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## Greenprint Forum Steering Group Meeting

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Location: Online via Zoom

Date: Tuesday 10 August 2021

Time: 10:00

Invited: Betsy Reid, Daniel Wareing, Helen Buckingham, James Mallinder, Jane Healey, Laurence Moss, Luke Bennett, Nick Khan, Sue Hall, Susan Harvey, Chris Ryde, Andrew Jolliffe

In attendance: Daniel Wareing, Jane Healey, James Mallinder, Susan Harvey (to 10:50), Andrew Jolliffe (to 10:30), Betsy Reid (from 10:10)

Apologies: Luke Bennett, Nick Khan

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### Agenda

1. Community partnerships environmental Projects – Andy Jolliffe
2. Update on ESC green agenda – DW
3. Update on Nature First Small Grants Scheme – DW
4. Events
5. Update on correspondence with Government - DW
6. AOB

Actions from last meeting:

**Action agreed for DW** to invite ESC officer leading the project to redevelop the former Deben High School with Passivhaus principles to a future Steering Group meeting to deliver an overview of the project. Bridget Law and Laura Hack confirmed as attending meeting in November to provide this update.

**Action Agreed (carried over) for DW** to draft a letter to all three local MPs asking them what they are doing to progress the green agenda through Parliament and a request for an annual update on their actions; what their positions are on issues linked to the theme Nature First (e.g. neonicotinoids, balloons, sky lanterns, fireworks, trees, nature recovery networks); their view on the SCEP; and an invitation to supply an article for Greenprint newsletters and / or submit to an interview with the Chair of Greenprint Forum.

**Action agreed for DW** to circulate proposal on Plastic Action videos to steering group for feedback. Proposal agreed since last meeting, DW in waiting for work schedule from consultant.

**Action agreed for DW** to investigate coastal protection work and associated degradation of materials at Harbour Villas. The EA have advised that the temporary nature of the fix applied to this area of defence was necessitated by closeness of two major storms impacting our coast. The original Storm Ciara caused the damage and in order to save the structure from further damage an urgent but temporary fix was needed ahead of Storm Dennis which arrived a week later. A more detailed update is due in late August.

## 1. Community Partnership for Kesgrave, Martlesham and the Fynn Valley - environmental projects

Environmental Care is the 2<sup>nd</sup> priority for the Community Partnership for Kesgrave, Martlesham and the Fynn Valley. High levels of action and awareness on environmental issues has been identified among residents in this CP area.

The CP has awarded £10818 through its Environmental Care small grants scheme, receiving 13 applications, of which 11 projects were funded across CP area including PCs, schools, and environmental groups, with projects including those of Bredfield Wildlife Friendly Village, and Gorseland Primary School 3 R's project and habitat improvements.

Various working groups and workshops held with PCs, TCs and other stakeholders on theme of Environmental Care to set priorities on environmental for the wider area settling on three proposals that could potentially be scaled up to whole district:

- Advice hub – due to launch in late September
- Martlesham Garden Rewilding Project
- Green Communities Protect.

AJ and DW will continue to liaise on development of projects with the Community Partnership.

## 2. Update on ESC Green Agenda

- Planning permission secured for the redevelopment by the council of the former Deben High School site including the development of new housing stock designed following Passivhaus principles. The scheme has been designed as a pedestrian-led environment with vehicle movement kept to a minimum, maximising green space and enhancing biodiversity. The inclusion of “play streets” brings further emphasis to the pedestrianised nature of the site, creating a safe and welcoming spaces for residents to walk, meet and socialise. Officers will provide a fuller update at the meeting in November.

- The council adopted a new Air Quality Strategy as an integrated part of the Council's decision making, meaning that air quality will be a major consideration on a local and strategic level going forward [Microsoft Word - AQ Strategy 2021 \(eastsoffolk.gov.uk\)](#)
- Sustainable Construction SPD under development and draft will be published for consultation in October/November 2021. Once adopted, the Sustainable Construction SPD will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.
- Draft Cycling and Walking Strategy due for consultation this autumn.
- Overall total emissions for 2020/21, at 5105tCO<sub>2e</sub>, are down by 1190 tonnes of CO<sub>2e</sub>, a 18.9% reduction from last year. It is the lowest annual total for 2020/since SCDC and WDC began to jointly measure their emissions in 2009/10.
- Emissions from staff mileage, while comprising only 1% of the total, were down by over two thirds. It is anticipated that with continued home working and use of technology enabling remote meetings, that much of this saving can be embedded as part of a flexible approach to working.
- 9 new EVs added to car parks fleet in 2020/21.
- Palm-oil-free hydrogen treated vegetable oil under investigation as alternative ultra-low carbon fuel as a cost-effective interim solution to achieve significant emissions reductions whilst longer term possibilities are investigated. HVO is a drop-in substitute for diesel in engines meeting the standard of Euro 6 and suitable for HGVs including the refuse collection fleet. Potential to eliminate approximately 30% of council's carbon footprint if applied to the entire fleet.
- Treebilee project to celebrate Platinum Jubilee to offer a young oak tree to each parish and town in the district for planting in January 2022. Tea party community celebrations are being encouraged alongside the Jubilee itself to make reference to the trees. Non-plastic tree protection will be provided.

### 3. Update on Nature First small grants scheme

First panel meeting to consider applicants to Tranche 1 held on Monday 9 August. Panel comprised JH (Chair), JM, and SHarvey. 12 applications received, 8 approved. DW due to inform applicants of decisions this week and publish brief summary of successful projects once grants have been issued.

### 4. Quiet Lanes

Mass implementation of candidate quiet lanes through Phase 2 has now commenced. All 51 lanes county wide (of which 40 located in east Suffolk) successfully through public consultation and approved by SCC for designation. Wave 2 public consultation on 145 lanes (73 in east) also now complete and team are awaiting confirmation of final numbers to be formally designated. Wave 3 will comprise a similar number, with candidate lanes under Wave 3 to enter public consultation in late August. Wave 4 will be required to accommodate those parishes wishing to follow through but who have not been able to meet deadlines for

Wave 3; some delays have been caused by obligation to hold parish meetings in person and fitting this element of the consultation into the parish meeting timetables.

The communications campaign is due to launch once a suitable mass of signs have been erected for earlier waves of implementation, expected sometime in the autumn. It is intended that the communications campaign makes reference to changes due to be made to the Highway Code strengthening protections for non-motorised road users.

## 5. Composition of Steering Group

Peter Ross has recently retired from Norse as Countryside Manager and as a consequence also retired from Steering Group of Greenprint Forum.

## 6. Next events

Next event agreed to be held in wake of COP26 (31 Oct-12 Nov) on the theme of low carbon food, with a working title of "Farming Today Fit For Tomorrow" with narrative to reference the need for food to be produced in low carbon ways to contribute to net zero ambitions.

**ACTION agreed for DW** to make approaches to possible contributors from this field of expertise.

Benefits of events online and in person were discussed. Idea to hold following event in person during summer.

## 7. AOB

BR mentioned an article in Guardian by G Monbiot on slow food movement need a slow ecology movement, whereas disturbance takes place very quickly it takes a very long time for ecology to recover. Idea for petition seeking law to prevent felling of trees beyond certain age unless specifically authorised – alternative idea letter from Greenprint/ETG to secretary of state – **ACTION agree for JM** to raise with ESC Environment Task group.

Lettering Arts Trust are currently holding the exhibition "On a Knife Edge" on the theme of nature in peril, now open at Snape Maltings. **ACTION agreed for JM** to enquire of possibility of private viewing for members of the Greenprint Forum.