



## **Banbury Community Action Group**

Meeting notes from: **Tuesday 7 May**

**4 Ale and Gin, Butchers' Row, Banbury**

Next Meeting: Catch-up **Tuesday, 4 June 2019, 7pm – 8pm**

**4 Ale and Gin, Butchers' Row, Banbury**

*Thanks for coming Colin (Chair), Alison (Notes), Lorraine, Lynda, Harry, Pam, Liz, Richard, Alex, Lyndsey*

*Apologies: Harry*

Colin welcomed everyone to the group. Everyone introduced themselves as several people were attending for the first time.

### **1. Friendship Festival**

- The Friendship Festival is on Sunday 19 May and this year it is based at the Bridge Street garden. The theme is Sustainability. Liz was meeting with Judy from the organising group on Wednesday 8 May.
- CAG can contribute by running stalls or activities on the day. Lynda will be running the give it a grow and seed swap and we will also try to run an ecobrick making activity (see below).
- Volunteers are needed to help with clearing up on Saturday 18 May from 10am – 2pm. Feel free to pop in for any part of that time. Volunteers are also needed on the day from 9am to help with set up.
- Visit Banbury are organising the Big Lunch part of the day at 12noon. Visit Banbury is now a Community Interest Company (CIC) and they are looking into creating a garden with murals near the Cornhill Centre. Tim is investigating possibilities and we could also ask about murals for the underpass on the way into the Bridge Street garden.

### **2. Volunteer Fair**

- The Banbury Volunteer Fair on 7 June is fully booked but we are 4<sup>th</sup> on the waiting list. The event does not always attract a large number of prospective volunteers but is useful for networking. Lynda will probably attend to connect with other groups.

### **3. Low Carbon Hub Update**

- Following Bob's enquiry at AGM we discovered that the CAG can act as a sponsor for other organisations or individuals to apply for funding. This is not possible however for the East Street garden as Sanctuary Housing won't give permission to use their land.
- The energy audit at St. Hugh's was very good and revealed that the building is already fairly energy efficient.

### **4. People's Park Centenary**

- This event is taking place on 14 July (this clashes with our Orchard Day).
- We have permission to tag onto the Cherwell District Council Recycling team stall if anyone is available to hand out leaflets etc.

### **5. Crisp Packet Recycling**

- WRAP contacted us to ask if we could help with a crisp packet collection point in Banbury.
- Lorraine has set up an agreement with Kid's Corner Café and they now have a crisp packet recycling point.
- Radio Oxford have been in touch about talking to someone about the project. Alison or Richard would be happy to do this.

## **6. Fundraising**

- We now have a donations page on our website.
- We have also been approached by Cherwell Community Lottery about being a good cause partner. People could sign up via us to play and we would be eligible to receive funding. We agreed to join the scheme.

## **7. Give or Take**

- We need a date for another event in June/July. We have outgrown the market stall so Lorraine has been trying to find an empty shop venue in Castle Quay.

## **8. Bridge Street Garden**

- Concerns were expressed about 2 trees and some broad beans in the garden. Liz will look into this.
- There is now a google sheet and red and black book to record gardening activity.
- There may be a Garden Open Day in June.
- We would like to have a better sign and a bin. Harry is looking into Council permissions needed for these.
- Liz applied to Waitrose Community Matters and we will feature on the green token scheme very soon.

## **9. Chairperson role**

- Lyndsey was happy to take on the Chairperson role. Lorraine nominated her and Alison seconded. Lyndsey was elected unanimously.

## **10. Any Other Business**

- Lynda shared some information about ecobricks and a project using them in Chipping Norton. Alison had a completed ecobrick with her and showed everyone how they are made by stuffing plastic bottles with non-recyclable plastic. We could use them to build something in the Bridge Street garden. We agreed to collect materials and help people start to make bricks at the Friendship Festival.
- The new venue works really well.
- We were reminded that we should be recording volunteer hours at events and meetings and for volunteering time from home.

## **11. Next Catch-up meeting**

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