

Draft Minutes of the Hucclecote Climate Change Action Group (HCCAG) Meeting

Date of meeting – Wednesday 13 July, 7.30

Those present – Ted Stevens, Dave Bentley, Andrew Pugh, Maria Clutterbuck (parish councillors) plus Sorcha Anderson, Darren Macdonald, Sarah Shewan, Sarah Watkins (local residents)

Apologies – Gem Urquhart (EDF), Chris Pitt (Benefact) and Luke Riley

1	<p>Minutes of the May meeting</p> <p>These were approved. Ted explained that he hoped the time between now and the next session in September would enable us to firm up the proposed actions and prepare sound costings for each, so that we can decide (in September) which ones to prioritise and how to apportion the budget.</p>	<p>ACTION</p> <p>ALL</p>
2	<p>Biodiversity Actions Update</p> <p>Tree Planting. Dave reported that Benefact was keen to support a ‘Tiny Forest’ in the area. This would deliver 600 new trees. Because of the slow process of ‘adopting’ the public land that forms part of the Coopers Edge development it is unlikely this can proceed this autumn. But the development consortium has given permission for site survey work to proceed, and the local school is supportive.</p> <p>Wildflower areas. A specification setting out the proposed wildflower planting across the parish has been prepared and estimates from two contractors have been received. Around 600 sq m will be planted across nine sites. There is a possibility that Nurture (the landscaping firm that handles the business park) might do the work, sponsored by Benefact. Dave will progress both of these initiatives with Chris.</p> <p>Allotments/community garden and composting. Bovis has commissioned a landscape designer to draw up plans for ‘The Mound’, which should help us deliver these. Ted will chase Bovis for the plans, and he’ll circulate so that everyone can comment on the proposals ahead of the September meeting.</p>	<p>DB/CP</p> <p>TS</p>
3	<p>Traffic/Travel actions Update</p> <p>Lift sharing. Andrew suggested we promote the national ‘Lift share’ website; we could also perhaps set up a Facebook page for local people to post their offers of lifts, and those seeking lifts etc. One idea suggested was that big local employers consider providing priority parking for those employees that share a car.</p> <p>Car Free Days. It was proposed that we promote the concept of car free days across Hucclecote, in co-operation with local schools and big employers, and schedule the first campaign to coincide with the Sustainability Fair in early summer 2023. Andrew reckoned a promotional budget of £1-2k would be needed.</p>	

	<p>Training for e-scooter users. Zwings is offering ‘how to ride safely’ courses in Cheltenham. Andrew will press them to schedule a similar course in Gloucester. Potentially this means there would be little or no cost to us, other than some publicity.</p> <p>Better cycleways. Andrew proposed that we should feedback our thoughts on how the current Bishops Cleeve to Stroud cycleway could be linked to the Churchdown/Hucclecote/Brockworth communities. He will identify where there are gaps in current local cycleway provision and suggest a potential route to link our area to the main GCC cycleway scheme. He will contact Claire Rigby from Brockworth, and possibly someone from Churchdown, to present a co-ordinated joint proposal, as this might have more impact.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">AP</p>
	<p>Energy/power/homes actions Update</p> <p>Bulk discounts for PV/heat pumps and insulation. Sorcha has identified a solar firm that already offers ‘bulk discount’ deals for councils/local residents. She agreed to seek out firms that might offer similar discounts for heat pumps and insulation upgrades. The parish council can’t officially endorse firms, and any that we propose to list need to have a good/long track record, and come highly recommended. We might also want to identify any consultants who can provide independent guidance on the best saving energy approach to householders in, say, listed buildings etc. And we should also collate information about any grants that residents could potentially secure.</p> <p>Car charging points. Chris had been in touch to explain that there were significant practical challenges in making the charging points in the Benefact car park available for public use. Ted will talk to Gem to explore if they will have any facilities in their new cark (that would be accessible to local people); he’ll also ask if EDF (and/or Ecotricity) would be able to advise on providing public charging points at the village hall, and perhaps next to the new Co-op.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">SA</p> <p style="text-align: right;">TS/GU</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Recycling and Waste actions Update</p> <p>Repair Shop. Cat has been very busy and hasn’t been able to progress this. There are two existing repair shops in Gloucester, a new one in Churchdown, and a well-established one on Nailsworth. Ted will explore if one of these might provide an occasional ‘pop up’ repair Shop in the village hall.</p> <p>Better Bins. Maria has obtained costs for the larger two-chamber bins (£789 each). She will work with Dave to identify how many would be required across the parish, and to suggest their proposed locations.</p> <p>Local recycling facilities. Sorcha has produced a schedule detailing the current local places where a range of different items can already be recycled. If there is anything else that is not covered by these, we could set up a collection service at the hall. Two good websites that list where/how to recycle just about anything were recommended – recyclenow.com and terracycle.com.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">TS</p> <p style="text-align: right;">MC/DB</p>

6	<p>Communication/Inspiration actions Update</p> <p>Green Guide. The suggested contents were approved, but there was a strong feeling that the information should principally be available online – with shorter guidance/tips ‘drip fed’ on social media at regular intervals to catch people’s attention. Some printed copies would still be required for local residents who were not regular online users. The Guide should not be letter box dropped to everyone, but made freely available at key locations, such as, say, Tesco, Pineholt Village Hall, Coopers Edge café etc. Ted will estimate how many printed versions might be needed. It was felt that the Guide should not have adverts from green suppliers/contractors; instead a local sponsor (that is not directly involved in sustainability services) might be more appropriate. Sarah Watkins thought HATS might be willing to support it, and she’ll explore this.</p> <p>Sustainability Fair/Launch event. While there was support for the ‘Big’ version of this, there were some concerns too, as the cost of hiring a large marquee was so great (eating up most of our overall budget). It was suggested that we run a survey on social media to find out the sort of things residents would be most interested in learning about/attending, and we then put together a programme that reflects this. If the idea of the ‘Big’ version gathers momentum, with lots of local support (and we secure a way of funding the marquee) we could still ‘upgrade’ to this nearer the time.</p> <p>Social media. There was support for the idea of establishing the Climate Change Action Group’s own Facebook page. Sarah Watkins volunteered to look into/familiarise herself with the other media platforms we ought to use, to ensure we are seen by younger people.</p>	<p>TS</p> <p>SW</p> <p>TS</p> <p>SW</p>
7	<p>Working with Brockworth’s Climate Change group</p> <p>Ted had been approached by Claire Rigby (from Brockworth PC) who wanted to learn from us, and perhaps work together on issues where that made sense. Everyone supported this and she will be invited to the next meeting in September.</p>	<p>TS</p>
8	<p>Land Use Actions</p> <p>Ted, Sarah Watkins and Dave will meet to look at any local areas that could be designated as a key community asset (and therefore given more protection from development)</p>	<p>TS/DB/SW</p>
9	<p>Buy Local/Local procurement Actions</p> <p>Sarah Shewan volunteered to look into this, and recommend what we might be able to do – for example a ‘pop up’ local food producers market, or maybe a directory of local makers etc</p>	<p>SS</p>
10	<p>Next meeting – Wednesday 21 September at 7.30</p>	