



# Local Environment Action Frampton (LEAF) Working Group Online Meeting, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024, 6:30pm

A **L.E.A.F Working Group Meeting** was held on Wednesday 28th February 2024 6.30pm in person at the Brockeridge Centre and ONLINE on ZOOM.

**Present:** Cllr L Williams, Cllr A Lancaster, Cllr M Hill, Cllr T Clark, Cllr P Hockey, Cllr D Goodwin, Cllr T Snaith, D Hanks

**Note taker:** D Finniear (Climate & Nature Officer).

## Meeting Notes

### 1. Open session

No comments received.

### 2. Plastic Free Frampton Cotterell (PFF)

The request from PFF for the Parish Council to take over the running of the group was discussed. Staff bandwidth was raised. Nature Officer confirmed that they already are involved with running and administrating the group, thus workload increase would be minimal. It was suggested that the LEAF working group takes over the Plastic Free projects, providing the Clerk is happy with any additional staff workload.

**RECCOMENDATION:** That the Climate & Nature Committee approve the parish council (LEAF and C/N Committee) take over the administration and projects associated with the Plastic Free Frampton group with the aim to reach "Plastic Free Community Status".

### 3. Community Nature Reserves

The group considered joining Frampton Cotterell Nature to set up Community Nature Reserves in Frampton Cotterell. D Hanks from the nature group explained that anyone with any size land from a window box to front garden can sign up to be a Community Nature Reserve. This project would be a way of joining together wildlife friendly habitat management across the parish. Frampton Cotterell Nature Group (FCN) are running a Community Nature Reserve launch event at the legion on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April for the BioBlitz. The parish council could support FCN with marketing, volunteering, GDPR support and generally working together on the project. The parish council could also declare its own sites as Community Nature Reserves. Schools, churchyards and businesses shall be encouraged to participate.

Westerleigh Parish Council clerk has expressed an interest in joining the Community Nature Reserve project.

Data would need to be shared with both the parish council and FCN. Welcome packs could be created for new sign ups, such as seed packs, badge and information on wildlife friendly gardening.

**RECCOMENDATION:** that the Climate and Nature Committee agree to sign up to the Community Nature Reserves project in collaboration with Frampton Cotterell Nature Group. To provide welcome packs and wildlife related prizes from items purchased within the equipment list.

#### 4. Climate and Nature Events

##### **BioBlitz**

Climate & Nature Officer summarised the upcoming BioBlitz at the end of April and confirmed that, in collaboration with D Hanks from FCN, an itinerary for walks and activities shall be finalised.

##### **Nature Art Exhibition**

The survey regarding nature art events was discussed, highlighting that most respondents (95%) would like to see more exhibitions in the village. Most respondents did not mind what time of year.

**RECCOMENDATION:** That the Climate & Nature Committee approve a second Climate & Nature Art Exhibition in August 2024 when the youth club are not using the building. To allow art to be sold and to request a budget for prizes.

##### **Seed swap**

A request to run a seed swap event was received from the Project Officer. This event could tie in with the BioBlitz weekend during the Community Nature Reserve launch or Floral Friends Spring Fayre. The allotment holders, Floral Friends and Frome Valley Growing group shall be contacted to request support with the event and confirm which date/time works best. The Parish Council could provide samples of wildflower seed to encourage nature friendly gardening.

**RECCOMENDATION:** That the Climate & Nature Committee approve a seed swap event and provide wildflower seed samples.

##### **Hedgehog Heroes Here Group**

The Hedgehog Heroes Here group are planning a Hedgehog Watch event in the spring (like the Big Garden Bird Watch). They requested that the parish council support them by sharing the event.

**RECCOMENDATION:** that the Climate & Nature Committee approve supporting the Hedgehog Watch event and help with marketing.

#### 5. Volunteer Session Days

The group considered working with Frampton Cotterell Nature Group to run additional weekday practical conservation volunteer sessions at The Park, Ridings Road, Centenary Field, Brockeridge Garden and the Glebeland (South Glos Council land managed by FCN). Nature Officer only has capacity for a maximum of one additional volunteer session per month. D Hanks from FCN has

Daisy Finniear

Climate and Nature Officer to FCPC

23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2024

offered to run 2 sessions a month, bringing the total to 4 volunteer sessions per month. The parish council would need to provide the equipment and refreshments for such events. The Maintenance Officer and/or Nature Officer can support with dropping off equipment when required.

