

KELSALE-CUM-CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL



Chairman: Cllr Alan Revell

Parish Clerk: Marie Backhouse

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22nd Meeting of Kelsale-cum-Carlton Biodiversity Group 7pm on Monday 23 August 2021 Pitfield, Bridge Street, Kelsale

Welcome and apologies

Attending: Keith Dickerson (KD, Chair), Jerry Bowdrey (JB), Sarah Courage (SC), David Edgerley (DE - minutes).

Apologies: Kevin Allenby (KA), Charles Cuthbert (CC), Janet Barnes (JxB), Chris Colchester (CCol), Martin Colchester (MC),

KD clarified that Chris Burslem had resigned from the Group.

Notes and Actions from the 21st meeting on 12th July 2021.

The minutes of the 21st meeting were provisionally accepted, subject to a one week extension to notify any changes.

- All members of the BAP Group had now filled in GDPR permission forms which will reduce the amount of redaction required when the minutes are published on the PC website.
- KD reported that the shared BAP folder (previously on dropbox) had been transferred to Google Drive. The link will be shared with all members of the Group. **Action: KD**
- SCC have approved the Planning Application for Pitfield's pit and DAB Group have started work preparing the site for infilling with subsoil and then top soil from the Main Road site now being developed by Badger.
- The Sandy Stiltball site on Main Road has been cut back by members of the BAP Group following a request by Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council. CC yet to report on consultations with the Suffolk Fungus Recorder, Neil Mahler, on the best way forward to maintain the site to encourage growth. Signs for the marker posts had been printed and will be erected by KD and JB. **Action: CC/KD/JB**
- We are still waiting for suggestions for appropriate sites in the parish for tree planting under the Queens Green Canopy initiative. **Action: All**
- KD and CCol had visited the site at the end of Curlew Green that had been acquired by Mr Rowe and carried out an initial survey. DE to talk to Mr Rowe to try to identify the intended use of the site so that the BAP Group could advise on appropriate management to promote Biodiversity. **Action: DE**

Recreation Ground Management

JB noted that Norse had mown the areas on the Recreation Ground that had been marked as a conservation area and should not have been cut until the Autumn. Claire Buttle (CB) had contacted Norse and been assured that they will cut the area correctly in future. The plan agreed with Norse is attached to these minutes. **Action: JB/CC to check plan**

JB noted 2 dead trees on the Recreation Ground by the Fromus. KD to report to CB.
Action: KD

Spinney Pocket Park

JB, CC and KD had surveyed Spinney Pocket Park in 2019 and drafted a Management Plan. This included thinning out the trees to provide more open areas to increase Biodiversity. The tree work would require a licensed chainsaw user with public liability insurance. The Management Plan had not been funded by the PC in 2019 due to lack of budget. At least £2K will now be needed to implement it. A more detailed implementation plan with costs will be prepared for submission to the PC. **Action: JB/CC/KD**

Tree Inventory

This is on-going. JB will send an initial draft to KD. It will include 'notable' as well as 'champion' trees. **Action: JB/KD**

Footpath Trail Leaflets

The cost of the footpath trail leaflet was discussed. KD noted that OS charge a licence fee for the use of their maps. An option is that the BAP Group develop their own map. KD showed a map produced by Middleton (A3, single page, double sided print, four way folded). CC had been quoted £157 for printing by Leiston Press but KD estimated that an overall budget of £500 will be required for printing, maps and artwork. KD to re-approach the PC but a kind donor has offered to fund any shortfall. **Action: CC, KD, DE**

KD has still to contact Netta Swallow who has offered to cooperate on producing a footpath trail leaflet. **Action: KD**

ESC Verge Cutting

The meeting agreed to recommend to the PC that all verges in the parish are only cut once per year in Autumn, except where disrupted sight lines would reduce road safety. JB and KD noted that vehicles were driving onto and damaging verges; DE commented that, particularly on more heavily used single lane roads such as Lowes Hill, creating more regular passing places would reduce the problem. KD to raise with the PC **Action: KD**

All to send examples of 'over-cutting' of footpaths to KD to raise with Paul Tynan. **Action: All**

Amy Rayner of Saxmundham Town Council has asked if Kelsale can coordinate on verge cutting regimes. JB has agreed to liaise with Amy (amy.rayner@saxmundham-tc.gov.uk). **Action: JB**

Biodiversity Surveys

North Green: Concern was raised by SC and JB about a possible 75 acre solar farm between Tiggins Lane and North Green. There will be a public consultation in Kelsale Village Hall on Wednesday 8 September from 14.00-19.00 (see attachment). An outline plan is present on the ESC planning portal as DC/21/2943/EIA and JB will continue to check for a more detailed planning application. We should try to carry out an initial Biodiversity survey

from the public footpaths around the site but would also ask for permission to do a full survey.

Tiggins: Sarah Courage has invited us to survey the ponds at 2pm on 6 September.

Kelsale Court: we have been invited to survey the grounds (contact George Cardan on 07881 209108).

8 Church Close: Godfrey Huddle (605513) reported that his garden has mostly "been given back to nature". He has invited us to survey it and offer any management advice after 20 October.

Carlton Industrial Estate is also subject to a planning application. We should carry out an initial survey to record the Biodiversity present in advance of any changes.

Land behind Pear Tree Close: We will survey in June 2022 once the orchids are in flower (contact Colin Adolph at 3 Pear Tree Close on colverstan@live.co.uk).

A.O.B.

Laura Mann who works at Carlton Meres Caravan Park had invited the group (via JB) to accompany her around the site to see the Biodiversity present. She might also be able to extend the visit to access Lonely Wood, one of the few areas of ancient woodland in the Parish and a County Wildlife Site. This will be held on Tuesday 14 September - meet in Reception at 2pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 15th September at Pitfield.