



Minutes of meeting held 28th January 2021 via Zoom

Present: Peter Cummings (PC), Alice Cummings (AC), Judy Rogers (JR), David Howlett (DH), Mike Parker (MJP), Laura Parker (LP) John Varney (JV), Mark Pilkington (MP), Michael Southworth (MS)

Apologies: David Colgrave.

Guests: Fiona Busfield (FB) and Chris Lodge (CL) from YDMT

➤ TOGETHER FOR TREES PRESENTATION FROM THE YORKSHIRE DALES MILLENNIUM TRUST

Chris Lodge explained that the YDMT had just been awarded a £250k grant for a tree planting program (Together for Trees) across the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Nidderdale AONB area. Malhamdale has been chosen as one of the hubs to roll out this program whose targets are the creation of a minimum of 30 new native woodlands (23 hectares), planting and protecting 80 landscape trees outside woodlands, creating 1000 metres of new native hedgerow and delivering 4 community woodland schemes (3 hectares). He asked for the group's support to enable our local community and the YDMT to work together to achieve these targets.

The precise plan is:

- 'How to promote 'Together for Trees'.
- Priority is to identify suitable sites.
- Small woodlands, wildlife corridors, hedgerows and landscape trees, larger woodlands too.
- Identifying a community co-ordinator to liaise with landowners and YDMT.
- Identify community volunteers and training needs – E.g. surveying, planting and woodland management.
- Include disadvantaged groups from outside the area.
- YDMT provide – training, tools, trees and fencing etc.
- Timescale – Now until March 2022. All potential sites need constraint checking by YDNPA (6-8 weeks).
- Together for Trees woodland trainee/YDMT Apprenticeships.

Subsequent questions also identified the fact that the funding would cover educational opportunities for volunteers and school children to learn about environmental issues and related practical skills. Action: JR to discuss with FB about environmental talks and activities about trees for local children.

Members of MEG already have contacts and information which they will share with Chris Lodge over the coming months to help YDMT make progress on its delivery of Together for Trees.

➤ MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING



The minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2020 were agreed as a true record. There were no matters arising that would not be covered in the agenda.

➤ UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF MEG ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN

Carbon neutral energy and carbon neutral development

Our contact in Settle has withdrawn from the development of a local area energy plan (LAEP) and passed leadership of this to Action on Climate Emergency (ACE). MEG will continue to watch the progress of the LAEP and offer assistance as and when practical.

Travel and Transportation

MP spoke on the initial thoughts about how to progress the proposals put forward in the Malhamdale Traffic Management Report. After some discussion it was concluded that the subject required in depth discussion that should be a major item on the agenda at the next MEG meeting. Action: PC to put a focus on this in the agenda for the next meeting.

Land & Nature

Sensory Garden

Despite a minor pause in progress because of CoVid restrictions, plans for the Sensory Garden are progressing with three local people prepared to offer artistic creations and garden design. Meanwhile any potential legal points arising from the plans are being pursued by the Methodist Church.

Tree planting

Refer to the presentation on 'Together for Trees'. There is much information that MEG members have that they will share with YMDT over the coming months in order to progress the program.

Environment educational and promotional activities

How we want to shape future educational and promotional presentations at MEG meetings will be discussed soon as it was thought these may merit their own separate meeting.

➤ DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be arranged for Thursday 25th February 2021 at 7:30pm. This will be via Zoom.

Subsequent meetings for 2021 are to be as follows:- 25th March; 29th April; 27th May; 24th June; 29th July; 30th September; 28th October; 25th November.