

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND BIODIVERSITY ADVISORY GROUP MEETING RECORD
21 NOVEMBER 2023

Attendees

Caroline Underwood CU , Chair	Catherine Grigg CG
Peter Clark PC	Richard Salmon RS
Madeline Fraser MF	Aiden Joy AJ
	Melanie Storey MS , Secretary

Apologies: Angie Bruce **AB**

Item 1 Record of the Last Meeting

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

No	Action Description	Status/Update
32.5	CU to write to the landowners of the area where the proposed new footpath would cross as the next step to progressing the application process	It was decided to delay this action until a discussion with the new CCC Footpath Officer takes place
35.5	CU to report back to the Group when a response is received from the Ouse Valley Trust on the possibility of creating an alternative route on a section of the OVW adjacent to Buckden Marina	Awaiting response, see Item 5 for update
36.4	MF to advertise the photography competition after Christmas	On-going, see Item 5 for update
36.7	RS to design a planting scheme for the Lucks Lane wall area	Arrangement has been made to discuss with landowner, see Item 3 for further update
36.13	CU to ascertain as to which organisations cut grass in the village and exactly which areas they cover <i>and subsequently publish the information on Parish Online</i>	On-going, words in italics added at the meeting Noted HDC and CCC do not publish this information
37.1	CU to discuss Action 36.7 with RS	Completed
37.2	CU to discuss with the Parish Clerk about putting the outcome of Action 36.13 on to Parish Online	Completed
37.3	MS to send members of the Group the template for reporting back on the condition of footpaths inspected during the annual check	Completed
37.4	CU to contact the landowner's agent to ascertain their view on the possible reinstatement of a public right of way via Margetts Farm	Outstanding, see Item 2
37.5	MS to add the review of the Biodiversity Action List to the agendas for the March and September meetings each year	On-going
37.6	RS to draft an article about hedge cutting for the March 2024 edition of the Roundabout	Ongoing
37.7	RS to draft an article about slugs for an edition of the Roundabout during 2024	Outstanding ditto

37.8	CG to update the biodiversity calendar for inclusion in the January 2024 edition of the Roundabout	On-going
37.9	MS to check if work is proceeding on the trees in Morris Close and Silver Street	See Item 5 for update
37.6	CU and MS to check the trees during April 2024 for any signs of issues related to drought	On-going
	Actions to be Monitored	
16.2	MS to distribute Round About Buckden leaflets and to record their take-up	Closed, task transferred to Communications Group
26.1	MS to monitor the impact of the Slow Ways initiative	Closed, Ouse Valley Trust pursuing issues with route

Item 2 Green Infrastructure

- 2023 annual footpath check report
 - Actions arising from the annual footpath check are listed in the report and progress will be monitored through the Group's meetings
 - It was noted a resident had attended BPC meeting to complain about the state of footpath B7 and B12.
 - It was noted that Aggregate Industries has agreed to fund a revision of the footpath map once the new footpaths in Diddington are opened.
- Possible reinstatement of a public right of way via Margetts Farm
 - It was noted the landowner's response to this suggestion had yet to be received

Action 38.1 CU to raise the issues associated with footpath B12 at the next meeting with National Highways

Action 38.2 CU to raise the issue of reinstatement of a public right of way via Margetts Farm again with the landowner

Item 3 Biodiversity

- Biodiversity Action List
 - It was noted that the action concerning the publication of information on hedge cutting is covered by Action 37.6 above
 - It was noted that there are 2 areas have been identified as possible sites for wild flower planting: an area by the vicarage, although the brambles would need to be removed first; an area adjacent to the Green memorial (these will be part of next year's proposed planting scheme)
- Planting scheme for Lucks Lane
 - It was noted that the landowner was content with the idea of using the area to increase biodiversity
 - It was agreed the addition of trees to the scheme would enhance the planting scheme if agreed with CCC Highways
 - It was noted that there are grants available from HDC for planting schemes and that the next deadline for applications is the end of November
- The Tree Warden's role is soon to become vacant

Action 38.3 MS to add the expansion of wild flower planting areas to the agenda for the next meeting

Action 38.4 MF to submit an expression of interest to HDC, seeking a grant to implement a planting scheme in Lucks Lane

Action 38.5 CU to place a notice in the Roundabout inviting applications for the Tree Warden role

Item 4 Budget

- It was noted that the Group's budget bid has been accepted

Item 5 AOB

- Ouse Valley Trust (OVT)
 - Re Action 35.5
 - The Offord and Buckden Angling Society has written to OVT asking why this Group has not received a reply to its enquiry about the possibility of creating an alternative route on a section of the Ouse Valley Way (OVW) adjacent to Buckden Marina
 - OVT has arranged a meeting with all the relevant CCC leads on 6 December to address the issues with the OVW
- Re Action 36.4
 - Photography competition: it was agreed this would take place during the Easter holidays 2024
 - MF said she had attended a HDC Climate Conversation and was impressed with the concept of biodiversity bingo, it was agreed that this idea should be pursued and linked to the photography competition
- Re Action 37.9
 - It was noted: work on Silver Street tree has been reported as completed, removal of the ash tree in Morris Close is outstanding
 - It was noted a tree has died in Morris Close
- It was noted that a resident had brought to the Group's attention that the redwood tree in the grounds of Buckden Towers is in a poor condition and that the Fathers' are aware and seeking advice from an expert
- Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 7 February from 1915 hours at 55 High Street and on Zoom

Action 38.6 MF to draft a biodiversity bingo leaflet to be released alongside the photography competition

Action 38.7 RS to reduce to a safe height, the dead tree in Morris Close