**RECCOMENDATION:** That the Climate & Nature Committee agree to run three additional volunteer sessions per month on Wednesday in collaboration with Frampton Cotterell Nature Group. Equipment and supplies to be provided by the Parish Council when required.

## 6. Wildlife Equipment List Review

The equipment and supplies list was reviewed. It was agreed that the projector should be removed from the list. It was recommended to add in long reach litter pickers, bee habitat and trees/potting materials be added to the list.

***NB following further discussion about Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) spend deadlines, landscaping (tree and hedge planting) costs for Ridings Road will be taken from EMR 332 to ensure that all CIL funds are exhausted before the deadline of end April 2024. If chosen pond liner exceeds the remaining funds, a request will be made to F & G for the reallocation of further EMR's.***

**RECCOMENDATION:** that with the addition of long reach litter pickers, trees/potting materials and bee hotels, that the equipment list be approved by the Climate & Nature Committee.

## 7. Centenary Field Pond update

Nature Officer explained that the clay content in the pond is not high enough to puddle in without adding additional clay or alternative liner. A tree root membrane may also be required, and the pond will need digging a further 1 ft deep to accommodate additional puddling clay liner. The mini ponds are being lined with experimental liners (bentonite, butyl and puddling existing clay). Nature Officer shall report back recommendations and costs at the next committee.

**ACTION:** Nature Officer and/or Cllr Lancaster to contact Drews Yard about moving the soil heap further down the field to create a bee bank.

## 7. Reports from Cllr Snaith

### **Climate and Nature Workshops**

Cllr Snaith summarised the climate and nature workshops proposal. Workshops would aim to get the community involved in climate and nature without heavy involvement of politics, promoting proactive community engagement. Cllr Snaith has time to organise and run the workshops. Workshops could help people take ownership of the upcoming updated Local Climate & Nature Action Plan, shaping the parish council's response to the climate and nature emergency. Staff shall be available to support Cllr Snaith in the organisation and running of the workshops.

**RECCOMENDATION:** that Cllr Snaith organises climate & nature workshops to engage residents with environmental projects.

### **Public Bike Parking**

Additional bike parking is required across the village. Cllr Snaith sought support for the project idea before costing up the project and investigating permissions to install bike racks. The group

agreed that more bike racks are needed in the village and agreed with the project proposals in principle. Climate & Nature Officer shall support the development of the project with Cllr Snaith.

**RECOMMENDATION:** that the Climate & Nature Committee approve the bike rack installations in principle and await a report from Cllr Snaith to investigate bike rack locations, approvals and costings.

#### **Climate and Nature Library**

Cllr Snaith proposed that a climate and nature section in the Brockeridge book swap be allocated. Office staff explained that only 2 shelves are currently available to use immediately and could be used for Climate and Nature resources. If successful, a full bookshelf for Climate & Nature resources could be investigated and specific books purchased.

**ACTION:** To start by allocating two shelves on the book swap bookcase for climate and nature books. To ask for relevant donations. Create a list to sign post people to online resources. To report back to a future Climate & Nature Committee if more shelving space is required and if specific book purchases need to be made.

#### 8. Climate and Nature Emergency Emissions

It was discussed and agreed that scope 1, 2 and 3 emission require calculating and a plan to undertake this calculation investigated. South Glos Council have an emissions calculator, however additional calculations may be needed.

**ACTION:** Cllr Goodwin, Cllr Snaith and Nature Officer to meet to plan scope 1, 2 and 3 emission calculations.

#### 9. Request for LEAF members to take park pathway consultation survey

**ACTION:** LEAF working group members to fill out the park pathways consultation. [Link to pathway proposal survey](#)

#### 10. Date of Next Meeting/s

20<sup>th</sup> March 6:30pm, Climate and Nature Committee Meeting at the Brockeridge Centre.

5<sup>th</sup> March 7pm Frampton Cotterell Nature meeting at the legion.

**Meeting close 20:25**