

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND BIODIVERSITY GROUP MINUTES 28 JANUARY 2026

Attendees

Caroline Underwood CU , Chair	Ray Magness RM
Richard Salmon RS	Madeline Fraser MF
Peter Clarke PS	Melanie Storey MS , Secretary

Item 1 Record of the Last Meeting

- The minutes of the last meeting were approved
- Action review:

No	Action Description	Status/Update
44.19	MF to explore adding QR codes to the spotters' guides	On-going
45.1	CU to contact a resident to try and determine who is responsible for the collapsed fence in Cranfield Close	Closed, transferred to Annual Footpath Action List
46.9	RS to raise sunflowers for planting out around the village next year; an activity that young people will be invited to participate in	On going
47.1	MS to clarify with PC some of the actions required in response to the annual footpath check	Completed
47.2	MS to purchase additional footpath discs	Completed
47.3	MS to include an update on actions from the annual footpath check on the agenda for the next meeting	Completed
47.4	CU to confirm to Aggregate Industries that we have started work on an updated footpath map	Completed
47.5	CU to provide MS with the contact details for the Definitive Map lead at Cambs CC	Completed
47.6	MS to contact the Definitive Map lead at Cambs CC to confirm the exact location of the new footpaths	Closed, see Item 2
47.7	CU and MS to create the wording for the revised footpath map	Closed, superseded by Action 48.6
47.8	RM to check again with Ramune on the tree work required in Morris Close	Checked once, will check a second time
47.9	RM to draw up an outline plan for a proposed woodland on the Bloor Estate	Completed
47.10	CU to discuss the potential creation of a woodland, based on the outline plan, with the Bloor Estate Management Company	Outstanding, dependent on the outcome of 48.14
47.11	All to consider assisting RM with the planting of the new hedge at the Towers	Completed
47.12	RS to obtain quotes/information for low natural fencing for Hunts End	Completed
47.13	CU to circulate draft wording for explanatory signs at Hunts End	Completed

No	Footpath Annual Check Action Description	Status/Update
B1	• CU to ask Parish Clerk to put request on Face book re broken fence on B1	• Completed - landowner identified and request been sent
B2	• MS to install sign on gate on road side • CU to ask Thornhills about fence that is down on B2 • MS to ask Parish Clerk to arrange for groundsmen to complete repair of bench on B2	• Completed • Completed • Request submitted to Parish Clerk
B3	• RS to align sign correctly at junction of B3 and B14	• Outstanding
B4	• MS to ask Parish Clerk to arrange for groundsmen to cut back in the Spring any overgrowth on B4 near lake and at the end where the path crosses Morris Close	• Request submitted to Parish Clerk
B5	• RM to cut back brambles covering sign at junction of B5 and road B661	• Completed
B7	• RS to replace sign on B7	• Outstanding
B9	• CU to ask GOVT to install 3 way finger post at junction of B9 and B12	• Completed
B12	• MS to report broken branch on B12 to Cambs CC • CU to ask GOVT to install 3 way finger post at junction of B12 with Mill Road • MS to report slippery bridge on B12 to Cambs CC	• Completed • Completed • Completed
B13	• CU to ask GOVT to install a proper sign at junction of B13 with Mill Road	• Completed
B14	• CU to raise waterlogging with landowner	• Completed, Thornhills will discuss with Holcim
New paths	• Advisory Group to take forward these issues forward	• Completed, being taken forward
D2	• MS to report broken branch on D2 to Cambs CC	• Completed
D11	• MS to clear vegetation on D11 • MS to install sign on D11	• Completed • Completed
D14	• CU to raise replacement of sign on D14 with Thornhills (junction of wood and Highfield farm path is about to fall over)	• Completed, Thornhills will undertake
All	• MS to source discs for replacing faded signs	• Completed

Item 2 Green Infrastructure

- Points arising from the annual footpath check action list:
 - Holcim is the new name for Aggregate Industries
 - B2 - Thornhills has suffered a lot of trespass onto its land, adjacent to the footpath B2, and their long term aim is to plant a hedge and install a gate
 - The Great Ouse Valley Trust (GOVT) intends to create a list of signs that need to be replaced and points where new ones are required using this list to apply for the necessary funding
 - GOVT has invited the Parish Council to encourage participation in this year's WOW
 - D14 - Thornhills to address the issue with the sign
- New footpath map (new paths and B15)

- Holcim has provided a revised footpath map which it is believed needs some amendment
- Action 48.1 CU** to submit an article to the Roundabout reminding residents about the Countryside Code and the requirement to keep to public rights of way and not to trespass onto private land
- Action 48.2 MS** to provide RS with 4 footpath signs
- Action 48.3 CU** to remind GOVT to send details to the Parish Council of the 2026 WOW
- Action 48.4 MS** to update the annual footpath check action list for it to be forwarded to the Parish Council
- Action 48.5 MS** to include a follow up check of the annual footpath check action list as an agenda item for the next meeting
- Action 48.6 CU and MS** to review the draft new footpath map and to respond to Holcim accordingly

Item 3 Biodiversity

- Tree update:
 - The majority of the planting has been completed
 - Bulbs will be added to the planting near the telephone box
 - Chippings will be placed under the new hedge at Buckden Towers
 - RM has been in contact with the Village Hall Trust about possibly supplying them with the remaining blackthorn hedging plants
 - Buckden Towers has shared its plans to apply for a Community Grant to dredge the lake and to potentially improve the tree planting
 - Hunts End planting update:
 - RS has taken on responsibility for the area for the coming year
 - It was agreed that 4 packets of willow should be purchased to form a permanent barrier to protect the wildflowers from being trampled
 - It was agreed that explanatory signs should be purchased; one for Hunts End and one for Lucks Lane
 - It was noted that it is vital to prevent mowing of the area by Cambs CC
 - New woodland
 - It was agreed that the series of events to achieve a new woodland, adjacent to the Bloor homes, should be:
 - Update the planting plan
 - Consult with the Parish Council so it can decide if it wants to support the scheme and for it to clarify any potential legal issues
 - Discuss the scheme with the Bloor home estate management company
 - Consult with the residents
 - It was noted that any agreements should include a plan for long term maintenance
- Action 48.7 RM** to seek advice from the Woodland Trust and the Tree Council to assist Buckden Towers with its plan to improve the tree planting around its lake
- Action 48.8 CU** to ask the Parish Clerk to order 4 packets of willow for installation at Hunts End
- Action 48.9 RS** to draft the wording for the explanatory signs for the planting at Hunts End and Lucks Lane
- Action 48.10 CU** to ask the Parish Clerk to order explanatory signs for the planting at Hunts End and Lucks Lane
- Action 48.11 CU** to ask the Parish Clerk to remind Cambs CC not to mow the wildflower area at Hunts End
- Action 48.12 CU** to draft an article for the Roundabout highlighting all the new planting that has been undertaken around the village
- Action 48.13 RM** to update the proposed planting plan for a new woodland adjacent to the Bloor homes

Action 48.14 CU and PC to present the proposed scheme for a new woodland adjacent to the Bloor homes to the Parish Council for consideration

Item 5 Budget

- There has been no change in the budget situation but it was noted that funds will have been fully allocated before the end of the financial year

Item 6 AOB

- It was noted that there is a plan to plant a couple of shady areas in the Churchyard with plants such as snowdrops, aconites, primroses and bluebells
- The next meeting will be held from 1700 hours on Wednesday 4 March at 55 High Street

Action 48.15 MF to source new plants for the Churchyard