

WE 29 March 2021

Apols from Arif, Saf and Ivan.

Solar streets

Actions

- all to think about what other groups might support the solar streets campaign – in the light of advice from Marlow that having lots of logos helps.
- (bf) waiting to hear back from Bucks Council on the use of their logo etc (Ellen).

Bees

Lisa from Marsh and Micklefield Big Local joined the meeting. She told us a little about the big local project:

- lottery funded, £1m, half spent, half to go, targeting communities that had not had much lottery funding, linked to the 'big society' idea some years back
- resident lead
- declared a climate and biodiversity emergency in 2019
- working with Red Kite (Kara) on turning some of the 'amenity grass' into areas for greater biodiversity, stepping stones for nature. Perhaps could be more ambitious, and want to tie into more about who looks after it – people looking after the patches near where they live.
- have 1.5 days a week of a dedicated ranger (John Taylor) from Chiltern Rangers, creates a visible presence in the area, doing any number of things with local schools, or groups.
- Have chalkland habitat 'in the patch' which is an important habitat.
- have previously given out wildflower seeds linked to a film event

Big thanks to Lisa for coming, especially as it was her non work day. Clearly there is going to be a lot of common ground for WE and the M&M big local to work on together.

Discussed whether the Hazlemere project would work in Marsh and Micklefield. Feeling it could do, but another idea emerged - to give the seed to people who will plant it, given that many people will get the seed and not plant. This could be across the unparished area. See how this goes and 'compare and contrast' to Hazlemere. So this is now the plan.

Seed can be obtained from the Hazlemere supplier (Emorsgate) for about £515.22. will also need envelopes etc, and people to pack it.

Sally gave feedback on the 'pardon the weeds, we're feeding the bees' signs. No 'ready supply'. Various sources suggest that the signs would be about £5 each (and without a batton). Doesn't feel good value for money. But the 'Blue campaign', putting up blue hearts may be a better bet. National campaign, 'rewilding Britain, garden by garden'. Has a DIY feel. May be able to get people to 'diy' blue hearts that others may then buy (at our market stall?) perhaps one for Men in Sheds or Chiltern Recycled? <https://bluecampaignhub.com>

Actions

- Kara to investigate getting a market stall towards the end of April to hand out seed, and advertise 'WE' more generally.
- All to think about what are the right facebook/other social media groups to use to promote the 'bee square' idea to people, who then ask for the seed.
- Post meeting thought – need to think about GDPR issues in handling people's personal data in getting requests for seed. Penelope will mull on this. Other people's thoughts are also welcome!
- Penelope to speak to Arif and Saf about community board funding
- All to identify if they can think of any sponsors who would be willing to fund at short notice.
- Sally to follow up on the blue campaign and signs.
- All to use the revised FoE Bee Leaflet in social media posts (thanks to Jean for updating so promptly). <http://www.wycombefoe.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Bee-leaflet-2021.pdf>
- Penelope to find out from Hazlemere how many envelopes their seed creates.
- Penelope and Jean to put some words together to be used on social media/with the bucks free etc about what the seed project is about.
- (bf) verge cutting – waiting to hear back from Bucks Council on what it might do to reduce cutting this year (Penelope)

Next meeting

- No meeting next week – please see if you can make it to the Hazlemere Climate talks, which next week is about the work of the Parish's Climate Emergency Working Party. Starts at 6.00. Penelope will circulate the link when she gets it.

Action

- All to email round outcomes from this list to the group, as there is no meeting next week. (Penelope will also see about setting up a googledoc which we can all edit... but she doesn't promise!)