

Notes of Rodington PC, Climate and Nature Working Group April 12th 2023
Held at Longdon upon Tern Village Hall 19.30

Present:

Tom Hayek
Marian Jolin
Kay Twigger
David Brown
Sue Brown
Duncan Maidens
Sue McGavin

Apologies

Claire Broderick
Nicola Pacult
Tom Currie

1. Action follow up from last meeting: Connor to contact TWC for the Parish/
Ward waste performance profile.

2. Rodington Community Orchard Action Day Sat. 15th April 14.30 – 16.30

(1) Bog garden

Liner – Tom C. to bring.

Soil – David and Duncan sorting.

Plants – Sue B. – discussion regarding whether liner should be pierced –
agreed that plants can survive in soggy conditions and to leave it and
see how it goes before putting any holes in.

Spades – plenty offered but all to bring if they have.

Water containers – Tom H & Duncan offered, but people to see what they
have in addition.

Need to keep bog garden damp – we have permission to use the bowser
in the cemetery which is refilled by the Parish Council . Rainwater
harvesting on village hall would help (to be discussed under AOB).

Rota for watering on WhatsApp group – needs doing twice a week and
(once midweek and once at the weekend).

Decided against mulch as liner will be impervious.

(2) Meadow

Idea is to demonstrate what people can do themselves at home.

Scarify – heavy duty rakes needed for Saturday.

Seeds and plugs – Sue B. has plugs and will bring. Tom H. to chase Connor
for seeds (*note we have since been notified that seeds have arrived and
Connor will sort with Tom H.*)

(3) Marking the Field

TWC has agreed to leave grass longer on west side of field to provide a wildlife corridor which we will need to mark out so that the contractors remember. Sue M. to provide 20 tall bamboo canes and take to Marian. Old paint needed to dip tops of canes – Tom H./Duncan to sort.

(4) Bug Hotel

Fir cones – Kay.

Bamboo canes – Duncan.

3. Remaining items for community orchard project (Gate, Bench, Interpretation Board)

(1) Interpretation Board

Discussion on whether the current system for communicating with and the work produced so far by the interpretation board company is value for money.

Options:

- Have the stand installed and get the design and artwork done elsewhere.
- Continue with unsatisfactory situation.
- End contract with current company.

Action: Tom H. to discuss with Connor with view to ending the contract.

(2) Gate

Person making it (Nick George) suggests we use coach bolts not screws for the post and rail as these will be more durable. He is making the gate free of charge and sorting out the adjacent fencing. He will need paying for the coach bolts.

Decision: Meeting decided to go with the coach bolts and to request reimbursement through the Parish Council petty cash system.

Action: Tom H. to sort out with Connor

(3) Bench

Has been delivered to Tom C. now stored at Rodington Village Hall

(4) Post holes

Action: Tom H. to ask Tom C. to contact Graham D. re attending on this workday to help with the various installations.

Agreed by all to hold workday to put these items in at 2.30pm on Monday 29th May.

4. Coronation Fund

Tom C. has put a bid in for wildlife improvements which includes £250 for this group.

Meeting discussed project options.

Agreed: Bat and/or bird boxes project.

Action: Tom H. to follow up with Tom C.

5. Hedgerows

The CPRE fund is to be released in around the next 4 weeks. Sue M. has spoken to farmer at rear of Tern Lane to reinstate hedges – he agrees in principle. CPRE provide volunteers as well as local people helping. Hedge laying is also possible.

Action: Sue M to follow up with Tern Lane farmer (name, address, grid reference for hedge)

6. Wildflower verges

Marian and Claire met with TWC to discuss Longdon locations. TWC will take on the maintenance – annual cut and border.

Agreed: before proceeding with further wildflower meadow verge creation planting to wait until the May projects completed and discuss at July meeting.

7. Tool Share and Recycling

(1) Tool share

Discussed the principles behind this is to reduce waste and expense by supporting sharing of equipment.

Agreed to set up a new Facebook page which can be shared to the various village groups. Caveat that individuals must be responsible for

agreeing between themselves, what happens in the case of breakages and other mishaps.

Action: Duncan to set up group. Duncan & Tom H. to meet separately to discuss this.

(2) Recycling

Agreed to delay developing further recycling projects until figures on waste performance are available.

Action (not discussed in meeting): Tom H. to discuss waste & recycling in his next Village Voice article.

8. Talks programme.

Action: people to bring ideas to next meeting

Sue M. and Kay volunteered to coordinate talks and activities programme.

9. AOB

(1) There is a fruit and veg/ plant swap on 13th May at Rodington Village Hall.

(2) Rainwater harvesting at village halls

Would be beneficial at Rodington as bog garden would thrive better with natural water than mains water also can be used for other watering of trees and plants. Suitability of roof etc uncertain.

Agreed: this would be something that the Parish Council should fund although the case can be made by this group.

Longdon upon Tern Village Hall has no garden land as such and there is no outside use for the collected water.

Action: Duncan to investigate system on Rodington Village Hall

10. Date of next meeting: Mon 22nd May 7 pm Rodington Village Hall

Items for Agenda:

1. Water testing
2. Farming

3. Talks programme ideas
4. Recycling – waste figures update
5. Wildflower verges update
6. Reports back on actions