

SCENSUS MEETING MINUTES - Tues 1st Feb 22 6.30 pm

Present – Cllr J Palmer, P. Collins, M. Wilson + V. Mathews & M. Pratt

1. Chair Janet Palmer welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.. Commemorative Tree for Tim Edwards – It was agreed that Cllr Wilson should set a date when she is able to collect the tree from Bow Garden Centre, and arrange with other members to come and help dig a hole to plant it.

b) Saturday the 19th February, Devon Wildlife Trust will be at Winkleigh Sports Centre distributing free trees, UK native species such as Crab Apple, Wild cherry, Rowan and Birch, for planting in your gardens. [See this link](#) for more information.

The link indicates that the trees will be between 20-60cm so you should be able to fit them in their cars.

3. Green Hearts for Valentines Day - <https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/show-the-love> February - Veronica Mathews said that she would try and make a Willow Heart at one of her Workshops and photograph to send to our MPs. If any other parishioner feels like creating a green heart - either at home or with others and use it to ask your MP to ask them to write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor calling for leadership and action on climate and nature. Please send us photos so that we can share them.

4. Great British Spring Clean 2022 – 25th March – 10th April – if you can spare some time to Litter Pick around your area of the parish, please check out the Risk Assessment on our Website <https://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/scensus>

5. Other Dates to put in your diary and come and help us with please:-

- Sat Mar 26th – working party to tidy Village Green and Playground + Litter Picking if enough Volunteers. Sat May 14th Tidy & Plant Sampford Courtenay Station see Item 6 below.
- Sat 11th June – Himalayan Balsam Clearance
- Sat 11th Sept Autumn Clean up

For more information contact Marion Pratt – SCPCClerk@aol.com or 01837 82285 or watch the Noticeboards and Website.

6. Sampford Courtenay Station – a meeting took place at the Station on 12th Jan where it was explained that Network Rail are looking for a local group to “adopt” the Station to plant up some flower beds, and keep it clean and tidy. This will involve obtaining a licence and training from NWR. The licence will be issued to SCPC and this meeting agreed that this project could be included as part of SCEnSus activities. (Full report re this meeting and proposal is on the website here <https://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/parish-council-minutes-agendas>

If you are keen to see the Station re-opened in the future, or a Train enthusiast and would like to help us present the Heritage of Sampford Courtenay Station please let us know.

7. Sale of Repurposed Riot Shields – Cllr Wilson currently has a stock of ex-police riot shields to re-purpose as garden cloches. These will be advertised on the Website and on display at the Spring Plant Sales in Sampford Courtenay, Bondleigh and Broadwoodkelly to raise more funds for SCEnSus projects.

8. Seasonal Challenges – Veronica Mathews presented her Challenges for March which will be based around how many clothes we buy and discard. These challenges are published in the Roundabout and on the SCEnSus page of the Website <https://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/scensus>

In connection with this, SCEnSus is looking to organise a “Nearly New Clothes Swap” Event or even perhaps a “Nearly New Fashion Show”. If you would support or help with an event like this, please get in touch.

9. We will be looking to up-date our SCEnSus plan in time for the Open Meeting in April. If you have any ideas you would like included, please let us know. The current SCEnSus Climate Emergency plan can be found here <https://www.sampfordcourtenay-pc.gov.uk/scensus>

10. Solar Panels for the Public Toilets – alternative means of energy supply for the toilets could be considered if we did not use Electric Hand Dryers, (which need a lot of power). It was agreed to look into the possibility of using hand sanitiser and/or recycled paper towels for the Public Toilets – which would mean power would only be needed for lighting. Cllr P Collins will discuss with Village Hall committee and SCPC.

11. Project Wingspan - During 2022, Wildlife Crime Officers and the Rural Affairs Team in Devon and Cornwall Police will be promoting **Project Wingspan**.

Project Wingspan is a forcewide campaign to highlight the national wildlife crime priorities by working with partners to raise public awareness to prevent wildlife crime across Devon and Cornwall.

During the year we will be raising awareness and delivering the project through a mixture of activities including some operational work and through internal and public awareness with our partners. The order of our activity is between:

February and March: Badger Persecution

May and June: Raptor Persecution

July and August: Bat Persecution

September and October: Illegal wildlife trade

November and December: Poaching (deer and freshwater fish)

12 . New Benches for the Village Green – as discussed at the Open Meeting last October it was agreed that 2 new benches should be purchased for the Village Green. This will use our EMR SCEnSus funds currently available - £804.63. If you

have any suggestions on events or activities that can help raise more funds to spend on SCEnSus projects you would like to see supported, please let us know.

12. Next meeting Tues March 22nd 6.30pm at the Village Hall or via Zoom.

Useful Links you may like to look at:-

- Tree planting <https://www.devonlnp.org.uk/joint-initiatives/trees-for-devon/sources-of-funding-for-tree-planting-in-devon/>
- Great Big Green Week 2022 - https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/?utm_source=Great+Big+Green+Week+ev&utm_campaign=2976dac98d-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2021_07_16_09_58_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a12ac87797-2976dac98d-44295450
- Green Hearts <https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/show-the-love>
- Bird Watch <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>