

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND BIODIVERSITY ADVISORY GROUP MEETING RECORD
17 JANUARY 2022

Attendees

Caroline Underwood CU , Chair	Richard Salmon RS
Pauline Steel PS	Amy Burbidge AB
Pam Fraser PF	Joshua Harris JH
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
20.4	All to identify people who could be approached to join the Footpath Working Party	Completed, see Item 2
25.7	LO to approach local nurseries with a view to supporting the Greening Buckden initiative	Closed
26.1	MS to organise a check of the Slow Ways route between Huntingdon and St Neots	Outstanding, JH agreed to help with this action
26.8	MS to create a calendar of initiatives, such as National Hedgerow Week	Completed, see action 28.1
27.1	CU and MS to progress an application for the designation of a new public right of way	In progress
27.2	MS to source a warning sign about the danger of rabbit holes on footpath B7	Completed and installed by RS
27.3	MS to include the report from the Annual Footpath check on the agenda of the next meeting	Completed, see Item 2
27.4	MS to create a requirement document and then ask the Parish Clerk to seek quotes from contractors to undertake the work arising from the tree survey	Completed work due to take place 3-4 February Sec note: resident in Morris Close has been informed of start date
27.5	MS to include the report from the Annual Footpath check on the agenda of the next meeting	Closed, duplicate of action 27.3
27.6	CU to approach Buckden Towers with a view to their participation in The Queen's Green Canopy initiative	Completed, see Item 3
27.7	CU to contact the Forestry Commission's advisor on tree planting	Completed, see Item 3
27.8	RS to create a planting plan for the area between the telephone box and the memorial on the High Street and another planting plan for Morris Close	Completed, see Item 3
27.9	All to contact the Chair with any suggestions for likely expenditure against next year's budget	Completed
Actions to be Monitored		
16.2	MS to distribute Round About Buckden leaflets and to record their take-up	1,000 leaflets taken by the public; need to include geocache website activity

Action 28.1 MS to circulate the annual list of national events to members of the Group and to include it as a standing item on future agendas with a view to promoting the events through the Roundabout and website

Action 28.2 ALL to review calendar and send back ideas

Item 2 Green Infrastructure

- Annual Footpath check report
 - The Group went through the Annual Footpath check report action list, noted the completed actions and agreed how to take the outstanding actions forward
 - It was decided the date for the next check would be decided at the next meeting, Sec note: last year's check was undertaken in September
- Footpath Working Party
 - A request for volunteers in last month's edition of the Roundabout yielded 1 volunteer so it was agreed further requests should be published
- Ouse Valley Way
 - It was noted that the issue of erosion of the bank of the River Great Ouse adjacent to the Ouse Valley Way, where it passes under the new A14 bridge, was featured in the Hunts Post; this is an issue brought to the attention of the Ouse Valley Trust (OVT) by this Group previously
 - It was suggested that erosion could be reduced if the bank of the river was profiled into a gentle slope; this would require the fence to be taken further back from the bank
 - It was recognised that it would be expedient to resolve this issue before the A14 Delivery Group is wound up
 - It was also noted that the landowner of the meadow behind the mill may be submitting an application to erect a solar farm; it was decided this should be brought to the attention of the OVT

Action 28.3 MS to include deciding on the date of the 2022 footpath check as an agenda item for the next meeting

Action 28.4 AB to place a request for volunteers to join the Footpath Working Party on Facebook in March

Action 28.5 PS to create and distribute a flyer, requesting volunteers to join the Footpath Working Party, amongst the village's Slimming World group

Action 28.6 MS to contact the organiser of the Village Litter Pick to see if there is scope to combine with monitoring the village footpaths

Action 28.7 CU to contact the OVT to reiterate concerns over the erosion of the river bank under the new A14 bridge and to inform them of the possible creation of a solar farm behind the mill

Item 3 Biodiversity

- Talking Trees
 - It was decided further action was required to promote the Talking Trees
- Planting plans for High Street and Morris Close
 - High Street: the plan is to grub out some roots and create a thicker hedge through inter planting; it was decided to see which plants emerged this year near to the memorial and to do some complementary planting at a later date
- Tree Strategy action plan
 - It was decided the Tree Strategy should be reviewed
- Additional 'Greening Buckden' leaflets

- It was decided the next leaflet should be 'Talking Trees and Bees' to encourage use of the Talking Trees facility and to highlight the impact of the wildflower planting around the village
- Queen's tree canopy
 - It was confirmed an item would be in the next edition of the Roundabout covering the planting in Buckden Towers
- Forestry Commission advisor on tree planting
 - It was noted that this discussion had taken place and it was felt the scale of planting described was beyond what was possible at this time
- Biodiversity Strategy update
 - The revised draft of the Strategy is expected shortly and will be circulated once received

Action 28.8 MS to obtain the information on the Talking Trees and to circulate it to the Group

Action 28.9 All to read the Tree Strategy in preparation of a review at the next meeting

Action 28.10 MS to prepare an initial draft of the 'Talking Trees and Bees' leaflet

Action 28.11 CU to circulate Biodiversity plan on receipt

Item 4 Budget

- It was noted that further expenditure yet to be invoiced included:
 - Work arising from the tree survey £2070
 - Biodiversity Strategy £900
 - Work on the willows by the Mill £660
 - This is a total of £3570 in year expenditure yet to be invoiced
- This gives a budget position of:

Annual budget	£4380.00
Expenditure to date	£1818.19
Committed expenditure	£3630.00
Total expenditure	£5448.19
Deficit	£1068.19

Item 5 AOB

- Date of the next meeting will be Monday 7 March at 1915 hours