

1.

Members taking part were

Cllr Joy Tucker

Parish Clerk Marion Pratt

Cllr Janet Palmer

Cllr Jan Goffey

Cllr Mike Davies

Sadie Coventry

Veronica Matthews.

2.

Apologies from Cllr Mike Carpenter who, due to other commitments, is stepping back from monthly meetings for a while. Many thanks to Mike for his involvement so far and ongoing interest.

David Botting-Page, due to internet issues.

Robin & Jill Bevis

3.

Approval of the minutes.

4.

Community garden. Sadie has been busy with looking into establishing a wildflower border on the church-wall side of the Village Green, with 'bug hotel' etc. and also getting fruit trees to start an orchard set up at the Village Hall. The best time for planting will be around March next year and this gives plenty of time to work out the best options for the site. The village hall appears to be the favoured area and Jan Goffey suggested that the trees could be done as an espalier along walls so as not to take up too much room height wise. Apparently some while ago a group came to the village hall to show people how to do this so it may be worth looking into them to see if they could either come again and show us and others what to do to grow them. The village hall committee will need to be on board with planting trees in the grounds as the green spaces are used for various uses. Mike Davies informed us that we may be able to get a grant from the council towards the cost of the trees and said the more detailed information given the better the chances of it being granted. The length of the walls would need to be measured and also the soil may need improving with Fertilizers. Devon orchards live are another group that may be able to offer support and knowledge as they do tree grafting. There is still a lot to plan ahead for, such as water butts, planting wild flowers and getting a bench for the community garden. This hopefully will attract interest from other people in the village to join in and offer help.

5.

Peat free. Jill was unable to make the meeting this evening but is intending to send full details in the next few days. A question was raised by Jan Goffey to Mike Davies about the amount of peat that has already been removed for the next phase of new houses in Okehampton at Roman Way and if the peat that has been removed will be re used and put to some good use. Mike said that there was a meeting in which the removal of peat will feature in future planning applications and is being drafted. A 24 page document will go to full council on 22nd September and should cover both local and global effects. Jan also asked if it is worth local councils voicing their concerns about carbon release from peat on these building sites. I think Mike said that it may be worth as many as possible to put their views forward on this.

6.

Community Hub. Unfortunately neither Mike or David were available this evening but David has said that we should aim to arrange a sale of items people no longer use or want on their driveway/front gates etc. this could be done as a table top sale and a charge of £5.00 taken as a donation towards the group funding. The village hall grounds could also be used for those

who are not in the village but wish to take part. This could be advertised in the parish magazine, via facebook, parish website and "what's going on" page. It should be advertised as a way of recycling and reusing things you don't use anymore. It is hoped that we could also run a tea and cake stall to raise funds. Date was set for 17th October but this may change due to village hall being free now on the 3rd.

7. Car/Bike share . Robin is still looking into how would be best to set up car sharing and how to co-ordinate it. Also the possibility of an electric bike charging point somewhere in the village.

8. Litter . Joy and Janet had a meeting where we discussed the problem of litter throughout the parish. There are some areas that are worse than others and they seem to get the brunt of the service stations takeaway food and drink rubbish discarded out of the car window. It was felt that even if a litter bin was provided at the Belstone corner area it would do little to alleviate the problem as it is not a safe area to park up and get out to use the bin. People that throw the rubbish are most likely to be the ones in a hurry and possibly speeding as well so would not be bothered about it anyway.

We thought that maybe getting volunteer groups in more localised areas would be a way of involving people and them having a sense of pride in doing it. Get a competition or campaign for people to design their own awareness posters that could go up to remind people to bin it or take it home and recycle it. A member had heard of a scheme somewhere that put the car registrations on the coffee cups to trace back who threw the cup out. The problem there would be relying on retailers to do it or the reg being removed from the cup first.

Mike Davies said that we could possibly borrow litter picking equipment and high viz jackets from the council until we get our own.

9. Collating of written proposals for an information leaflet. Joy has said that we need to do a brief introduction of what area we are involved with so that it can go into the Sensus information leaflet so that people know what we are aiming to achieve via the group and hopefully get others involved with it.

10. Compilation of a written plan. This should be a place for we set out what we are trying to achieve and maybe have it in columns so that we can put an action list, have it time bound or deadline led and results of what has happened since last meeting so it can be evaluated.

11. Funding. Looking into what grants there are for such groups and ways of raising funds. ongoing work in progress.

12. Facebook and website page. Marion has so far been a huge help to the group with posting on facebook and the website. However she has more than her fair share of work to do and it would be good for another person to develop the page for the group. This is an area that will need to know how to manage it. It was suggested by Janet that it may be something that a younger member of the parish would be interested in designing the web page or facebook. It may be something that is part of a work experience opportunity or a retired person looking to be involved. It may take up a few hours a week to answer queries. only really need to post things that crop up and not an everyday event.

13. A O B. The table top drive sale could have a link with what sort of things are for sale at which location so people know where to go to get the bargains.

14. Date of next meeting.

13th OCT 7.30pm and in view the current restrictions imposed on 14th September by the government it will take place via zoom unless otherwise stated.