

KELSALE-CUM-CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL



Chairman: Cllr Alan Revell
Parish Clerk: Marie Backhouse
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27th Meeting of Kelsale-cum-Carlton Biodiversity Group 7pm on Tuesday 26 April 2022 Acorn Cottage, Main Road, Kelsale

1. Welcome and apologies

Attending: Keith Dickerson (KD, Chair), Charles Cuthbert (CC, Minutes), Janet Barnes (JxB), Chris Colchester (CCol), Martin Colchester (MC), Jem Adams (JA), Marie Adams (MA).

Apologies: Jerry Bowdrey (JB), David Edgerley (DE), Sarah Courage (SC), Louis Ewart (LE)

New members Jem and Marie Adams were warmly welcomed to the BAP Group. KD will return their signed GDPR permissions forms to the Parish Clerk. **Action: KD**

2. Notes and Actions from 26th meeting on 7 March 2022

The minutes of the 26th meeting were approved.

- **APM presentations on 6 April.** These had gone well with lots of positive feedback. Three key issues for advice to landowners and residents were agreed:
 - (a) action to conserve and create ponds and wetland habitats should be a priority,
 - (b) the value of hedgerows in general when managed for biodiversity gain,
 - (c) reduced mowing of grassland habitats including lawns and verges during the growing season to benefit a wide range of flora and fauna.
- **Recreation Ground.** The negative impacts on biodiversity resulting from the ditch clearance carried out by contractors in late April were discussed, together with the lack of consultation with the BAP Group. CC presented a draft wording for the proposed Information Board with suggested illustrations. He will revise the draft following feedback from the group. **Action: CC**
- **Footpath trails.** CC agreed to provide the editor with a footpath trail around the village centre for the June edition of Community News. **Action: CC**

4. Queens Green Canopy - sites for trees and hedges

In addition to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee trees already planted at the end of the Recreation Ground (Site G15) and Pitfield (Site B1) suggestions for tree and hedge planting include:

- The Vineyard (off Tiggins Lane): [REDACTED] wants to plant 70m of hedge along Eastern boundary and 1 or 2 trees (not oak).
- Replacing hedge along frontage of the Badger Homes development along Main Road (SC). Two sections (100m and 70m) either side of entrance.
- Meadow behind Church View, Bridge Street (Site G9): Simon Ransome wants to plant 10m of new hedgerow (along Southern boundary) and 3 trees.
- Garden House, Carlton Park (new Site G41): [REDACTED] wants to plant around 300m of new hedgerow along Northern boundary next to large field with sheep in it. Also wants at least 3 trees (including a Jubilee tree with plaque) in field.
- Meadow behind The Cottages, Bridge Street (Site G1): KD wants to plant 50m of new hedge along Western boundary with [REDACTED]
- KCC Recreation Ground (Site G15): Possible 100m of new hedge along area cleared for ditch works. Also 60m of new hedge next to the recently erected fence adjacent to the Bell House but this might struggle to establish due to nearby trees.
- Village Car Park: PC wants to plant 40m of hedge after conifers along Western boundary have been removed.
- Carlton Industrial Estate: New hedges will be required along Southern boundary and Western boundary if planning permission is received for extension to Industrial Estate.
- North Green Solar Park: New hedges could be negotiated as part of deal to improve BNG if planning permission is received.

Note that a hedge is developing quite nicely all by itself on Site G19 Curlew Green Verge now that mowing is not being carried out so assiduously.

KD and JB to draw up map of agreed and potential sites for both trees and hedges. KD had obtained (from Edwina Galloway) some large scale maps of Kelsale Parish and the Village Centre.

Action: KD, JB

8. Biodiversity surveys

Kelsale Court: Records of the survey carried out on 18 March are now in the Site G38 subfolder of the BAP sites folder on Google Drive. KD will add the Sandy Stiltball fungus to the records. It was recommended that parts of the site could be managed less intensively (including mowing) in order to encourage greater biodiversity.

Action: KD

Prior to the meeting, a site visit and preliminary survey was carried out on land at Curlew Green to the rear (west) of Acorn Cottage. A new BAP site folder, G39, will be created on Google Drive. KD will enter the species list and any photographs.

- Godfrey [REDACTED] ponds to be deferred due to illness of partner. **Action: KD**
- Tiggins pond (Site G36): SC to suggest date. **Action: SC**
- Spinney Pocket Park: JxB to contact with [REDACTED] to arrange date for survey and possible meeting with school/local residents. **Action: JxB**
- Carlton Meres ponds: JxB to arrange date with [REDACTED]. **Action: JxB**
- Parkgate Farm: KD to contact [REDACTED]. **Action: KD**

- Pear Tree Close for orchids: Mid June.
- Fromus hedge survey: end June-July (probably more than one session).
- Nonesuch Farm (70 acres South of Butchers Road, Kelsale): Contact [REDACTED] (SWT) who will manage land for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

13. Report back to KCC Parish Council

KD will resign from the Parish Council in May. He is willing to continue to chair the BAP Group but there is an ongoing need for regular reports to be provided to the Parish Council for feedback. All to consider joining the PC to act as liaison with the BAP Group. The next report back to the Parish Council is on 25 May. **Action: All**

14. AOB

Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 16th May 2022 at 7pm at The Walnuts, Curlew Green, Kelsale with a site survey of G3 at 6.30pm.