



Minutes of the GHGW meeting held on Monday 9th September at 7.00 p.m. at The Methodist Church.

Present: J. Ambrose (JA), R. Collett (RC) J. Hazlewood (JH), M. Holmes (MH), S. Hooton (SH), G. Laws (GL), Matthew Shenton (MS) Suzanne Steer (SS), B. Whales (BW)

Apologies from County Cllr Simon Harley, Andrew King, Christine Holmes, Maggie Good

- 1. There were no matters** arising from the previous meetings not already included on the agenda.
- 2. Storytelling project:** update on initial storytelling event, 4 children but several adults and good feedback. Discussed the possibility of a winter event, hiring the Methodist Church. All funding has been agreed for the project by National Landscape and additional £100 from the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership. Autumn half term is the target for videoing and then a launch in January. SH said photographic expertise would be helpful. JA offered to collaborate and help with photos. SH was hoping to go into school in the Autumn. There are 6 different themes. The recordings, when they happen, will be uploaded onto a streaming platform and will be offered to schools. Stories are aimed at KS2/3. At the end of the stories there may be some questions to get children to think about issues. The East Anglian Storytelling Festival take place in May/June next year and there is a demand for environmental stories. Contacts would be helpful with youth groups. MH has an Academy contact and JH can contact Stutton PS.
- 3 Water testing:** update. Kath Smith, having done a sterling job of coordinating the water testing results, has decided not to continue next year. The group thanked her and Ed for their contribution this year. A new coordinator is therefore needed if testing is to continue. JH has written to the other PCs to ask if they will contribute to testing next year and has so far had positive responses. 3 out of the 4 councils contacted had agreed to contribute £50 each. The 4th is yet to respond. It was suggested that we contact the RHS as they use the rivers for their sailing activities? JH will seek someone to coordinate and JA would be happy to help with processing results.
- 4. Eco-frenzy talk:** MH will publicise on Shaun's shorts. MS – reminder on events page. Members of GHGW to help setting out chairs etc. at 6.30 p.m.

Projector required which JA will organise. Members of the group were encouraged to spread the word amongst friends, etc.

5. Suffolk Eco Networking Event to be held on 25th September 6.30 – 8.00 at Museum of the Environment @ Arlingtons, Ipswich IP1 1HE – Another event is taking place at Stutton Community Hall – Adapting to a Changing World, Monday 7th October at 7.30 p.m. – helping climate change

6. Green Arts Festival: SH had circulated a paper re this: He said the Art Group have pictures which could be shown during the films, Jo, the landlady at The Swan is looking into offering Green Beer, MS would be happy to lead a listening walk – walk percussion and tree listening. A second film “ 6 Inches of Soil” to be shown. MH reported that there would possibly be a moth event Thurs 26th or Sat 28th September but there may be an opportunity to have another moth event during the Festival. There was a suggestion to get children to turn pot noodle pots to be turned into planters amongst other ideas. It may be possible to involve other local eco groups. The poster to go into the Parish Papers. If there was a shortfall in funding/attendance, the Parish Council and/or Holbrook Society may help.

7. Stag Beetle Refuge: SH had prepared a poster which he was proposing should go on a board near the stumperie in Holbrook. JA said there is some timber available to put around the stumperie. A working party could scarify the area and put in some wild a flowers and also leave a verge around it. Seeds are already available. JA will contact Richard Parmee at Babergh re putting the poster on a board.

8. Document re potential allotments: SH had circulated a paper: it was agreed to ask in the Parish Papers for an expression of interest in the first instance and to send any interest by email to the clerk of the PC. JH will contact the Church to see if they still have a waiting list. A brief question to go in the Parish Papers: JH to organise with the editor:

- Would you like an allotment in Holbrook if they were available?
- Do you have any land available/suitable to develop more allotments?

9. Updates on:

- Eco Church: RC said they had been tending the holly hedge and removing ivy etc. A tree at the back of the Church will need professional management to make it safe. The Methodist Church has now applied for the bronze eco church award – they are working on making the outside area greener and possibly having some swift boxes.
- Annual Survey: this has gone a bit quiet – it was agreed to try and devise a simpler version to be available at events. JH will try and adapt the original and circulate to members for comment..
- EV Charging Point: the Bowls Club have had a meeting and are in favour. Will come off a separate electricity supply. The downside is a requirement for £10,000,000 indemnity which may be a deterrent. JA

is referring this to the County Councillor to see if the County Council would be prepared to cover the indemnity.

10. AOB: Holbrook Society is looking to have a Hawk Honey talk about wasps, which could be a joint event with GHGW

BW asked if the group could help to make people aware that there are hedgehogs in the area, as one had been run over recently. It was agreed that a note in the Parish Papers might help people to be vigilant.

BW also asked about historical routes, which have may not have been registered, It was thought that there probably aren't any unregistered routes in Holbrook.

11. Next Meeting: 14th October 2024 at 7.00 p.m. at the Methodist Church