

**ADDINGHAM CIVIC SOCIETY
ENVIRONMENT GROUP**

Minutes of the meeting held on 23/07/23 at 10.00 pmat 9 Main Street.

Present:

Gill Battarbee (GB), Rick Battarbee (RB), Jan Hindle (JH), Malcolm Secrett (MS), John Sykes (JS), Wes Wilcox (WW) - from Item 6.

1. Apologies: Malcolm Secrett (MS), Dave Johnston (DJ)

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting & Actions not covered below

Minutes of meetings on 16/04/23 agreed.

Actions:

- Purchase of loppers Cleaner Streets Grant – done
- Meeting with Primary School Headteacher – formal meeting not yet arranged, but RB had met her informally. Keen to continue to work with us and interested in the CAA agenda and the school playing its part.
- Envir w/e notes and dates circulated
- Event hosted with Friends of the Dales ‘Making Space for Nature’ – showcasing our work in Addingham went well. Donation expected to ACS for serving the refreshments.
- Revised ToFR for CAA – circulated
- Coronation W/E – call for volunteers – DONE

3. Funding & Finances

GB circulated the project and general accounts ahead of the meeting. Available unallocated funds stood at £2210 (after the purchase of the loppers and quadrats). Noted that the increase in expenditure in financial year 2022/23 was grant related (funds in and out).

ACTION:

- GB to allocate cost of quadrats against the biodiversity budget head
- JH to confirm split of compost purchase between the 8b allotment and Craven Cres Green
- GB to set up a budget head for the allotments. Small allowance to be made in recurring expenditure.

4. Environment Weekend plans 2024

All agreed that Environment Weekend in its current form has run its course, and that it was time to explore how we might use our energies more effectively to reach a wider cross-section of the community, especially younger people. Ideas suggested included:

- having a presence/offer activities on our agenda at other village events
- run joint events with other green groups through the year (e.g. Gardens & Allotments Association, CAI)
- film nights on environmental issues
- allotment produce/vegan cookery and food waste themed events
- coffee mornings/activity/ speaker on different themes

ACTION:

- GB to organise a de-brief/brainstorm with the full EW Planning Group.

5. Old First School Site

BMDC have confirmed that they will not consider a Community Asset Transfer as the land has value as a potential housing site. Pursuing having the site designated as an ‘Asset of Community Value’ is therefore the only option available to us. The advice Cllr Janet Russell provided on a successful ACV application in Silsden was considered. It was clear we would need to demonstrate wide community support, and that the chances of success may be greater if the application is made by an organisation rather than a group of individuals.

ACTION:

- GB to sound out ACS trustees at the September meeting
- RB/JH to start to put the case together for the biodiversity/community value of the site.
- All to consider how to raise awareness among the wider population.

6. Climate Action Addingham

(i) **Logo** – designed and approved by the working group.

Suggested that to accompany the CAA logo, there should be a 'APC/ACS working together' strapline with the logos of the two organisations, plus AEG logo and those of any other community organisations that come on board.

(ii) **Website** – is up and running. Next step is to develop content – expand on each of the objectives – where to go for advice etc. Case studies/profiles – links to each of the partners and practical examples of the action they are taking.

(iii) **Climate Change Attitude Survey** – ready to go in September, a few more volunteers needed. Results to be shared at CAA Town Meeting (Thurs 16 November).

(iv) **Village organisations to be invited to be part of CAA /Invite letter**

Key organisations to be invited to come to the next CAA meeting (25 September) were discussed. Content of letter discussed and amendments suggested.

Amend para. on village objectives to 'As a starting point we have put together.....'

Take out reference to Environment Group offering specialist advice and support.

ACTION: RB to amend invite letter and work with Sallie Lloyd to finalise the invitee list and letter.

7. Weston Woods

New appeal about to be made to supporters to enable the loan that was given towards the purchase price to be repaid.

8. Jumble Trail – Sun 24 September

Date confirmed, table booking to be opened in August. Rachel Brittain has offered to be the main organizer.

9. Wildlife/biodiversity update

- main activity currently Himalayan balsam control
- MS suggested we look for a new volunteer to take forward the bat group

ACTION: RB/JH to consider who might be approached

- bee & butterfly transects all filled. **ACTION:** ask MS if he was planning to organise a mid-term meeting

10. Zero Carbon Update

- meeting of the group needed. **ACTION:** JS to arrange
 - noted that CAI Energy Group has several interesting initiatives
 - CAI is organizing an open house event on heat pumps and a further event is planned in the autumn.

ACTION: JS to suggest possible joint CAI Ilkley/Addingham ZC open house event.

11. Zero Waste Update

- plans to start the pop-up refill stall at Mount Hermon coffee morning in September (2nd Thursday of the month) are going well. Team of seven volunteers recruited. Jackie Olive is organising the rota.

ACTION: JH/GB to discuss financial arrangements including using a ACS card reader for sales.

12. Water Update

- Cllr Russell has sent a letter to the BMDC Chief Exec re damage to the Back Beck trout pool to ask questions on environmental impact assessments for highways works, procedures for specifying works to make sure lessons are learnt going forward

- RB attended a Yorkshire Water stakeholder webinar on the five year capital programme for addressing sewage spills and river water quality. Participants were asked to submit written questions. RB sent in questions re plans to create a constructed wetland for the Addingham pumping station. These were not addressed in the report of the meeting. RB will follow this up.

13. Saplings

- Going well, 14 children on the books
- Peter, Debs and Lesley do an amazing job of planning activities
- Back in the Hub now

- The idea of a trip to the seaside had been discounted because of the cost of coach hire. JS suggested approaching IGS re use of their minibus.

14. AOB

ACS New Members Leaflet

Jane Welby is updating this. Looking at how ACS offers support to young people.

DBS checks

ACS are reviewing who has up to date checks, to include AEG ref work with DofE volunteers.

First Aid

ACS is organizing a first aid course for trustees and other Civic Soc volunteers. Cost is £60 per person.

AGREED: AEG should send up to four people who are regularly involved in our practical activities and to spend £120 on subsidizing the costs.

Use of APC Email address

WW asked for his PC email address to be used for official business going forward.

Trip to Upper Wharfedale – to collect plastic tree guards

To be arranged for Sun 3 or 10 September, other 'green groups' to be invited to join us e.g. Friends of the Dales and YDRT.

ACTION: WW to check date with the farmer. RB to invite other groups to join us.

15. DONM

Sun 29 October @ 10.00

JEH/14/08/2023