

KELSALE-CUM-CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL



Chairman: Cllr Alan Revell

Parish Clerk: Marie Backhouse

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36th Meeting of Kelsale-cum-Carlton Biodiversity Group 7pm on Monday 10 July 2023 Farriers House, Bridge Street, Kelsale

1. Welcome and apologies

Attending: Janet Barnes (JxB), Keith Dickerson (KD, Chair), Jem Adams (JA notes), Jerry Bowdrey (JB), Chris Colchester (CCol), Marie Adams (MA)

Apologies: Martin Colchester (MC), David Edgerley (DE), Charles Cuthbert (CC), Sam Hanks (SH), Fiona Cusack

2. Notes and Actions from 35th meeting on 22 May 2023

The minutes of the 35th meeting were approved. However, the potential wildlife corridor between Sites G3 and G39 should actually be located along line b [JA to confirm]?

3. Application to Richard Smith for SCC Funding

During the report back to KcC PC on 29 June, KD (supported by MC) had requested funding from the PC to continue the biodiversity work. This had been unsuccessful, but our County Councillor, Richard Smith, had offered £250 from his locality budget for us to continue our work if we made an application. The essentials of an application (including funding to obtain a chainsaw license) were discussed and agreed. KD will complete and submit to Richard Smith.

Action: KD

We had also been encouraged by both the PC and Richard Smith to set up a Biodiversity group independent of the PC so that the money did not have to be paid into the PC account and we weren't dependent on PC funding in future and KD agreed to raise this with the BAP Group (see Item 4 below).

Action: KD

4. Setting up an independent Biodiversity Group

The majority thought setting up an independent Biodiversity Group was a good idea as it would enable us to receive grants, personal donations, crowdfunding, etc independent of the PC. The principle of doing this was agreed with the suggested name of "KcC Wildlife Group". JA will draft a constitution and investigate a bank account with options including Unity Trust Bank (talk to the parish clerk, Marie Backhouse), Barclays and Lloyds. We would then draft an invitation to all households to attend our kick-off meeting and submit this to Liz Flight for the next edition of KcC Community News. KD to ask Melbek if they will set up a basic web site for us (as for Power4KcC – see www.power4kcc.org).

Action: JA, KD

5. Review of Biodiversity Surveys since last meeting

- Site B1 Pitfield – 4 Southern Marsh orchids were present in early July. Yellow rattle was also growing and spreading well. DE has a supply of yellow rattle seeds if anyone needs some.
- Site G1 Bell with Half Gull (Meadow behind The Cottages). KD provided JxB's list of grasses to JB to type up and add to the BAP sites register. **Action: JB**
- Site G3 Curlew Green Meadow – Site to be renamed "The Walnuts". JxB to help identify the grasses. **Action: KD, JxB**
- Site G4 Simpsons' Fromus Valley Reserve – JB and KD had carried out a detailed survey of the hedges on the Fromus Reserve and are writing this up for a chapter in the 2023 edition of the Suffolk Fromus Preservation Trust (SFPT) Book "Hedgerows and History". KD will email a draft to the BAP Group for comment. **Action: KD, JB**
- Site G6 Tiggins Meadow – Their walk/open day on 22 June had been a great success with around 25 people participating. 4 species of orchid had been found: pyramidal, southern marsh, common spotted and bee orchids.
- Site G28 Land behind The Bungalow, Clayhills – site to be renamed "Morio Meadow". **Action: KD**
- Site G39 Acorn Wood – JA had updated the species list provided by JB from the survey in April 2022 and provided this to JB to transcribe for the site register. **Action: JB**
- Site G40 Parkgate Farm – their open day and wildlife walk on 11 June had been well attended. Over 1000 common spotted, southern marsh and hybrid orchids were present which makes it the most prolific site in Kelsale-cum-Carlton. KD gave an updated species list to JB to type up and add to the May 2022 species list. **Action: JB**
- Site G41 Garden House – JB and KD had surveyed the field north of Garden House and the field south of Carlton Park which were both owned by Michael Ball. KD provided the species lists to JB to type up. **Action: JB**
- Site G43 Land behind Buskie Farm, North Green (IP17 2RJ) – KD had visited this. It had now been ploughed up and was no longer of any biodiversity interest. However, the spong¹ to the east (OS Grid Ref TM398671) was more interesting and should be included in our BAP sites register. It contained a large number of cowslips this year. Note that Mark Stewart of North Green Lodge used to own this. **Action: KD**

6. Biodiversity Action Plan

KD to return the memory stick containing the Tithe Map to JA. **Action: KD**

JB is drafting a section on the ponds in the parish. There should also be a section on the orchids found in the parish (due to the public interest in these plants). **Action: JB**

It may be too late to survey any more grasses this year.

Biodiversity surveys still to be carried out:

- Carlton Meres. JB/CC to complete survey begun in 2021. **Action: JB/CC**
- Nonsuch Farm. Entomological survey but we need a moth trap (and a power supply) before we can do this. JB to ask SH if we can borrow one from the SWT and set up to coincide with hornet moths' emergence. **Action: JB, SH**

¹ A long and narrow piece of land resembling a tongue.

Access to be investigated for the following sites:

- Unploughed field to North East of Town Farm, North Green (on same side of road opposite Buskie's Farm) with a linear moat. **Action: KD**
- Woods behind Well House (labelled Ash Ground and Oak Ground on O.S. map). MC to ask new owner of Well House for permission to access. **Action: MC**
- Moat House, North Green (near to Town Farm). **Action: KD**
- Whin Covert including spring in woods. **Action: JB**
- Kelsale Hall Farm **Action: ?**

KD and JB are drafting a chapter summarising the KcC Biodiversity Action Plan for the 2023 edition of the SFPT Book "Hedgerows and History". KD will email a draft to the BAP Group for comment (both chapters are on Google Drive at https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Rin7x_B6kB3EN_ihxclSLp6rBBvOjsd8).

Action: KD, JB

7. Site G42 Nonsuch Farm Open Day

The BAP Group agreed to have a presence at the Nonsuch Farm Open Day from 10am-1pm on 20 August. JA would be the contact point with Fiona Cusack in absence of KD and arrange for a gazebo, table, chairs, etc to be available. KD to provide Biodiversity leaflets. JB to provide specimens (fossils and skulls) from the site for display. **Action: JA, JB, KD**

8. Report back to KCC Parish Council on 26 July

KD could not do this as he would be away.

Date of Next Meeting: 7pm on 4 September (later postponed).