

Minutes of the Sustainable Swaledale Core Group

Meeting 6/5/2021

Present: Adam, Alison, Rob, Margaret, Stacey

1.Introduction and apologies

Apologies: Adele and Mike, Anne,

It's looking as though we'll have the June meeting by Zoom, but (fingers crossed) may be able to meet in person for July.

2.Update on biodiversity projects:

2.1 Bids

Bids for funding for wildflowers (Yorkshire Water) and Swifts and Swallows (Birds on the Brink) have been unsuccessful.

Are there any lessons to learn?

Should we be producing a wider biodiversity strategy statement which brings all our the projects together? Funders often looking for a wider vision?

Action: Adam to have a go at producing a statement

Should we be investigating what projects local funders such as Tees Swale, YDMT are interested in funding and see if they are of interest?

Perhaps establishing a track record working on projects such as Incredible Edible or Together for Trees will help?

2.2 Swifts and Swallows

Jocelyn is making some swallow nest cups out of clay

20+ sightings been logged. One can record first sightings and subsequent distinct sightings by filling in a [short form](#) on our website and even add your own picture. Results of sightings can be viewed on an [interactive map](#)

2.3 Tree planting/together for trees

Crosby Ravensworth have a group who survey trees outside of woodland areas eg field boundaries for mature/ancient trees and tree health eg ash dieback. The exercise gathers data and also builds links with landowners. Tees Swale would like to replicate the model in other areas.

Possibility of 2 x ½ day tree identification courses in Arkengarthdale over the summer.
Suggested date 19 June 2021.

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust/Together for Trees – staff and Rob visited 15 sites in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale w/c 26 April 2021.

Rob looking for fencing contractors to fence approved projects over the summer

YDMT likely to have a tent at Muker Show (1st September 2021). Possibility of some link-up with us, even if it's limited to us just providing some leaflets/info packs.

3. Update on cycling initiatives

Jill Armstong arranged a meeting with Delyth, Rachel and Adam (Sustainable Swaledale), Michael Briggs (YDNP) and Barbara Gravenor (Swaledale Outdoor Club Cycling Group)

Topics looked at included amongst other things:

- Improving cycling routes into the Dale
- Providing bike-friendly public transport
- possibility of information packs for visiting cyclists recommending bike friendly facilities and accommodation; where to get repair assistance etc
- reduced car days

Action: Jill Armstrong to write up some notes and propose what could be feasible as a first step.

4.AOB

We had a request to form a small group supporting hedgehogs in the Dales.

Action: Margaret to put something in next newsletter asking people to contact info@sustainableswaledale.org if interested

Caroline Hewlett has mentioned on the Facebook site that she is happy to collect cat food pouches and take them to the Richmond Recycler. Leave them in a box in her porch

5. Next Meeting

Thursday 3rd June 7.30 by Zoom – to be confirmed

Margaret 6/5