ted to decide the route;
- summer activities on the Pebblebed Heath, such as a moth evening and a butterfly walk.

2.4. Howard can arrange for the Beavers to build bird and bat boxes if Lindi tells him how many she needs. Howard hopes that Lindi could arrange a talk to the Beavers in return.

#### 3. Reducing Carbon Footprint in the Parish

3.1. Carla will speak to Catherine Causley to see how EDDC could create a repository or pack of material that Parishes can pick up and use. It would be useful to at least know EDDC's objectives and whether there's funding (e.g. from the locality budget) to help people to become more environmentally savvy. C/F

3.2. Hopefully Catherine Causley can come to our August meeting to help arrange a Climate Change talk in the village to provide people with ideas on how they can make personal choices to help reduce their own carbon footprint. C/F

3.3. Carla to ask Catherine the result of her 'Plastic Reduction' challenge was. C/F

3.4. Our Place/Our Planet

In the meantime we agreed to promote the Our Place/Our Planet website to give people ideas on how to improve their own carbon footprint.

Maz will do an article for September's Parish Magazine and Gill will do posters and Facebook Posts to go out at the same time

<https://ourplaceourplanet.org/energy-next-steps/>

3.5. Gill will re-circulate the carbon footprint links sent out previously (e.g Exmouth Council info) to see which bits could be useful for our parish.

## 5. Tree Planting

5.1. East Devon AONB Project:

On 23<sup>rd</sup> June six members of the CC group did a survey of Webber's Meadow to plan tree and hedge planting under Lindi's Nature Recovery project. A report and diagrams were emailed to all members. Lindi is looking into sourcing the trees.

5.2. Devon County Council Project:

On 22<sup>nd</sup> July DCC emailed Gill to say they're confident of planting trees on the old and new cemeteries, the sportsfield and Burrow Green. DCC expect to award a contract mid-August so contractors can start working with us in September.

5.3. Parish Council permission:

Gill will do a report for August's Parish Council meeting to brief them on the DCC and ED AONB tree planting plans, to include diagrams of each location. The report will ask the Parish Council for "permission in principle" so trees can be bought in time for winter planting.

5.4. Planting the trees:

Both ED AONB and DCC will need residents to plant the trees so Gill will do an article for September's Parish Magazine asking for expressions of interest.

5.5. Woodland Trust:

We'll need to publicise and arrange the 'give-away' of Woodland trust trees, likely to be during National Tree week (Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November to December 5<sup>th</sup>).

5.6. Jubilee trees:

Gill to ask Nick Howe if he could water Harpford's tree. Ted's watering the Newton Pop tree and Howard believes Sian Merrit is watering Venn-Ottery's and he noted that the community café might replace the dead christmas tree with an oak.

5.7. The willow house trees in the school field need cutting back and weaving in.

#### 6. Wildflower Meadow

Ted prepared and scarified soil in the Wildflower meadow and sowed the £60 of wildflower seed which was paid for by the OVA.

#### 7. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm at Bowhays Farm Coffee Hut in Venn Ottery