

**Network Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

- 1) **Welcome:** present: Cllr. M Oxley (Chair) Cllr A Brown, Cllr Blanksby,; Edward Lever (RYSF), Evie Joyce (RYC) Mike Harley (LRWT), Carolyn Cartwright (Bisbrooke), David Coop (Seaton), Christopher Renner (Normanton), Graham Don (Market Overton), Trevor Burfield (Essendine Parish Council); Hannah Williams(Oakham)
- 2) **Apologies:** Cllrs Stephenson, Burrows, Webb & Wilson, Mary Cade (Ketton), David Lewis (Ketton), Mark Carbury (Stoke Dry) Debrah Thatcher (Ridlington), Peter Hitch (Greetham)
- 3) **Previous Notes:** noted
- 4) **Matters Arising** (n/a)
- 5) **Items of Business:**
  - a. **Up – dates from individual groups:**
    - i. **Uppingham** – various re- use themed stands to be organised over the course of the summer to coincide with Social Sundays- Uppingham Rotary have won and Environmental award.
    - ii. **Ridlington:** accessories sale 18<sup>th</sup> June from 10:30 – 12:00 (contact Debra Thatcher for more info [debrathatcher@hotmail.com](mailto:debrathatcher@hotmail.com) Report at next meeting
    - iii. **Market Overton:** Initial meeting held to get a group started – well attended; events discussed including community litter picks
    - iv. **Barleythorpe:** planting going well 700 trees planted for the Jubilee Canopy. Plus trees planted at the NHS wood; plans to buy equipment that people can borrow to cut down on carbon footprint. Finally Wildflower meadow being created by Alison Homes in August
    - v. **Rutland Youth Council** Students at UCC as part of their Citizenship studies are hoping to scope the creation of a cycle path using existing footpaths from the Town to UCC avoiding the main road. Still very interested in promoting “ Make Your Mark” and Other Foodwaste reduction initiatives. Finally we need more Public transport provision in Rutland.
    - vi. **Seaton:** 5/06/22 – special tree plant planned with events in the village hall such as making bat boxes and hearing speakers (report at next meeting)
    - vii. **Ketton:** survey being conducted to identify focus (hopefully report to come to a future meeting) One theme: planning rules – e.g. conservation areas, keen to lobby for change Plus mention of land for allotments as part of Planning conditions
    - viii. **Barrow:** lots of bulbs planted; Jubilee Committee BBQ and joining with other villages (Report at next meeting)
    - ix. **Essendine:** Mallard Pass Solar Farm still raising concerns in the village and surrounding areas. Consultation has started and members were urged to make their thoughts heard on the plan to cover 2238 acres of Rutland and Lincolnshire with solar panels. Closes on 4<sup>th</sup> August [Have your say — Mallard Pass Solar Farm](#)
    - x. **Oakham:** Hannah starting a Green Group in Oakham. There are a number of different Groups operating in oakham so need to bring them all around to understanding our role in what they are trying to achieve. Try to link to FOE website

- xi. **Natural History Society:** 200 trees planted at Rutland Agricultural Show
- xii. **Website / communications:**
  1. send any items for Twitter or Facebook to Joanna Burrows  
[jburrows@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:jburrows@rutland.gov.uk)
  2. Volunteers needed to manage individual pages (again contact Joanna) – the development aspect of the website now done; over to us – training videos available
  3. Desire for RCA banners – budget available and it was suggested that better to perhaps have leaflets that can be handed out to highlight the message and what we are hoping to achieve
  4. Desire for press releases to promote RCA and the work being undertaken but stressed that we should not be using the RCA directly in any press release. Simply that the group is affiliated to RCA
  5. Still need more villages to contribute and start Green initiatives. Please do all you can to try and persuade friends /colleagues in other villages to start Climate Action Groups.
- b. **Grounds Maintenance Consultation:**
  - i. Response from RCA submitted by 06/05/22 (submission attached)
- c. **Tree Planting Guide:**
  - i. Guide noted but a question was asked where it can be found.
  - ii. Desire for an appendix of suitable trees to plant in the different soil types
  - iii. Impact of climate change: noting the traditional planting times might vary
  - iv. Direct people to the Woodland Trust and Youtube
  - v. Concerns re damage to tree guards with saplings etc as a result of grounds maintenance. Plus mention made of the plastic tree guards still in place 10 years after the tree had been planted. They should be removed when no longer needed. Finally in planting any trees always ensure you have permission from the landowner and understand that there will be on costs to keep the tree healthy until it is mature enough to stand on its own.
- d. **Local Plan:**
  - i. desire for in person workshops noted
  - ii. issues and options consultation has started and the link to the page on the Council website is sent with this. Ensure you fill it out and send it in [Issues and Options \(June 2022\) | Rutland County Council](#)
- 6) **Carbon Trust** The Carbon Trust have been tasked with an audit of RCC's Carbon Baseline and that report should be ready by the next CAG Meeting
- 7) **Climate Change Officer** RCC have found someone to take on the role of Climate Change Officer and hopefully they will be able to attend future meetings of the CAG
- 8) **AOB / suggestions for items to discuss:**
  - a. Lucy Holmer Senior Environmental officer at Leicestershire (guest speaker) Excellent idea for future meeting.
  - b. Use of solar for street lights was again talked about and the need to find out more on the subject was stressed.
  - c. Graham Don to produce a report on Green Village Initiatives as per plans announced by the Chair (MO) to roll out across the whole county ways of encouraging people to live more greener lives.