**IDE PARISH COUNCIL-CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 2 October**

**at 3 Cobbe House**

**Attended by:** Alex Goodman, Georgie Ambrose, James Romain, Ann Boyce, Carolyn Tysoe, Richard Cottle, Andy Bragg, Andy Swain.

## Highlights

There is excellent progress on the plan to put solar panels on Ide School, this is feasible, and we are looking for funding.

Ide School has had a cycle and scoot to school week, which was widely supported and very successful.

We want to encourage rewilding in the parish. Do you have a small corner in your garden, A spare strip on your farm, or any other land that could be allowed to grow more naturally to encourage wildlife, and carbon capture?

Andy and Martin Bragg are planting 6500 trees. Would you like to help them? Watch out for the public event at the end of January.

We want to know what your think about climate change. Expect a questionnaire, and the chance to come to a public drop in session, see what can be done, and tell us what you would like out community to be doing.

## Minutes

New members, Welcome to Georgie Ambrose and Alex Goodman.

JR has made great progress on School solar power project. We have detailed Survey and proposal. The school has 2 power supplies and only one can be used with the solar. Since national government has removed the feed in tariff it is more important to consume the power we generate. Maximum is 8KW 26 panels, limited by grid supply to building. JR and ABo are talking to David Cox of TDC and £10k funding looks likely. There could be an app to see the power generated. Available to students.

Suggestion of an electric charge point in the school car park for staff use.

School is building a team of volunteers for grant applications. The Hall is a community building – this will help with grant applications for school and for solar.

Walking bus is still running and supported. Ide school recently had a cycle and scoot to school week which was a great success.

Viridor have a funding stream where they will provide 90% funding if the remaining 10% is made up from renewables. – the school solar project could unlock this funding.

Plastic free Ide, GA agreed to help Jane Rotinoff. AS to make contact

Tetra cycle provide recycling for Foil sachets, crisp packets and cigarette butts. Can we site a recycling bin in the village?

We can invite people to rewild large or small packets of land – unused corners of the garden, etc. We can set a target area for the village, get individuals to post pictures and descriptions of the rewilding.

TDC have a tree planting target and will fund trees where land can be identified. JR to contact Whiddon farm manager. It is noted that planting on private land without access does not provide the community asset but DOES still provide the carbon capture.

School – can we get the students to grow acorns for planting? ABr Abo to follow up.

On Jan 31 ABr and Martin Bragg are planting 6500 trees, including a public event on Saturday, tree planting, with bands etc in the evening. Tickets available. ABr to write some words so climate group can publish on web site and ide times

There is a natural history society in Tiverton with volunteers who can do ecology surveys. “Bio Blitz”

Discussed possible revenue streams to support purchase of the northern fields to resolve access issue over weir meadow.

Discussion of Lobbying. Where our group cannot act directly because of central government policies, we can lobby, by writing as a group or as the parish council to our MP. We can also encourage individuals to do the same. CT to look at a letter to Mel Stride re solar panels, Future lobbying targets might include onshore wind (the cheapest form of renewable energy, currently effectively banned by planning policy) electric car pricing.

Chudleigh have a community fridge. There are also schemes to share things like lawn mowers, tools etc. we could include in the questionnaire to see if there is interest.

Limited progress on the questionnaire. Purpose is to get a baseline measurement for the parish, engage people, and also check viability of projects that would need support.

Considered a public event, drop in at the village hall, to help people with the questionnaire, Display of slides related to CCC carbon neutral plan. Possibly try out electric bikes, serve tea and coffee.

Fast Fashion is the 2nd most polluting industry (source of that statistic?) GA to write some words for ide times on fashion. Noted that Ide has events like the frock swap.

ABo agreed to coordinate ide times contributions aiming to submit something positive, and something challenging each issue.

Next meeting 6th November 7:30 at west town farm.

Action Points.
GA to look at plastic free Ide with Jane Rotinoff, or take on the project.

AS to make contact GA and Jane Rotinoff.

ABo check on tetra cycle – has this been done before in the village?

GA what was the tetracycle/recycling collection in Norwich?

JR to contact Widdon farm manager about planting with TDC or woodland trust trees.

ABr some text about the tree planting for the website and Ide Times

Abr Abo look at getting the school students to grow acorns for planting.

RC ABr AG look at a rewilding target for the village, figures on the effects of rewilding,

AS find how to negotiate cemetery management.

RC with Weir meadow group look at rewilding.

RC look at solar project on northern fields – price and revenue? – or other ways to fund loan.

CT Lobbying – vat on solar panels, get some accurate info about the increase (and the EU angle – look at molly scott cato)

JR some words for survey on RHI “are you aware that…”

AS refine the survey proposal

GA words on fast fashion for ide times/web site, send to ABo

ABr follow up on the refilling point at the village hall.