

# Swanton Morley Parish Council

## Climate Action Working Group

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2022

At 7.30pm in Swanton Morley Village Hall

Attended by: Geoffrey Curran (cllr), Christine Taylor, Jane Fabisz, Kelly Pickard, Emma Raines, Alasdair Monteith and Lynda Turner, Linda Barham

Apologies from: Roger Atterwill, Gerry Palmer, Ian Cawdron

Geoffrey welcomed everyone including new members to the meeting and explained that the last meeting had been held almost 2 years ago and had been on hold due to the Covid pandemic.

Emma explained that she is a resident in the village and keen to be involved, member of IEMA and works in marketing, children at the local school.

Geoffrey started the meeting by suggesting the election of a Chair and Secretary.

All agreed that Geoffrey would continue as Chair and Jane would take up the role of secretary.

It was agreed that the group were basically starting again, and the group name was discussed. It was agreed that CASM would be used as an abbreviation only so as to ensure that the groups purpose was well published ie Climate Action for Swanton Morley.

The objectives of the group were discussed and on a general level it was suggested that the group are looking at what action can be encouraged in the village:

- On an individual level
- As a community, and
- What funding can be obtained

Kelly confirmed that a statement agreed in March 2020 regarding planning and development will be submitted against all relevant planning applications made in Swanton Morley. (see below)

*Climate Action for Swanton Morley (CASM) has an expectation that all developers will adhere to all statutory building regulations and local government policies. Whenever a new development is considered, CASM will require that buildings are energy efficient, have renewable energy production technologies and charging points for electric vehicles.*

It was noted that there had been no progress towards improving bus services in the village.

*Note: Since the meeting it has since been established that Konnectbus now have route 4 that serves Longwater retail park.*

*Konnectbus would be happy to attend the proposed event in April to promote public transport and the new route.*

A discussion was had about the actions that had been taken previously and whether these had been successful. It was agreed that some kind of audit should be included in any future planning and also for those projects already undertaken to ensure that actions taken are having a positive impact ie planting trees for example checking they growing and undertaking or arranging any maintenance / upkeep as necessary.

The current LOGO was discussed, and Emma volunteered to take a look at it to see if improvements could be made ie not black / not abbreviated to CASM.

Jane confirmed that the Village Hall Trust will have three quotes at next meeting for a recycling bin for plastics / tins / cardboard etc to be located alongside other recycling / reusing facilities at the Village Hall.

It was confirmed that the Parish Council had been awarded a Green Community Grant of £500.00 to support the group with Leaflets, Display boards and Wildflower seeds to give away. The group then discussed the proposed event date could coincide with World Earth Day on 22 April 2022. It was agreed that it would be better to run a small event well rather than go to big. It was agreed that the event would be held in the morning of the 23 April 2022. Times to be agreed

Proposed ideas for event:

- Statements on boards (display boards to be purchased from Green Grant) – attendees could make notes and stick to display boards ie a community wish list to support climate action.
- Photographs of local wildlife and fauna (Alisdair can produce photos)
- Promote Countryside Stewardship – Mill Common, rare species. Bearing in mind that we need to protect the common so encouraging footfall there may not be appropriate.
- Sharing Information / pledges / suggestions
- Approaching companies and press BBC East / EDP to promote event and group
- Could cubs (Lynda) /other local groups get involved ie planting or looking after the newly planted trees
- Could local schools get involved
  - Posters from children at primary school
  - Friends of Swanton Morley
  - Northgate School – what they are doing to reduce plastic
- Andrew Doubleday (Alasdair contact) Tree planting expert
- Alasdair – talk about owls / wildlife and fauna photography
- Gardening Club – talk on how to make a compost heap
- Bee-bombs (Little Swans)
- Produce leaflet to promote event to include 10 footsteps people can take to improve the environment. Everyone to bring ideas for 10 footsteps to next meeting plus an activity to encourage interaction.

- Double spread in The Mardler to promote event – **next issue deadline 21 February.**
- Provide free refreshments (environmentally friendly)
- Approach local companies for freebies, local garden centres
- Plant Exchange
- Ask allotment holders if they want to be involved
- Promote glass recycling at Village Hall (so village benefits)
- How to recycle effectively ie so its not contaminated and goes to landfill / could have actual objects and activity encouraging correct recycling. (Do we need an expert?)

### **Other suggestions going forward**

Battery recycling bin at Village Hall – can promote at Event

*Note: A bin has been ordered and should be in Village Hall next few weeks*

Trip to recycling centre for members of the group

What objectives should the group have going forward or the group?

### **Next meeting**

**9 February at 7.30pm Village Hall Bar Area**