**Climate Change Forum**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 1st March 2022 7.30 pm on Zoom**

**At Mandeville Hall, Tan House Lane, Burwell**

**Present** Jenny Moss (Chair), Lea Dodds, Jim Perry, Liz swift, Michael Swift, Paul Webb, Brenda Wilson, Nicola Hallows, Linda Hart, Martin O’Leary, and Yvonne Rix (Clerk).

Also Present Emma Fletcher (A to B1102 Group)

1. Apologies for absence

Gill Miller and Geraldine Tate

1. Approval of the minutes of 1st February 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2022 were approved and signed as a true and correct record. Proposed – Jim Perry, seconded – Brenda Wilson.

1. A to B1102 Group Presentation

Emma Flectcher from the A to B1102 talked to those present about the A to B 1102 Group and its aims. The Group was set up following the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) undertook a key consultation on traffic changes to the east of Cambridge. Only 19 responses were received from residents living between Quy and Burwell and many people, including some Parish Councils were unaware of the consultation taking place. The GCP has a budget of £500 million to spend on mainly transport related works, but spending on public transport, cycling, and walking facilities will not be delivered past the A14 junction at Quy. This is despite villages past Quy being strongly affected by changes to the transport network in Cambridge. The GCP has representatives from Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridge City Council and South Cambs. District Council. East Cambs District Council was not invited to be part of the partnership, although are consulted on proposals. The A to B1102 Group involves representatives from all villages beyond Quy through to Burwell. She continued to explain that these villages are being ignored and that if the Parishes want to improve transport facilities for their residents, then they will have to help themselves. The Group intends to find common issues to focus on in to improve the quality of the lives of those who drive, ride, cycle walk and live alongside the B1102. These issues include the reduction of speed limits through villages along the B1102, road improvements, traffic calming and improved bus services. The Group are talking to the National Trust regarding the tourism implications for the villages.

Emma Flectcher explained that access by car through the Eastern Gateway will become more difficult in the future. Around 25,000 cars travel in and out of Cambridge on a weekly basis. The new Anglia Water Treatment Plant is due to be located at Quy and it is likely that the new Newmarket Road Park and Ride will be developed on County Council owned land at Quy. Local bus services are currently not subsidised at the same rate as in other areas and the bus companies, which are privately owned, are not delivering the service that is needed. New travel hubs could be located within the communities and include additional facilities such as nurseries, cafes, gyms, bike storage etc.

Considerable lobbying needs to be carried out, along with establishing a seed fund to allow projects to be moved forward to attack capital funding. Emma Fletcher suggested that each Council should consider adding an amount to the annual precept for this. It is thought that the Newmarket Road Park and Ride is expected to close in around two years’ time, so quick action is needed. The Group will be having a stand at Burwell at Large and BEG offered to organise a village meeting for a representative from the Group to give a presentation.

Emma provided handouts to those present giving further information for the group and its aims.

