

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND BIODIVERSITY ADVISORY GROUP MEETING RECORD
7 SEPTEMBER 2021

Attendees

Caroline Underwood CU , Chair	Richard Salmon RS
Melanie Storey MS , Secretary	

Apologies Pauline Steel **PS**, Sue Ashwell **SA**, Lou O'Connor **LO**, Amy Burbidge **AB**

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	CU and MS will meet to take this forward, Outstanding
25.7	LO to approach local nurseries with a view to supporting the Greening Buckden initiative	Outstanding
26.1	MS to organise a check of the Slow Ways route between Huntingdon and St Neots	Outstanding
26.2	AB to include a comment on the need for improvements to our area's path connectivity in the County LCWIP consultation	Completed
26.3	MS to contact the creator of the Round About Buckden geocache to ascertain take up figures	Completed 49
26.4	CU to raise the possibility of creating a permissive path to Southoe, at her meeting with Thornhill Estates on 22 July	Completed Thornhills said 'No' on the grounds of security
26.5	MS to contact the tree inspection contractor to confirm the proposed pre meet on 3 August	Completed
26.6	MS to contact the Duke of Edinburgh student who is undertaking the 'Talking Trees' project for an update	Completed
26.7	LO to circulate the draft 'Greening Buckden' leaflet for comment	Completed
26.8	LO to create a calendar of initiatives, such as National Hedgerow Week	Outstanding
26.9	MS to organise the annual footpath check	Completed
26.10	RS and CU to arrange for instalment of the 2 new footpath signs	Completed, arrangements made for installation
26.11	CU to ask the Parish Clerk to arrange for the handymen to remove the brambles from the Churchyard	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

Item 2 Green Infrastructure

- Further to the collection of signatures to support the case for designation of a new public right of way it has been discovered there is now a form based application process
- It was agreed that a sign warning users of the danger of rabbit holes on footpath B7 should be installed
- It was agreed that the report from the Annual Footpath check would be discussed at the next meeting and then it would be submitted to the next meeting of the Parish Council

Action 27.1 CU and MS to progress an application for the designation of a new public right of way

Action 27.2 MS to source a warning sign about the danger of rabbit holes on footpath B7

Action 27.3 MS to include the report from the Annual Footpath check on the agenda of the next meeting

Item 3 Biodiversity

- It was agreed that all recommendations from last month's tree survey would be actioned
- It was agreed that any planning to plant more trees should be in line with the Biodiversity Strategy that is due to be completed soon
- It was agreed that drafting additional Greening Buckden leaflets would be discussed at the next meeting
- It was agreed that ways to participate in the The Queen's Green Canopy initiative should be explored
- It was agreed that contact should be made with the Forestry Commission's advisor on tree planting
- It was noted that drafting of the Biodiversity Strategy is progressing
 - A preliminary recommendation has been received, regarding the ground between the telephone box and the memorial on the High Street, to enhance the planting and to bulk up the hedge
 - Following on from a previous recommendation it was agreed a planting plan would be created for an area along Morris Close

Action 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

Action 27.5 MS to include the report from the Annual Footpath check on the agenda of the next meeting

Action 27.6 CU to approach Buckden Towers with a view to their participation in The Queen's Green Canopy initiative

Action 27.7 CU to contact the Forestry Commission's advisor on tree planting

Action 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

Item 4 Budget

- The budget for the current year stands at £4,380
 - The tree survey invoice is due to be paid this month
 - It is anticipated that the work required to meet the recommendations of the tree survey would take place in-year
 - In-year maintenance of the Churchyard would cost approximately £500
 - It was agreed a bulb planting programme this autumn should be funded at approximately £500 for bulbs and £300 for labour
- Planning next year's budget
 - It was noted that future maintenance of the Churchyard and Hunts End wildlife areas would cost approximately £1,000 per annum

- Further expenditure next year would include: meeting the recommendations of the Biodiversity Strategy, any liability accepted for maintenance/improvement of the Ouse Valley Way, potential emergency tree work, any tree planting activity and footpath signs if the new public right of way is agreed

Action 27.9 All to contact the Chair with any suggestions for likely expenditure against next year's budget

Item 5 AOB

- Date of the next meeting will be Monday 18 October at 1930 hours