

KELSALE-CUM-CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL



Chairman: Cllr Alan Revell

Parish Clerk: Marie Backhouse

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24th Meeting of Kelsale-cum-Carlton Biodiversity Group 7pm on Monday 1 November 2021 4 Cloutings Close, Kelsale

1) Welcome and apologies

Attending: Keith Dickerson (KD, Chair), Jerry Bowdrey (JB), Charles Cuthbert (CC), Janet Barnes (JxB), Chris Colchester (CCol), Martin Colchester (MC).

Apologies: David Edgerley (DE), Sarah Courage (SC)

It was noted that Kevin Allenby had resigned from the BAP Group as he was moving to Norfolk.

2) Notes and Actions from 23rd meeting on 21 September 2021

The minutes of the 23rd meeting were approved.

- **Land at Curlew Green** – KD agreed to set up a meeting with Malcolm Rowe and other interested parties regarding the 2 acres of land recently cleared at Curlew Green.
Action: KD
- **Pitfield Restoration** – Management recommendations for potential biodiversity gains were suggested: tree planting with native species, re-seeding with a suitable grass/wildflower mix, the creation of deadwood log piles of a size suitable for wood-boring beetles, the planting of hedgerows of native species (especially along the boundary with the track up to the Old Manor House).
- **Spinney Pocket Park** – the Parish Council had invited us to submit a new Management Plan with updated costings as it is possible that funding will be available in April 2022. We will agree and mark trees for thinning in Autumn 2022, mostly leggy oaks, to allow remaining trees to grow to maturity. Deadwood habitats should be created using large logs, etc. Underplanting with a variety of native shrubs should be carried out in Autumn/Winter 2022/23. Species proposed: Hazel, Holly, Hawthorn, Crab Apple, Spindle, Buckthorn, Dogwood, Butchers Broom, Rowan etc. Also native wildflowers including Bluebells, Primroses, Wild Garlic, etc. Tree work to be costed with a local tree surgeon/tree contractor (e.g. Paul Bush). Meeting to be arranged. **Action: CC**
- **Queen's Green Canopy** - Funding is available for tree and hedge planting up to the end of 2022 and potential sites were discussed. Local farmers/landowners who might be interested include David Edgerley, Eddie Dean and William Kendall.

The following potential sites for hedge planting will also be investigated: Land near the Fromus, Pitfield, Butchers Road, the boundary of the grazing paddock adjacent to the churchyard and Tiggins Lane (Kelsale Manor), Carlton Road, Badger Homes new development boundaries, Main Road North of Belvedere Close. **Action: All**

3) Town Farm Solar Park

On 26 October, 6 members of the BAP Group, together with Peter Miller from Tiggins Meadow, met the agents for the proposed Town Farm Solar Park, Fran Button (Project Director) and Carla Hardaker for a site visit lasting 2.5 hours. This was very useful and positive suggestions for Biodiversity gains were discussed and tentatively agreed including the possible inclusion of 3 more ponds within the boundary of the site which could be restored if planning approval was granted. We await further details of the final planning application and an opportunity to be further involved in the planting and management.

4) Meeting with Suffolk Wildlife Trust

KD will set up a meeting with Jenny Rawson and / or Sam Hanks from SWT to exchange ideas on how to improve the biodiversity of local farming sites and enable us to coordinate on making recommendations for Biodiversity gains. **Action: KD**

5) Kelsale-cum-Carlton Tree Register

JB agreed to liaise with KD on the trees to include (with photos) in this register.

Action: JB/KD

6) Footpath Trail leaflets

Options for publication of the village trail leaflet were considered including the Community Newsletter. CC will investigate. **Action: CC**

7) Further Biodiversity Surveys

The following were agreed:

- Kelsale Court
- Pond at 8 Church Close (Margaret & Godfrey Huddle)
- Land behind Pear Tree Close (Orchids) in May/June.

9) Report to KCC Parish Council

KD to report back to the Parish Council on 24 November.

Action: KD

Date of Next Meeting: Subsequently arranged for 7pm on Tuesday 18 January 2022 at The Cottages, Bridge Street, Kelsale.