

ChalCAN CG Meeting Tuesday 12th January at 7.30pm at The Parish Centre.

Present: Jim Boccock JB (Chair), Hilary Burgess HB, Liz Baldwin LB, Katherine Dalton KD, David Wood (DW)

Kate Arnold - Administrator

Apologies: Liam Nolan (LN), Andy Williams (AW), Grace O'Donovan G'OD)

- 1) **New Administrator:** Kate Arnold, was given a warm welcome by JB and all present. HB provided the CG with a brief summary as to what Kate would be working on over the coming weeks. This includes the newsletters, (HB to support with this as deadlines are tight). Kate will take over the ChalCAN Facebook and Instagram accounts asap. The ChalCAN website needs updating. Googledrive needs some organisation and a refresher for supporters on how to access documents so that it is fully utilised. Action: KA. KA explained that she has now got access to ChalCAN emails, but still can't access the mailing lists. This is an ideal time to ensure that all mailing lists are up to date. HB requested that each Sub-Committee Lead obtains an updated list of supporters and provide KA with this information. Action: HB, KD, LN, KA. KA will be carrying out a stock take of posters/leaflets and will feed back to LB. LB highlighted the importance of forward planning for all events and requested a calendar of events be produced so that each event can be as efficient and successful as possible. Action: KA to compile with support of group leads.
- 2) **Minutes/Actions:** LB to get postie mates back from AW. **Action LB and AW.** JB to contact Bussage School. **Action JB.** HB has written to Thomas Keble School, the letter was sent via BisCAN, a follow up is needed. **Action: HB.**
- 3) **Energy Group Update** – No-one from the Energy group was present. However, LB gave an update regarding the energy surveys. To date around 14 surveys have been carried out and a total of approximately 20 people have responded to the offer of a free energy survey. It was agreed to further advertise the surveys via both the ChalCAN and PC Facebook pages, the ChalCAN website and newsletters. Community Solar Farm – no update.
- 4) **Biodiversity Plans/Update:** The Biodiversity Group are exploring the idea of creating 'nature street' the area being considered is Sycamore Grove, the new development at Middle Hill. This would be a nice area to work with and thought is being given as to what can be done. FOFW: Biodiversity continue to support with practical help such as fitting the bird and bat boxes and help with activities. Workshops – There are 12 different activities, the first one has taken place and around twelve people attended, some of which were new. Three Rowan trees have been planted in Bussage on the area of land behind Tesco Express. This will create an area of berries, etc for wildlife.
- 5) **Transport Update:** KD provided an update regarding bike racks. Frith Youth Centre, Eastcombe Scouts and Bussage School have signed up and The France Lynch Church Rooms and Chalford Hill School have expressed an interest. Site visits need to be carried out to see if these are suitable locations. The possibility of installing bike racks at the pleasure grounds is also being explored. 20 is plenty: There is a banner at Chalford Hill Primary School. HB is planning to talk to parents on a Friday about parking concerns/congestion and leaflets will

be handed out. JB offered to accompany HB a date tbc later in January. **Action HB and JB to arrange a date to visit Chalford Hill Primary School.** KA to print leaflets. The 20 is plenty banner on The Ridge is falling apart, this is to be removed.

Community walks are due to start again on the 21st of January, the walks will be monthly with the next dates being the 18th Feb and 18th March. The walks start at Chalford Sports and Social Club at 10am. This will be advertised via FB and Instagram, the newsletter and CSSC will also advertise. Action: KD to contact CSSC. HB/KA to post on social media. This week we have learnt of the changes/reduction/loss of the 67 bus service from Chalford to Stroud. This will have a major impact on residents, leaving many who rely on this service cut off. KA explained that the PC have contacted Stagecoach for comment. Stagecoach explained that the service is not running to pre-covid capacity and the low traveller numbers are not making it financially viable with some buses carrying just four passengers. Stagecoach have provided an email address and phone number so complaints/concerns can be logged and fed back to the depot. Action: KA to provide KD with this information. The PC have also contacted County Cllr Chloe Turner and MP Siobhan Ballie.

- 6) **Re-Launch of Food & Waste Group:** Due to various reasons the once successful food and waste group has folded. It would be great to get this group up and running again. Ideas were shared as to how we can make this happen and ultimately we need some volunteers. It was agreed to advertise the re-launch of this group via both the ChalCAN and PC social media, the newsletter, mailing lists, allotment tenants, posters at the three allotment sites and Parish noticeboards. **Action: HB, KA.** HB had contacted Tricia Watson to support and she has agreed to get involved, although not committed to joining the group on a permanent basis.
- 7) **External Links** – covered elsewhere in minutes – continue to work with/improve.
- 8) **Improving Communication:** Ideas were shared as to how communication between the sub-groups can be improved. It was agreed to attach the CG minutes to an e-mail to all ‘active’ supporters. This will ensure that they are easy to access and they can be read when convenient. It was also agreed to add the minutes to our website so that everyone can easily obtain a copy to keep up to date with ChalCAN’s work. The newsletter continues to be a great way of communicating to residents as does our FB page. Going forward we will also focus more on our Instagram page as this seems to appeal to a younger demographic. It would be good to work with the Frith Youth Centre, helping with planting, growing etc. **Action: KA to contact FYC to see if we could work with them in any way.**
- 9) **Liaison with Schools.** It was agreed that this needs to continue. As discussed, HB and JB to attend at Chalford Hill Primary School and JB to contact Bussage School to see if ChalCAN can work with the school in any way, supporting with traffic problems, planting, givetalks to the students. **Action: JB to contact Bussage Primary School.**
- 10) **Finance update.** LB is in the process of preparing a document to give to Chloe Turner. HB asked when funds can be handed out, and in what timescale. LB explained that the 20 is plenty expenditure is less than originally anticipated and there will be approximately £600 surplus. This could be diverted to the bike racks incentive instead, subject to agreement from Cllr Chloe Turner: LB to contact Chloe Turner for approval and to ask for clarity on spending restrictions/timescales. **Action: LB.**

The date of the next meeting is the 7th February. LB is unable to make this date but will ensure a finance update is provided.