



## Sustainable Calne AGM minutes 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Apologies: David Songhurst, Bob Greenwood, Kevan Wynd

Attendees: John Bennett, Stan Woods, Tom Morris, Celia Stevens, James Gladding, Denis Griffin, Denis Robinson, Rob Mercer, John Boaler, Jenny Woods, Sue Deedigan, Jenny Joyce, Bonnie Woods, Averil Ashton, Lizz Jennings, Sue Pitman

### 1. Chairs Report – John Bennett

John Bennett spoke about the Cycling and Walking Group, our Solar Panel Day, the work at Beversbrook to build bug hotels, clear dead wood and plant hedging with plans for a children's group and to restore and maintain hedgerow.

Local groups such as Avon Needs Trees, River Warriors (led by Tamzyn), and Friends of Marden Valley (Robert MacNaughton) are working very well and making great progress.

James Gladding is also working hard on alternative energy supplies.

It seems that when people are working outdoors there is a good response.

We look forward to meetings in real life instead of zoom with perhaps meeting outside.

The last set of meetings have been on our four pillars and we hope that's made people think of other activities. It's amazing how much is being done.

There will be other Sub-Groups in future, for some of which we are waiting on Wiltshire Council decisions and a job list will be shared such as Chief of Guerrilla Gardening.

### 2. Volunteer's list – Celia Stevens

From the ecology meeting it was identified how nice it is to work together and people who volunteer for one group might volunteer for another. An email has gone out through the local ecology groups to create awareness and for a fortnightly newsletter of volunteer opportunities.

### 3. Community Energy – James Gladding

This year we have promoted the rooftop solar scheme with a day at the Pocket Park (Tom and Stan) and we are looking to find a way to engage our community. We were successful with a RCEF grant for a solar farm feasibility study. The study has had ups and downs but are now looking positive with engagement of local businesses.

### 4. Treasurer's Report – Stan Woods

See document provided

Donations would be appreciated

### 5. Upcoming events

ANT events – check website/Facebook

Fair Trade event – Sat 14<sup>th</sup> August 11am – 3pm – we will have a stall

### 6. Constitution – John Bennett



John is suggesting a constitutional change which will be emailed out for a vote

1. That the Chair and Vice-Chair should have different genders
2. That the AGM should take place in May each year

7. Election of Officers – John Bennett

The following officers were elected unopposed:

Chair: John Bennett

Vice Chair: Jenny Joyce

Secretary: Denis Griffin

Treasurer: Stan Woods

John Boaler gave a vote of thanks for those who have served over the last year.

8. Walking & Cycling – Celia Stevens

The group have been looking at walking and cycling routes in Calne and a path audit is ongoing. We are also looking at where benches might be located (and benches with a back to them would be appreciated).

In the January meeting it was raised that a local walking group was desired and we have secured training for two leaders who will be trained in July.

Cycle Routes: some repairs which have been pushed for have been done but the Calne-Chippenham route is of poor quality. A survey will take place in June for which we need volunteers to be at the entrance of the cycle path. This may help to secure the long-term future of the path which is currently held on short term leases.

Regarding the route from Marden Farm to Bentley Lane, a formal proposal has been put forward for the work there to include a dual use path for walking and cycling. This has gone to town and Wiltshire councillors.

9. AOB

Rob Mercer summarised

Averil Ashton suggested that we should look at the small spaces idea which John Bennett agreed should be focussed on.

Stan advised that once schools are back then the air quality project will get school children involved

Forest Gate Solar Farm – interesting to note that the pro-Solar Farm candidate in Pewsham won their seat on Calne Without Parish Council. It was suggested that a presentation from the company doing this to us would be interesting and James Gladding agreed to ask them.