

KELSALE-CUM-CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL



Chairman: Cllr Alan Revell

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Minutes of the 6th Kelsale-cum-Carlton Biodiversity Action Plan group held at [REDACTED] on 26th March 2018 at 7pm.

Attending

Keith Dickerson (KD, Chair), [REDACTED]
Kirsten Hecktermann (KH), Chris Burslem (CRB).

1. Apologies

[REDACTED] Claire Buttle (CB).

2. Notes and Actions from 5th meeting on 29 January 2018

- There were no changes to the notes.
- As Carolyn Taylor had yet to attend a meeting of the group it was agreed to contact her to see if she still wished to be involved, perhaps with a project in the summer involving the school. **Action: KD**
- KD outlined the 3 criteria necessary for designating a TPO (appended to the previous minutes). The group agreed that there were notable trees in the Parish that would not qualify, but nonetheless, should still be recorded. The Scots Pine in Church Close and Weeping Birch in Bridge St. were mentioned in addition to those listed at the last meeting.
- JB had planted a sapling Small-leaved Lime (*Tilia cordata*) at the recreation ground.
- It was agreed to create a list of notable trees on Dropbox. **Action: KD**
- These would also be added to the site map **Action: JB**
- KD drew attention to a Suffolk Flora Preservation Trust publication "Barons to Botanists: Landholders & Land-use on two Suffolk Nature Reserves" which included factors to take into account when advising landowners on managing grassland. KD would add the relevant section to the minutes. **Action: KD**

3. Articles for New OASIS

We had missed the Easter edition but it was confirmed that we would all identify trees to include in an article "10 best trees in Kelsale-cum-Carlton" to be published in the Summer edition of the New OASIS. Residents could then suggest trees they see

of interest and subsequently we could designate a trail for people to follow to view the chosen trees.

The deadline for the New OASIS is 1 June so we can finalise the article at our next meeting. All to add further suggestions for trees to the Dropbox file. **Action: All**

4. Review of draft list of Biodiversity Action Plan species.

The newly discovered Sandy Stiltball will be added to a new section entitled "Fungi". Otherwise the list will remain in its present form but with the proviso that species can be added or deleted as new information becomes available. **Action: JB**

CB enquired as to which bat species are recorded in the Parish. JB will append a list of bats to these minutes. **Action: JB**

5. Review of draft list of sites with Biodiversity value.

No changes at present.

6. Pond and other site Surveys to the end of June 2018

KH reported positive responses from [REDACTED] re a survey at By the Crossways and from [REDACTED] inviting us to do a pond survey at the Simpson's Fromus Reserve open day on Sunday April 15th. [REDACTED] had also requested repeat surveys in May and June to inform a forthcoming publication on wetland wildlife.

KD reported that the proposed survey at the Old Manor House would have to be postponed due to the late season in the gardens. KH agreed to contact the owners of By the Crossways to see if this could substitute for the postponed Old Manor House survey. KD would approach Dave Baker of Cherry Trees as another possibility. **Action: KH, KD**

Other potential surveys:

- Pond Cottage, Curlew Green in April (tbc). **Action: CB**
- Curlew Green Meadow in May (tbc): Charles Cuthbert to contact the owner. **Action: CC**
- The wild area at the end of the Recreation Ground in May (tbc) **Action: CB**
- Kelsale CEVCP School grounds in mid May (tbc) **Action: KD**
- Farriers House at the beginning of June (tbc) **Action: JXB**
- Thornlands, Curlew Green in mid June (tbc) **Action: KH**
- Re-survey of the field behind Church View, Bridge Street in mid June (tbc) and so we can remove the Ragwort prior to cutting. **Action: KD**

7. Report back to Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council.

KD would report back. **Action: KD**

8. AOB

JB reported that he had rescued 35 primrose plants uprooted by ditch clearance at a local farm and transplanted them to the woodland area at the recreation ground.

JB reported that Suffolk Coastal and Suffolk Wildlife Trust had agreed in principle to designate some of the verges of Tiggins Lane as Conservation Verges. He will meet representatives from both organisations in April to identify the best sections for designation.

KD requested a copy of the criteria used for designation.

Action: JB

JxB showed a copy of England A.D. 2,200 a book by John Barker, which she would make available for loan.

JXB reported a Mistle Thrush feeding on Mistletoe berries, a dead Barn Owl (to be sent for analysis) and a Red Kite, all seen in the village recently.

Next meeting: [REDACTED], 7pm on 29th May 2018.

Appendix: Bat species recorded in Kelsale-cum-Carlton

Serotine (*Eptesicus serotinus*), Natterer's Bat (*Myotis natterei*), Pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) (probably also includes the newly separated Soprano Pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*)) Brown Long-eared Bat (*Plecotus auritus*).

For localities see Excel file 'Kelsale' (section terrestrial mammals), on Dropbox.

Appendix: Management of Environmentally Important Grassland:

Management prescriptions for the environmentally important grassland meadows are precise:

- Manage the sward by grazing to achieve a sward height between 5 cm and 15 cm during April and May (unless the land has been shut for hay) and between 5 cm and 15 cm in November. The sward should be varied with scattered areas of taller vegetation and taller tussocks.
- Supplementary feeding is confined to the feeding of mineral blocks/licks. Feeding sites should be placed away from areas of archaeological interest.
- Do not cut hay or silage before 30 June, always leaving at least 10% uncut in any one year (which need not be the same 10% each year). All cuttings must be removed.
- Do not roll or harrow more than 30% of the total grassland area in any one year, and always leave a minimum of 5% tussocks / longer grass.
- Ploughing, subsurface cultivation and reseeding are not permitted. Topping, chain harrowing and rolling are permitted except between 15 March and 15 July.
- Field operations and stocking must not damage the soil structure or cause heavy poaching. Small areas of bare ground up to 5% of the field are acceptable.
- Do not apply fertilizer, organic manures or waste materials (including sewage sludge) unless specifically agreed in writing with your Natural England contact.
- Control undesirable species such as creeping thistle, spear thistle, curled dock, broad-leaved dock, common ragwort, common nettle so that their cover is less than 5% of the area.
- Do not install new drainage or modify existing drainage systems.
- Maximum permitted stocking level is 1.5 LU per hectare.¹⁰