

Slaley, Healey & Hexhamshire Community Environmental Group (SH&HCEG)

Agenda for meeting on Wednesday October 19th 2022

at 7.00 p.m in Slaley Commemoration Hall

1. Present & Apologies.

Pat Wilson – Farming / protection of wildlife flora & fauna (Ladycross NR) PCs Litter / reduce plastic use.

Debra Taylor – Slaley Hall area, Slaley Councillor/ Village hall – quick win

Peter Topping – Healey parish – community orchard

Stella Douglas – Colpits area/Slaley Councillor/ Show/ Shop/ web site and community orchard.

Terry Douglas – Colpitts/ Slaley shop – native trees hawthorn/rowan/ash. **TD Treasurer**

Rosaleen Doonan – Village hall/shop/ musician/ Minsteracres - Raise awareness especially with young people

Peter Gill – Slaley Hall – community involvement/ stimulate a community effort

Karen Melvin – Ladycross Nature & Art - native trees at School

Sheila Borthwick – community orchard at Parks Side, Slaley

Carol Ferguson - renewable energy / energy efficiency & recycling

Anne & Christopher Porter – Hexhamshire (Chris - community orchard) **CP Chairman for 2022**

Slaley School **represented by** Nikki English (outdoor education),

Harriet Lamb – Climate Change /Slaley Community Shop

Lynda Sale – Hollie House, Dipton Foot –

Joan Jewitt – Natural History & Ladycross NR

Vicky Young – interest at Earth Day

Hilary Porteus – plant ecologist – has done many verge surveys in the region.

Victoria Hufford – Edmundbyres – interest in wild flowers.

Apologies

2. Minutes of meeting held August 17th 2022 circulated pages 60 – 63 + appendix 1/150622, page 64.

3. Matters arising

a) 6 b 17/8/22: **Wildflower area at St. Mary's Slaley** – scythed the area Friday September 2nd. AP & HP to report.

b) 10a 17/8/22: **Winter Solstice Fund Raising Event**

DT sees it as a candle-light event, tables covered in holly and ivy with home-made goods - cakes, biscuits, wines, preserves, jams, marmalades etc for sale. Also, environmental garden 'furniture' like Bug hotels, Bird feeders, Water Buts & Compost bins. DT also liked PWs three young 'potted' oak trees and thought they could be a central point promoting regrowth - maybe selling a selection of bulbs around them. AP suggested serving mulled apple juice and

ginger breads for refreshments. DT also liked the “Advent type” Winter Solstice with environmental to-do suggestions - on line rather than paper. Need an email address book for that to be sent out with Data Protection in mind. **Discussion and Agreement – who Leads? Who does what?** Healey PC suggestions **attached as appendix ?/191022, page ??**

c) 10b 17/8/22: **Barn Owl population this year.** CP to contact Graham Dixon who records Barn Owls in the Shire. Article on what to do with an injured Barn Owl in both Parish magazines. Colin Jewitt as a source of information approached. October 6th Hexham Courant article Tony & JoJo Johnson of Pennine Wildlife Centre in Carrshield look after rescued animals & birds.

d) 10c 17/8/22: **Community Orchard apples at Slaley.** SD offered by email 22/9/22 to pick and store for the Winter Solstice event.

4. General update on recycling

Report PG

5. Treasurers Report.

Report by TD

6. Community Climate Champion

report by DT:

7. Template for Discussion

CEG What do we do? How do we say we have been successful?

a) Stand at Slaley Show – engage with people – needs serious organisation - consider for 2023. Will need to confirm a stall by February 2023 discuss in October and January. AP remarked that there was no provision for bicycles in 2022, everyone came by vehicle or walked. Could we promote bicycle travel at the Show and hire bicycle stands?

b) Vision statement:

Inform on issues which influence the environment and climate change

Change attitudes

Take action

Engage the community on issues

Joint action towards planetary change.

c) Excel Spreadsheet with Activities and Results: Update at meeting. PW had filled in several sections and also supplied the Healey PC and Slaley PC annual report from CEG.

8. Verge initiative (A&CP)

Funding application completed and sent off by Chairman for the September 30th deadline, if successful funds will provide tabards for the group, Field Study Guides, Survey Sheets, Meeting Venue & Projector. **Application attached as appendix ?/191022, page ??**

A beefed-out plan will be presented at the October meeting. Verge Surveys are ranked by the 'quantity of insects' the verges support.

In submitting the application CEG was asked for our equal opportunities policy and our safeguarding policy, in the absence of our own we were forced to present SCH's policies as adopted by this group.

9. Correspondence

Climate Action Northumberland September issue

Climate Action Northumberland October issue

10. AOB.

The more we go out into the community and mix with vulnerable people we need to consider Safeguarding. CAN provides ACRE safeguarding information and a free online training video on <http://ca-north.org.uk/empowering-organisations/safeguarding>. This should be viewed by all CEG members (statement sent with agenda 13/10/22)

11. Date of 2023 meetings: + Special environmental dates when CEG should promote its 2023 dates for third Wednesday of alternative months: AGM February 15th. April 19th. June 21st. August 16th and October 18th.

Earth Day 2023: Saturday April 22nd (theme Climate Change)

World Environment Day 2023: Monday June 5th 2023

Great Big Green Week 2023: September 18th – 26th is the UK's biggest celebration of community action tackling climate change

12. Let's not forget - a local initiative –land on which to provide a community 'something'.

Have you got a story for the Hexham Courant? Have you got some pictures of a special event you would like to share with our readers? Is so, email our newsdesk at news.hx@cnmedia.co.uk (this appeared 29/9/2022 and we should take the opportunity to promote our activities)