

Meeting Notes: Malmesbury CAN! (Climate Action Network)

3rd August 2020

Present

Gavin, Janet, Martin, Campbell, Ana, Fran, Katie, Sam, Laura, Chess, Brian

Transport Group Update

Brian reported that his resolution on cycling was not adopted by Wiltshire Council. £900k has been allocated for 4 schemes in Wiltshire but one of these has now been shelved. Gavin suggested that he take forward proposals for Malmesbury cycle routes to a formal CAT G meeting. The Town Council will also take the primary plans to Wiltshire Council via the Planning and Environment Committee. Money may be available via Community Infrastructure Levy.

The existing “Malmesbury Cycle Plans” issued via Wiltshire Council + Malmesbury Tourist Information Centre seem out of date and do not reflect the current situation, including the location of racks (which aren't currently shown). The proposal for more racks are being developed and some already exist and so these need updating. The need for security cameras in this area was discussed which spurred a wider conversation about speed cameras, which do not seem effective at highlighting pedestrian priority areas and the question of what more can be done to highlight pedestrian access. Brian suggested that a lot can be achieved with signage, policing and cameras.

Town Council are trying to have the bus routes changed to take in the car park in Station Yard, thereby making a park 'n' ride offer for Malmesbury.

Action: Gavin/Campbell to ask Martin Rose (Wiltshire senior highways engineer) for estimates of costs of signage and cameras when Martin Rose visits shortly.

Resource Sharing

Sam forwarded the details of the grant to MVCAP who have confirmed they would be happy to act as fund holders for MCAN. Sam, Ana and Fred are trying to get a date in the diary to convene the group. Gavin and Campbell reported their progress in considering The Old School Room as a location for the repair café to be held. Sam confirmed that they would be looking for a weekend slot when the building is likely to be open anyway. Fran confirmed that as long as it didn't coincide with the monthly market, the TC couldn't see why this wouldn't be a problem. Gavin also recommended Sam investigate the possibility of a grant from Phil Rice at Malmesbury Area Community Trust, as well as linking up with the Malmesbury Men's Shed group so that a partnership can be forged. The possibility of a Library of Things within Malmesbury Library was also proposed.

Action: Sam to write small proposal and forward to Gavin/Campbell/Fran so that it could be proposed to Policy and Resources Committee.

Action: Chess to forward Gavin examples of Libraries of Things within libraries for him to propose onwards to the relevant people within Wiltshire Council

Community Energy

Martin confirmed he had sent out the first email this week to try and convene those who expressed and interest in the project.

Speakers and Events

Chess notified the group that the David Attenborough film had been rescheduled for the 28th September, with a second screening on Friday 2nd October due to limitations on numbers in the Town Hall cinema because of Covid. Two MCAN volunteers are needed to assist with the screening on 28th September. The first film is free whereas the second is priced at £10/ticket. The group suggested changing the price to £5 over each evenings to ensure people aren't put off the second screening. Chess to confirm with Charles Vernon at Movies@Malmesbury.

Action: Chess to liaise with Charles Vernon to confirm pricing strategy.

Action: Two volunteers to step forwards to assist with running of event on 28th September.

Chess notified the group she had submitted an application to the Town Council for a grant of £200 to host a screening of a second educational film, 2040. Although the application was submitted, due to difficulties with the meeting schedule of the Town Council, our application wasn't heard. Chess will resubmit application to be heard at the next full council meeting, so we should schedule the film in for late October/early November.

Action: Chess to resubmit grant application to Town Council

Other speakers

In the interim, the group discussed asking another speaker to fill the gap in the schedule for late August. Tom Lawton was proposed as a candidate, considering he sadly missed the January 2020 event.

Action: Fran to contact Tom to ask him to speak virtually

AOB

Laura highlighted to the group the fact that the Orchard Project had successfully received some funding and alongside it, had a further monetary opportunity to host an interactive educational event in schools, hopefully in partnership with the local Last Baguette theatre company. Gavin will brief his contacts at the Primary Schools, as well as inviting Laura to attend the next local Local Youth Network meeting to discuss the opportunity with the Heads of Primary Schools in more detail. If Primary Schools proves difficult, Gavin suggested the Rise Trust (providing outreach youth work) as well as Heals Summer Project as secondary audiences. The plan is to create a scene at each school and record it so that it can be put back together and shown as an entire film. Could the Town Hall be a location for such a screening? An alternative suggestion would be to live stream the performance in to local schools which would have the added benefit of including schools surrounding Malmesbury.

Action: Gavin to invite Laura to LYN meeting and to brief his contacts about the events.

Laura notified the group that she had written a letter to James Grey that she wanted to send on behalf of MCAN. The letter will be circulated and if anyone has any concerns with this, to express these to Laura ASAP.

Action: Chess to circulate letter to MCAN and MCAN network for signatures.

Laura also wondered whether there was a way that Malmesbury Against Plastic (which is looking for new leaders) could be brought into the MCAN fold with MCAN acting as temporary custodians. The group confirmed they would be happy with this.

Action: Chess to consider how to formally transfer the group and will seek ideas from other MAP members.

Janet confirmed that now Covid was easing, she would look to kickstart the Back For The Future group again.

Campbell notified the group of the launch of Explore Malmesbury, highlighting the feature "trails" as a possible option that should be explored by MCAN/Fruitful Malmesbury/MAP.

Finally, as a member of numerous climate groups in North Wiltshire, Brian suggested it would be nice to have a virtual get together where we could meet other groups and discuss ideas.

Action: Brian to look at pulling this together.

Date of Next Meeting

Monday 7th September, 7pm.