

ChalCAN CG Meeting Tuesday 4th April at 7.30pm at The Parish Centre.

Present: Jim Boccock (JB) (Chair), Hilary Burgess (HB) Katherine Dalton (KD) Karen Phimister (KP) Andy Williams (AW)

Kate Arnold – Administrator (KA) Gill Thomas – New Administrator (GT)

Apologies: Grace O'Donovan G'OD) Liz Baldwin (LB) Liam Nolan (LN) David Wood (DW)

- 1) Administrator Vacancy – Following the March meeting, it was decided to go ahead and advertise the administrator role independently. If recruitment had been unsuccessful a formal proposal to the PC Finance & Management Committee would have been made to explore the possibility of the PC taking the role back within the PC. However, recruitment was successful! HB and JB would like to offer the job to Gill Thomas. Everyone present agreed. GT attended this evenings' meeting to meet everyone. GT will officially start on the 12th April, although KA, HB and GT will meet at 3.30pm on Monday 10th April at 3.30pm to start a handover.
- 2) Minutes of last meeting/actions arising. HB noticed an error; Item 7: The extension date of the BBB completion date should be 01.01.24 not 01.07.24. KA will amend. **Action KA.**
- 3) Energy plans/update – AW provided an update about the energy surveys. To date 34 have been completed. Most recently a survey was carried out at Frith Youth Centre. This returned some interesting results and showed multiple issues. It is a building of two halves, one older and one newer half. Some areas have no insulation at all, but because of the vaulted ceiling this is difficult to remedy. The heating system was the main issue, showing that energy usage is higher throughout the night than the day, due to night storage heaters. Options will be explored but infra-red heating might be the best way forward. A report will be produced and will be sent to the FYC Administrator. There is still scope to carry out further surveys should requests come in.
Thermal Imaging camera; several residents have had problems using the camera. AW will look into this and decide what needs to be done. JB returned the camera to AW. **Action AW.**
- 4) Biodiversity plans/update – The community 'early bird walk' is taking place on the 29th April at 7.30am in conjunction with the transport group. Children are welcome, but no dogs on this walk. Nature Street, Syacmore grove has been highlighted and leaflets are due to be delivered to residents this week. The pond workshop was a success with around 20 attendees, and some new faces came along. Five additional trees, as agreed at the last meeting, were planted at Bussage Pleasure ground last weekend. JB met with Bussage School; it was a really productive meeting. There is a possibility of assisting with the planting of a 130 metre hedge. HB will speak to Carole Clayton. GCC have an Ash Dieback fund for re-planting, this is being investigated. HB requested some photos of the tree planting and pond workshop so that these can be put on FB. JB will see if anyone took some photos. **Action: JB**
- 5) Transport plans/update - KD provided an update. The installation of the cycle racks are going ahead in five locations. Bussage School's installation has started, The installation at Eastcombe Scout Hut has been slightly delayed. Frith Youth Centre are preparing to

purchase, the France Lynch Church Rooms installation has been held up due to the concrete being too expensive. Alternative quotes are being sought. Chalford Sports and Social Club are waiting for approval.

HB is going to walk the cycle route to work out what signage is required, and how viable it is. The Cycle Mare has now been appointed; this seems to be Stroud based but there could be links; KD has made contact. Numbers are gradually increasing for the community walk. There has been a request for more of a biodiversity theme.

- 6) Nailsworth CAN Transport Fair – LN requested this agenda item as he had been contacted by Kat Parker to see if ChalCAN would like a presence at their stall on Sunday 25th June 10am until 6pm. Due to everyone's commitments and limited time, it was decided not to attend this year and concentrate efforts more locally.
- 7) Finance Update – LB will be contacting the PC to request that our grant money is released. GT is going to be self-employed, GT will invoice CC and LB will manage the budget. Gill will work from home in the main, but may have a specified time to be in the office each week.
- 8) Food & Waste Group Re-Launch update – In total twelve people showed an interest in getting involved with F & W. Two meetings took place and it was evident from the two meetings that the main shared interest is to get a community composting scheme up and running in Chalford. It was decided to start with this. Karen Phimister, who attended this evening will arrange another meeting with the group to discuss how to take this forward. Research needs to be done to ascertain if there is a need, how much will it cost? who will manage it? where will it be sited? how much space is required? The group will explore this further. HB explained the process which is, once this information has been gathered a proposal will be taken to the CG, once finalised by the CG, a proposal can be submitted to the PC Works Committee.
- 9) Chair for next 3 months – There were no volunteers to take on the role of chair. HB agreed to chair May's meeting. Need to add this back onto the agenda for May. **Action GT.**
- 10) Big Green Week – GBGW is 10th – 18th June. HB has drafted a letter to send to community groups to see how they can get involved with GBGW. KA has a list of contacts to send letters to. Letters have not yet been sent. **Action. KA/GT.** Biodiversity will be holding a stall at the garden trail near to where the tickets are sold. They will be giving a composting demonstration on the Saturday. Transport will be getting the bus to Stroud Brewery and will be walking back through Brownhill. KD to look into timing of buses. **Action: KD.** There may also be a bike servicing drop-in, where a mini service will be on offer. KD is exploring ideas. Clare is exploring the idea of showing a cargo bike film; The France Lynch Church Rooms were suggested as a good venue as the rooms are already set up for showing films. The Energy Group haven't got any firm plans as of yet. KP will have a think about composting and ideas for the F&W Group. **Action: KP**
- 11) Chalfest – After a quick discussion, the consensus was not to hold a ChalCAN stall at Chalfest this year. There is a lot of time and work involved and unless you get a prime location, it can

be difficult to engage with the community as people are there to enjoy themselves and watch the various acts.

AOB/Date of next meeting.

HB needs everyone's contribution for the newsletter asap.

KA mentioned that the theme of the Annual Parish Meeting is being finalised this week, but a suggested theme is 'parish volunteers'. If this theme is agreed, then ChalCAN may be invited to talk to residents. KA will advise once the Council have met.

JB received a request from FoFW. There are two areas which have been fenced off as nature reserves, bird and bat boxes have been installed. FoFW would like to employ an ecologist to carry out a baseline survey, starting with these two areas, but in time to survey the whole of the PC owned area. Will ChalCAN agree to go halves on the cost of this which is £180? Everyone was in agreement to share the cost, as long as ChalCAN have equal access and CC volunteers also receive training. JB to contact FoFW.

Date of the next meeting is Tuesday 2nd May at 7.30pm.