

## Stoke Environment Group

### Minutes of the Meeting #10 on 18 May 2022

Attendees: Dave Smith, Karen Housego, Jason Morgan, Fi McQueen, Ian Upshall, Helen Grant, Emma Arthurs (7)

Apologies: Dave Evans, Sarah Evans, Andrew Boyle, Polly Burns-Cox, Nicolette Williams, Alison Katte (6)

#### **1 Welcome and Apologies**

#### **2 Minutes of Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

##### *Matters Arising*

There were no matters arising.

##### *Review of Outstanding Actions*

<b>8/6</b>	Ian U	Write User Guide (iNaturalist and Seek) in collaboration with SERC and SWT	In progress
<b>6/7</b>	Emma A	To consider how best SEG should promote a reduction of food waste and to report back at the next meeting To bring forward suggestions on how we address food leftovers and menu management	Superseded. This action has been superseded by Action 2/8
<b>2/8</b>	Emma A	To bring forward suggestions on how we address food leftovers and menu management	In progress
<b>4/8</b>	Emma A	To report back to the SEG on an outline for raising the profile of single-use plastics at the Envirofair 22	Completed. There will be a stand with examples of what to do with single-use items.
<b>2/9</b>	Ian U	To contact SCG and BBC Somerset to encourage coverage of Envirofair 22	Completed. Awaiting responses.

#### **3 Two-Minute Work Group Reports**

- *Hedges & Trees*

IRU, FJM & JM attended a thank-you evening run by Reimagining the Levels at Compton Dundon. It was well attended and included landowners who had 'donated' land for tree planting.

The Village Hall hedge continues to thrive. Larger guards have been placed over the two trees – both growing well.

- *Mobility & Transport*

The footpath along the allotment is really much improved and Collickshire Lane is now passable. Routine maintenance on footpaths will continue during the summer.

A planter has been placed at the Polkesfield bus stop, and the plants are growing well.

The planter for the Dark Lane bust stop is ready for putting in place – as soon as the area has been tidied.

- *Home Energy & Waste*

Nothing to report

- *Information Hub*

Nothing to report

- *Biodiversity*

The Spinney is thriving with more light. The nettle and bramble patch is growing well. A habitat for slow worms has been put in place.

#### **4 New Project idea**

Karen H reported on an idea used by a village in Devon (from the Climate Forum workshop) of circulating an A4 sheet every 2/3 months, to pass on knowledge, on a regular basis as environmental issues are changing all the time. This could also be used to put a food recipe/household recipe in each time. The sheet was very colourful and engaging.

This idea was discussed, and everyone liked the idea of a quarterly leaflet. Ian to approach the PC about whether it can be included with the Stoke News. This would help us achieve a much wider distribution.

#### **5 Envirofair22**

Ian thanked everyone for the work they are carrying out in preparation for Envirofair 22.

Fi confirmed the number of attendees (see attached list). We have 11 exhibitors outside, and 1 inside. There will also be three talks/presentations.

We have yet to hear back from ev-cars, the Willowset Pre-School, SSG Parish Church and a renewables company.

[Note: Subsequent to the meeting, it was confirmed that ev-Cars company would NOT be attending but Centre for Renewable Energy \(Somerset advice centre\) will be attending.](#)

Fi is drawing up an 'SEG rota' which is almost complete but we are looking for people who can give an hour to help with the running of the day. We need someone to run the SEG stand from 2 -3pm and someone to represent the SEG at the Butterfly talk from 10-11am. We are also looking for anyone you would like to welcome people and help direct them from 11-12pm and 12-1pm. Please contact Fi if you can help with any tasks on the day.

Fi discussed stand locations, displays and costings. A Somerset Flag will be flown during the day.

Jason noted that he had taken some drone footage that can be shown on a loop in the main hall. He will liaise with Ian to incorporate the footage in a presentation. Ian also reported that he had received a 'mock up' film from the student at Strode College but more was needed to make it relevant on the day. Suggestions have been forwarded to the student.

Karen showed some samples of the dog toys she has made from recycled materials. It was agreed to sell them at the fair for £3 each. Jason provided some examples of the bird and bee houses he has constructed. It was agreed to charge £5 for a self-build kit – screws and tools will be provided on the day.

Refreshments were discussed. WI will provide support by selling drinks and cakes in the morning session. Helen is liaising with the group. Nicolette is sourcing vegetarian burgers which will be cooked and sold for £2.50 each. Availability of a meat version is being discussed. Nicolette is content to purchase and claim back the cost (£250 for two burgers).

Raffle Prizes have now been sorted. We have six prizes that have all been donated.

Emma has obtained 100 packets of wildflower seeds and 250 leaflets on how to help pollinators. These will be distributed free of charge and as fairly as possible at the fair.

Fi reported that a plan for advertising has been produced and posters are being placed on our notice board and rotated weekly. The leaflet is finished, but for a couple of last-minute confirmations, and will go in for copying/printing next week.

## **6 Great Big Green Week: 24<sup>th</sup> September 2022 – 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2022**

Fi reported she has booked the Village Hall inside and outside for 24<sup>th</sup> September and Parish Church Room for 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

Dave S submitted a grant application for the GBGW. We are expecting to hear back by mid-June if we have been successful.

## **7 AOB**

KH brought to the meeting some concerns that have been raised with her about new ploughing that has been happening in the village recently. Dave S agreed to support Karen in investigating this.

SEG would like to work in partnership with landowners.

## **8 Next Meeting**

15 June 2022, Parish Church Room, 7.30-9.30pm (FJM)

Fiona McQueen

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May 2022