

Calne Action Plan

Environment – Area Board Priority sub-group.

Meeting 14th November 2022:

Chair: Ian Thorn (IT)

Robert MacNaughton (RM) (Friends of the Marden Valley), Sue Deedigan (SD) (Calne Without Parish Council), Celia Stevens (CS) (Sustainable Calne)
John Boaler (JB)

Notes: Louisa Young (LY) (Area Board Delivery Officer, Wiltshire Council)

Apologies: Rob Mercer (Calne Town Council, officer), Ros Griffiths (SEPM, Wiltshire Council) and Brett Warren (Wiltshire Council, officer)

Transport

Issue - Encourage and promote active travel:

Signage and promotion of a joined-up safer cycling/walking ... link with s106 group. – This group would not attempt to develop this action further but will get updates from the s106 group.

As CS attends the s106 meeting she will take on feeding back on this item. Nothing specific to report this time.

ACTION: CS Report back

Provide an E-Bike charging point in the town centre –

Provide an E-Bike charging point in the town centre – joint funding had been allocated by Area Board and Calne TC to develop a project to provide an initial point. Calne TC was to develop the project and made an application to the area board in February 2022. £3,500 was transferred to Calne Town Council on 10th March 2022

E-Bike charging point is going forward Mark Edwards is leading likely to be in the heritage car park

ACTION: RM to check the time scale

Issue – Sustainability of the Sustrans Cycle Route

Develop the route as a serious cycling alternative to the A4 (including addressing longevity of leases) - The group noted there was a duplication of this work taking place through an LHFIG action.

Sustrans were commissioned by Wiltshire Council to investigate alternative routes due to rent and contracts the Environment Working Group would like this raised as a separate item at the Area Board to include an update from Wiltshire Council Officers on the progress. Has an estimate for compulsory purchase been done?

ACTION: IT request this is added to Area Board Agenda

Green Spaces

Issue – Encourage community tree planting / re-wilding schemes:

Audit of tree planting / re-wilding locations – It was decided that the link to the Jubilee should be removed, and that the action to audit locations might be better developed through Neighbourhood Plans and the Parish Forum. However, it was also noted that this group would wish to maintain commitment to tree planting and re-wilding.

Agreed to rename this action – ‘Develop and record tree planting and rewilding schemes in the Town and Parishes’.

IT has contacted Cllr O’Neill about this SD agreed to follow up. IT happy to come along to the next Parish forum

ACTION: SD raise with Cllr O’Neill

ACTION: IT attend next Parish Forum

Rewilding Calne - CS reported that a project being worked up between Sustainable Calne and the Calne Clean up Crew looking towards rewilding areas of the town is progressing slowly.

CB – updated regarding the Bremhill view social club where they are adding trees, hedgerow & under planting with snowdrops. The concept a small area model that people may be able to do in their own gardens. This has progressed and is now with street scene to agree - if they do agree will go to the AB for funding. Discussed town wide survey and encouraging people to look at their own garden however all agreed that getting the Bremhill one set up as an example is the primary focus.

ACTION: IT to make contact with Rob Mercer Calne Town Council regarding what he is working on town wide.

ACTION: CB – Further update next meeting

Engaging the Local Community

Young People interactive event – autumn 2022. CS reported that Dave Wylie at Kingsbury Green Academy had expressed willingness to engage and host an event but did not have resource to organise or fund.

JV reported that the Youth Forum was happy to join up and help organise an event. The original idea was to develop an immersive experience and include a conversation/discussion/debate about climate change etc.

It was hoped the Youth Forum would be able to provide an idea of what young people themselves would find interesting/valuable, and that we would be able to identify an appropriate expert to lead the activity.

It was felt that an autumn date was too restrictive, given that schools are on holiday. However, it was also felt important to keep this action as a priority.

The group is keen to encourage local young people to engage with the environment and so discussed how best to approach that. CS had investigated several immersive experiences and sent them to the group in advance to look at. Discussed approaching the school and having one of these experiences held there as an initial form of engagement. Possible that there is funding available from the Area Board.

ACTION: CS – to summarise the ideas and send to LY

ACTION: LY – discuss funding and engagement with Cllr Pearce-Kearney and contact school.

Friends of the Marden Valley – River Marden Festival.

RM updated that unfortunately the festival that was due to be held on 5th November had to be postponed due to weather. This has now been rescheduled to March 18th 12 noon.

ACTION: RM – to update anything key as needed.

Air Quality

IT explained that, mindful of reduced resources, the **Air Quality Action Group had requested that they merge with this group.**

The Air Quality Action Plan is covered by a single point on the Area Board Action Plan. But the group would aim to discuss and identify specific actions to develop in future.

BW sent apologies and an update by e-mail. They are preparing the procurement request. Calne will have its own dedicated automatic equipment. The air quality monitoring data for Calne will be published on Wiltshire Council website 24 hours a day, 7 days a week allowing residents and business to see what the air quality is on a given day. This new equipment will monitor Nitrogen Dioxide, PM10 and PM2.5.

The working group were keen to have an officer attend the next meeting.

ACTION: IT – will speak to BW regarding timescale what happened to the £10k (Marden Farm funding)

ACTION: LY – contact BW regarding attending the next meeting.

ACTION: LY – contact Climate Team to arrange for them to attend next meeting.

Terms of Reference (T-o-R)

Draft Terms of Reference discussed and, with minor amendments, agreed.

Recommendation: That the Area Board acknowledge and approve this T-o-R

ACTION: IT to speak to Georgina Clampitt – re DPD local plan due to be approved by Cabinet in March

ACTION: LY Request agenda items ahead of next meeting. Meetings to continue quarterly.

Next meeting: To be arranged – February

ACTION: LY