1. Climate Change Action Sheet – Consideration of items and updates to the Climate Change Action Sheet

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Item | Action Required | Person/Status |
| **Climate Action Policy** |  |  |
| Energy usage and sources | Assess BPC Carbon Footprint  Encourage use of <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/>  Share on our website and BEG  FB page  Letter to Clunch | Phil McGrory to give a presentation at a village BEG meeting on 2nd April 2022.  The Clerk to obtain a quotation from Phil McGrory to carry out a carbon footprint for Mandeville Hall. The survey will need to be approved by Full Council prior to being carried out.  Any purchase requests from the group will need to be approved by Full Council the same as other working groups. |
| Transport and travel | EV Charging Points  Cycle paths | The Council has been unsuccessful in its application for funding through the National Lottery for two EV points at the Gardiner Memorial Hall and funding towards the Climate Change Survey (BEG). Other options for grants will be discussed by BEG.  Paul Webb to speak to ECDC regarding other funding options. |
| Agriculture and food | Promote local produce  Liaise with BAGs over allotments  Work with local farmers | Burwell Allotment and Gardening Society will be holding an Open Day on 23rd April. This is on the same day as the Pauline’s Swamp Open Day.  Work is ongoing to produce a list of local members of the farming community who could be approached to join the forum. Brenda Wilson to draft a letter to the farmers.  Farming community are apparently upset with the lack of support in the loss of land for solar farms.  The percentage loss of arable land to solar farms in the region may look greater than it actually is. |
| Housing and infrastructure | Focus on the need for new builds to be carbon neutral  Neighbourhood Plan | Recent presentation to Parish Council by This Land indicates that they will be looking at sustainable methods of heating for properties in Phase 3. However, the rest of the site has been sold on to the Vistry Group who will only be looking at meeting current climate change regulations and will also be thinking of bringing in gas to the site.  The last Local Plan for ECDC was published in 2015. At this stage there does no further update is in the pipelines. |
| Local business |  | Jenny Moss to speak to Co-op regarding the installation of EV points on their premises. |
| Waste and resources | Promote recycling/upcycling  Water refill stations  Repair Cafe | Lea Dodds and Geraldine Tate attended a webinar on how to set up a Repair Café. This was organised by Cambridge Carbon Footprint and included a template for setting up the hub. It is suggested that those wishing to embark on setting up a café to visit an existing café in operation. Items for repair are pre booked in to ensure that the right tools and individuals are available for the repair. The cafes normally have cake and refreshments which along with donations made for work done, provides ample funding to run the café and session. Other suggestions to include are an amnesty box and a swap shop. If storage was available a Library of Things could also be involved.  Jenny Moss reported that she has emailed the Co-op re water filling stations. |
| Environment and land use | Tree Planting  Wild flowering  Community Gardens  Environment Agency | The appropriateness of having a Dog Show at the Pauline’s Swamp Open Day was raised. It was explained that dogs must be on leads and under control. This was found to be acceptable.  It was reported that 25 trees transferred from the Tree Nursery had been planted on Spring Close and a further 100 at the National Trust owned White Fen situated between Lode and Swaffham Bulbeck. The plans for tree planting at Pauline’s Swamp was requested and a suggestion made for trees to be planted on the boundary of Priory Meadow and Priory Wood. Council members will need to look at the boundary prior to any decision being made. Pauline’s Swamp Vision Plan will be updated once additional tree planting has been agreed.  Concern was also raised about the fairy lights on the trees along the Causeway and if they should be allowed to remain in situ all year due to the damage that the tightness of the lights around the trunk could cause to a living and growing tree. It was noted that these trees belong to the County Council Highways and not the Parish Council. The points made by Wild Burwell were noted.  Council members informed the Forum that they are having difficulties in finding an economical and affordable way to dispose of arising from areas previously designated to be managed to allow wilding to take place and that for this year, managing the areas in this way and to the extent planned may not be possible. However, as a compromise a small area at each location may be workable. This option will be considered at the Parish Council meeting on 8th March 2022. Further investigations will be made during the year to find a disposal solution for 2023.  The planning for the Community Garden at the Recreation Ground is progressing. There is concern about the grasscrete currently installed. It may be possible to work with the grasscrete by only removing smaller areas where planting needs to be carried out. It is thought that removing all of the material is likely to be time consuming, problematic and expensive. It was agreed that a trial area to test how difficult it is to remove should be carried out first. |
| **Village Survey** |  |  |
| **Green Open Day** |  | Climate Change Open Day possibly later in the Summer. |

1. Involvement of Youth Groups - Guiding and Scouting

It was noted that the Guiding Groups are keen to be involved with Climate Change. Jenny Moss to contact.

1. Any Other Business
2. Emergency Planning

A request was made for the Council to compile a Community Emergency Plan was noted. The

Council’s Safety Group will discuss this. ECDC already has a plan in place. Fallen trees unless on

Council owned land are generally dealt with by the Fire Service or the County Council Highways

Team. Care needs to be taken to ensure that volunteers do not put themselves at risk. There is a

need to consider vulnerable people particularly regarding the loss of electricity and water. ECDC

as part of their plan has contact details for both the Clerk and keyholders should the halls be

required in an emergency. There may be a need to consider having generators available as a

back up.

A request made for the agenda to be ordered differently was noted.

1. Date of the next meeting – 4th April 2022 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signed Dated