

Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Environmental Action Working Group held at 6.30pm on Wednesday 27th June 2023 in the Windrush Room at the George Moore Community Centre

Those Present: J Wareing (Chair), Steve Cotton, Amanda Davis, James Gardner, Bob Hadley, Jennifer Lanham, Sue Pacini.

Apologies : Tom Constant, Ian Gayton, Lynda Hicks, Leanne Launchbury, Andy Roberts, Sue Roberts

The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting, and new members; James Gardner and Sue Pacini introduced themselves.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Tom Constant, Ian Gayton, Lynda Hicks, Leanne Launchbury, Andy Roberts, Sue Roberts.
2. Jon Wareing apologised for the late cancellation of the meeting due to have been held on 6th June. Failure to send out an Agenda with sufficient notice in line with Parish Council protocol was the cause.
3. Amanda Davis shared a structured tool for community engagement in environmental action <https://greatcollaboration.uk/the-toolkit/>. It was noted that an offer to speak on behalf of this Herefordshire based grouping has been made and we will consider the timing of this. James, Amanda and Jon agreed to review the toolkit and make some comments in terms of feedback as well as advise the Working Group on how we might use it.
4. The minutes from meetings held on 10th May 2023 were approved as an accurate record.
5. Matters Arising:
 - a) Village Fresh Water Points

Steve Cotton reported that CDC were lukewarm about the introduction of a drinking water point outside the Public Conveniences on the High St adjacent to Rectory Lane, primarily because of proximity to waste water. Jon will follow up with CDC.

ACTION JW

Bob Hadley reported that he had no joy in soliciting useful information regarding the water fountain point in Tewkesbury.

After some general discussion, it was agreed to look into other free-standing options.

ACTION ALL

Jon Wareing reported that the Refill water bottle refilling scheme was out of the question due to significant participation costs (£3,150.00). The bottle refill scheme operated by SeaSalt is considered a great model and it was agreed to approach BBN to see if other local businesses were willing to be part of a Bourton Refill Scheme.

b) Community Composting Scheme

Steve Cotton, James Gardner and Jon Wareing agreed to visit the South Cerney site on 19th July at 10:00 (departing GMCC) in order formulate next steps which include seeking volunteers through the Bourton Browser, Horticultural Society and Bourton FB group. James Gardner felt that some of the people on the Cemetery Lane allotment site might be willing to commit to this project.

ACTION SC/JG/JW

c) Vibrant Verges

In Ian's absence it was agreed to set up an offline informal conversation about the scope of the Masterplan with Ian. It was stressed that we would need to explain this project to the community and heed the learning from St Lawrence Church with their experience of wilding the graveyard.

ACTION JW

d) Carbon Reduction Plan & Community Energy Scheme

It was agreed to invite Paul Taylor to speak at the next meeting on the topic of rooftop solar panels to understand the potential of this approach as part of a community energy scheme. (We will include a slot at the beginning of the next meeting to progress this (18:35 – 18:55 3/8)

ACTION JL

It was also agreed to set up a site visit to the Solar Farm just outside Charlbury to understand how this Community Energy Scheme had developed. (Set up for 26th July at 13:00)

ACTION JL

e) Engagement with Schools

Jon Wareing committed to follow up the action from last time in drafting a letter to both Heads.

ACTION JW

f) Fresh Milk Dispensing Scheme

The fresh milk dispensing scheme at Greystones Farm is up and running and a positive success. More publicity is probably required.

g) Reducing packaging waste from High Street hospitality outlets

Jon Wareing committed to following up with both The Chip Shed and Oli Bonny regarding food packaging waste. Steve Cotton reported that around a third of the waste being collected by CDC on the Village Green emanates from The Chip Shed.

ACTION JW

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next Environmental Action Working Group Meeting will be held at 18:30 on Thursday 3rd August 2023 in the Windrush Room, The George Moore Community Centre.

At 20:00 the meeting was closed.