

# KELSALE-CUM-CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL



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## 34<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Kelsale-cum-Carlton Biodiversity Group 7pm on Monday 17 April 2023 The Walnuts, Curlew Green, Kelsale

### 1. Welcome and apologies

**Attending:** Keith Dickerson (KD, Chair), Jem Adams (JA), Jerry Bowdrey (JB), Chris Colchester (CCol), Martin Colchester (MC)

**Apologies:** Janet Barnes (JxB), Sarah Courage (SC), David Edgerley (DE), Charles Cuthbert (CC), Sam Hanks (SH), Marie Adams (MA)

### 2. Notes and Actions from 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting on 20 March 2023

The minutes of the 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting were approved subject to a 1-week delay for members to check them.

The updates on our activities that KD and JB had given to the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) on 5 April had been well received. The presentation on Swifts by Eddie Bathgate (Suffolk Bird Group), aided by Charles Cuthbert and Janet Barnes on the local situation, had also been well received, especially when we learnt that we had more swifts and swift boxes in Kelsale than Aldeburgh 😊 We had been offered 2 more swift boxes to be set up in the centre of the village.

**Action: KD to identify where these should go**

JB had contacted the Parish Clerk re: the ditch work that had been carried out in Tiggins Lane asking why the BAP Group hadn't been informed in advance. This had happened at short notice because Tiggins Lane had flooded due to blocked drains and these had had to be cleared as soon as possible. However, the contractor had not spread all the soil on the verges and most of it was dumped on adjacent farmland.

KD provided JB with details of the 10 largest pedunculate oaks and the 3 largest holm oaks (by girth) in KcC together with their locations for the Register of Notable Trees. KD and JB will also identify the largest beeches in KcC.

**Action: KD/JB**

### 3. Results of Biodiversity Survey of land at the Walnuts

The Biodiversity Survey of the land which was part of or near The Walnuts had 3 components:

- Site G3 Curlew Green Meadow including the pond that we last surveyed in 2017,
- possible corridors with Site G39 Acorn Wood that we surveyed on 20 March,

## 5. Future Biodiversity Surveys

We had agreed to prioritise additional biodiversity surveys for those necessary to fill any gaps in the BAP.

We will carry out the following Biodiversity surveys in late spring/summer:

- Brightmere – KD had been unable to get permission from the owner, Margaret Reeve, to carry out a biodiversity survey. It was agreed that KD should write to the owner and JxB could help get permission as she knew her. **Action: KD/JxB**
- Early May and September: Carlton Meres. JB/CC to complete survey begun in 2021. **Action: JB/CC**
- Late May: Garden House, Carlton Park. KD to contact Michael Ball to set up. **Action: KD**
- May/June: Nonsuch Farm. Entomological (moth trap) survey. JB to set up to coincide with hornet moths emergence. **Action: JB**  
KD to ask SH why hedges had been trimmed. **Action: KD**
- June: The Old Manor House (including orchids). KD to ask Traci Weaver. **Action: KD**

Access to be investigated for the following sites:

- Land behind Buskie Farm, North Green (IP17 2RJ) – grassy scrub surrounded by mature hedges. **Action: KD**
- Field to North East of Town Farm, North Green with a linear moat. **Action: KD**
- Woods behind Well House (labelled Ash Ground and Oak Ground on O.S. map). CCol to ask new owner of Well House. **Action: CCol**

## 6. Funding for BAP Group

Lack of funding was severely hampering the ability of the BAP Group to make further progress. Now that we are in the final stages of producing a BAP, a source of funding was urgently required so that the BAP Group could (for example):

- identify owners from Land registry searches to gain access to sites,
- plant trees, hedges, wildflowers,
- arrange contractors to remove trees, etc. where necessary,
- improve ditches, ponds and verges,
- run volunteer groups,
- buying maps,
- publishing leaflets including obtaining licenses to produce maps, plans, etc.

Funding could be obtained in a number of ways:

- Directly from the Parish Council (this was slow and little had been obtained so far).
- Work with the PC to obtain funds from District and County Councilors for defined projects.
- Form a club/society. We could then set up a crowdfunding site. We would have to set up a bank account for this and have terms of reference / constitution to hold funds.

KD had not raised the funding issue at the APM and will do this at a future PC meeting.

**Action: KD**

## 7. Report back to KCC Parish Council

KD would be speaking at a conference in Cambridge and would not be able to report back to the next PC meeting 26 April.

**Date of Next Meeting:** 7pm on 22 May TBA.