



Minutes of meeting held 27th April 2023 in Malham Village Hall at 7:30pm

Present: Peter Cummings (PC), Mick Parker (MP), Judy Rogers (JR), Jane Smart (JS), Michael Southworth (MS), Leigh Weston (LW).

Apologies: Jonathan Heath (JH), David Howlett (DH), Paul McWhinney (PMc), Sue McWhinney (SMc), Laura Parker (LP), James Powell (JP), Stephen Phillips (SP)

Minutes of meeting held on 23rd February 2023

The final minutes of the meeting of 23rd February 2023 were agreed. All action points had been cleared.

Trees update

Volunteer tree planting days at the end of March with YWT at Flasby went ahead as did planting with the NT at Malham Tarn. YWT has provided a list of tree maintenance days starting 2nd May with one event every fourth week on a Tuesday until the end of March 2024.

YDMT's tree planting day on 19th April went ahead successfully. A plastic tube tree guard day has been arranged for 14th June. A day's training on meadow surveying has been organised for 23rd May followed by surveying of meadows by volunteers over June/July.

The National Trust will be planting more trees along the path to Janet's Foss during the next planting season. The meeting expressed concern over the future of Malham Tarn House and the buildings on the Tarn estate site. It was noted that this is a concern that is at the forefront of issues being dealt with by KMPC. MEG offers its support as and when necessary.

Curlews update

There are now some ten local people volunteering to help with curlew monitoring which, we understand, is impressive bearing in mind the small scale of our community. Tier 1 monitoring to identify where curlews are gathering is now over. Tier 2 monitoring is about to begin and this will focus on identifying the location of breeding pairs and their success rate as well as fuller monitoring of their behaviour generally. The efforts being made have had one of the desired effects, namely the raising of awareness locally about the plight of the curlew and other waders. It is now a familiar local topic of discussion. LW and JH were congratulated for the efforts they have made to achieve such progress.

"Eyes on the Bog" update

A training day for "Eyes on the Bog" has been set up for 13th May. Not all the volunteers who signed up for this monitoring activity will be able to join in on the training day so efforts will be made to arrange an additional day. **Action 1: PC to maintain contact with the YPP to ensure this happens.**

NYC Climate Coalition (NYCC)

Following upon a very recent report issued by the IPCC concerning the urgency of taking action on climate change, the NYCC which represents a majority of environmental groups within the new North Yorkshire Council's boundaries wrote a letter to all local County Councillors and local Members of Parliament to emphasise this urgency and to underline the importance of politicians in power to take heed and act decisively to avoid or at least



minimise the effects of climate change. The letter was also published in the Yorkshire Post and has been reproduced in the May Malhamdale Parish Magazine.

The March meeting on the Settle LAEP

The meeting felt that the situation in Settle is distinct from that in Malhamdale. The latter is a scattered and fairly small community. The former is a larger settlement with many dwellings clustered together. This makes community action, and shared action easier and likely to be more effective in finding solutions. Also Settle, on the face of it, seems to be less restricted by planning conditions than Malhamdale and if this is the case, then success in finding renewable solutions to energy generation and its efficient use/supply in Malhamdale is much more limited. Any energy policy we may want to pursue locally can only be formulated if we have a very full understanding of the limits placed upon us by the YDNPA's planning policies.

An alternative approach was put forward which involves exploring the Government's "Local Nature Recovery Strategy" (LNRS) and deciding whether this approach can be used to achieve nature recovery in our location – this may also include fresh approaches to energy generation. **Action 2: JS to research further and come back with suggestions as to the feasibility of this strategy in our case.**

Future Steps for MEG

The Chair explained that he wanted to step down from this role by September but also indicated that more issues are regularly cropping up to which the Group could make a positive contribution in addressing. The conclusions were that the Group should not inadvertently overstretch itself by undertaking more than it has capacity for. Several ideas about who might be prepared to chair the Group in future were put forward. **Action 3: PC to follow up.**

Article for the June issue of the Parish Magazine

The MEG article for the June parish magazine should include a paragraph on recycling.

Other Business

Action 4: JR will look into organizing a visit to the Allerton recycling centre.

Future meeting dates

25th May – Food and Sustainability event at the Farm Shop; 29th June; 27th July (but only if clearly necessary); 28th September.

Summary of Action Points

Action	Details
1	PC to maintain contact with the YPP to ensure additional training day arranged.
2	JS to research further on LNRS and come back with suggestions as to the feasibility of this strategy in our case.
3	PC to follow up on replacement Chair.
4	JR will look into organizing a visit to the Allerton recycling centre