

**Derrington Way Ahead Meeting**  
**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall**

**Present:** Karen Davies, Ann-Marie Tallent, Maggie Overton, Roy Wood, Cheryl Birks, Edward Davies-Simpson.

**Apologies:** Rob Hine, Helen Sammons, Tony Burgess, Sheena Davis, Sue Challinor, Olive Harvey, Diane Gear, Shaun Firkin.

### **1 Welcome by the Chairperson**

Karen Davies chaired the meeting and welcomed the group to the Village Hall.

### **2 Notes of the last meeting and matters arising**

The notes were passed as a correct record of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 2016. Since the last meeting, as well as being commended in the 20<sup>th</sup> SBC Green Awards, Sue and Olive attended the SBC Pride in Your Patch Awards and received a Highly Commended award on behalf Derrington Way Ahead, the millennium Green Group and other groups and individuals in the village, for community environmental projects undertaken in the last year.



All actions have been completed and other items are on the agenda.

### **3 Duddas Wood Hardstanding Path**

After lots of hard work, involving lots of organisations and individuals, the path is now complete.

**Cheryl** and **Karen** to liaise on a press release and submit the 'before' and 'after' photos featuring Diane Parry.

**Roy** to organise two signs for either entrance, with appropriate text, A3 sized.

**Sheena** to calculate how much Tesco Bags of help funding remains.

Radar keys for entrance gates are available on Ebay.

### **4 The Greenway – update of maintenance works (by email from Diane)**

*As an update for you to take to the meeting, I have been trying to push for some solutions to the drainage problems on the newly surfaced Greenway. My team have put forward a proposal for funding which is determined through the County Council's Capital Scheme budget. At the beginning of each financial year proposals/schemes are put forward to compete for funding via the capital budget*

*(this is the budget that the resurfacing works on the Greenway was funded from). Whilst there is no guarantee that this scheme will be actioned at least it is amongst the list of competing request, as they say you have to be in it to win it!!!*

*Also I have undertaken a site visit with my Manager today to show where the issues are and some cheaper "quick win" solutions to the drainage problem. My Manager has an evening meeting with the Parish's of which this is on the agenda, Cllr Mark Winnington is also fully aware of the drainage concerns and we will discuss with Cllr Winnington consideration of some of his Community budget towards funding for alleviating the drainage problems. Also with all Parish's being involved then collectively they may wish to each provide some funding towards a solution.*

*As stated this most certainly is NO guarantee that we will get funding but things are moving in the right direction with the hope that there may be some scope for some funding in the next financial year. But please not this would be a low level schemes such as digging out ditches, it is most doubtful a budget would be available for lay pipes.*

*I hope this information which you can share with the group is useful and we look forward to seeing you at the next meeting and also on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Our very best wishes to al, Shaun & Diane.*

The group thanked Diane for the informative update.

**Roy** will have a site visit and also look at the path where the corrugated plastic pipes are at the surface, to check for potential harm to wildlife (West of Crossing Lane). Were keen to see how the primroses along the edge of the path do this Spring.

## **5 'Abuzz in the Border' Talk on Bees, Tues 24<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

The group was pleased that Ron Rock from the Bee Conservation Group is able to come to give a presentation in the new year. We will hopefully fill the hall again!!

### **Help from D of E student**

Milly Horton has been helping the group, cleaning the Village Trail signs and also the Gateway signs (with her Dad helping). Milly has also circulate all the fliers to households and put up laminated posters. Thanks Milly!

### **PR**

Karen and Cheryl have been working on PR.

**Karen** to re-circulate flier with notes.

**Karen** to send to local schools with bespoke message.

Add flier to facebook page through **Pete Bray**.

### **Refreshments**

Cheryl to speak with Olive with ref to buying in cakes (so we have enough for a large audience but so that we can freeze any un-used ones for use at WI coffee mornings).

**Jean, Cheryl and Maggie** also willing to make some cakes if needed, thanks!

**Karen** to make a 'Donations' notice.

### **Room Layout**

Meet 6.30pm for kitchen organisation

Meet 7pm for hall set up (after exercise class which finishes at 7pm).

**Helen, Milly** have offered to help with this too. Thanks!

### **Technology**

Peter Bray has offered to be there on the night, *just in case!*

## **David Rawsthorne and Honey Stall**

David to be reminded about the night. It's a good opportunity to have a display and also to sell some honey/products.

## **Other issues/items**

Displays:

Millennium Green/wildflower meadow photos (link with bees)

Derrington Way Ahead

Table by Door to 'meet and greet'

Donations Box

Leaflets

Introduction/welcome

## **6 Wild About Derrington, Sat 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2-5pm.**

Similar to previous events and including music, plus new elements, inc:

Hedgehogs, Bats, Owls, Badger Groups, Storytelling, Folk Music.

Log Bird Feeders, Nest Boxes, Chainsaw Sculpturing?

Marquees, Loo, Tables, Chairs, Refreshments etc

**Karen and Roy** to begin planning.

## **7 AOB**

### **IT support**

Maggie expressed thanks to Peter Bray for his help with her IT issues and was also thankful to borrow the Village laptop for a while.

**Nest Box event** at County Hospital, Stafford, Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Feb

**There is No Planet B!** Stafford's Green Arts Festival, 18-25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017 – always a fabulous event! **Cheryl** to investigate All Women choir involvement.

**Repair Café** at St Johns Littleworth, Sat 11<sup>th</sup> March – looking for volunteers!

### **Fairtrade**

We are re-forming Stafford Fairtrade Group and hope to regain Fairtrade Town status again. Cheryl to discuss with Village Hall Committee and Sheena/Rosemary to explore with St Matthew's. FT fortnight is at the end of Feb.

**Next meeting: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall (Annex to Main Hall).

