

Meeting Notes: Malmesbury CAN! (Climate Action Network)

5th October 2020

Present

Gavin, Brian, Fran, Laura, Chess, Campbell
Apologies: Sam, Ana and Martin

Katie will be stepping back from MCAN. The team thanks Katie for her fantastic contributions.

Community Energy

Chess read out an update from Martin including news of a meeting on 16th September which discussed launching the Chippenham PV solar scheme in SN16 area, looking at EV charging points in car parks, where and how to increase solar generation and looking at Church buildings. Next meeting 14th October.

Resource Sharing

Fran confirmed that the launch of the first repair café in town will be 21st November. The committee looks forward to supporting the Resource Sharing group.

Community Agriculture

All permissions bar one had been granted for a new orchard near The Activity Zone. The group are waiting to hear back to confirm they have the support of TAZ. The trees will have protected Orchard status.

Chess: will wait for Fruitful Malmesbury AGM to have full news update and will direct people to this from the MCAN newsletter

Transport

Gavin notified the group that a CATG meeting had been convened and that there was support within the group to progress with the Sherston to Malmesbury signage plans that had been proposed.

Speakers and Events

2040 Grant

Chess confirmed that the grant application was being considered at the Full Council meeting on 7th October.

David Attenborough Screening

- Our thanks were noted to Movies@Malmesbury for their support with hosting the David Attenborough events.
- Gavin queried how we could make the film more accessible to others.

Laura: to look at resources on their website and suggest how we could move forwards... could we host a discussion follow up?

Market Cross Event

Chess and Campbell confirmed that MCAN have 21st November for a presence at Market Cross across the morning and afternoon. Discussion will be required about how best to use this time. It was noted that this date is the same date as the Resource Sharing group launch their repair café. Gavin mentioned that Sarah Wilde/Lesley Wood would be drafting a letter to businesses notifying them of the Town's plans for alternative plans to Christmas Shopping which would run over a series of Saturdays in the lead up to Christmas. Our event would sit firmly within this – could be an opportunity to promote sustainable/plastic-free businesses and local shopping.

Chess: To follow up with Sam and Ana about how best we can interlink the two

Chess: To follow up with Sarah and Lesley about including our information in the message to businesses

Wiltshire Council news (Brian)

The press have picked up on the fight against the new incinerator planned for Westbury. The plans for a gasification plant had been scrapped and will now be an open grate incinerator. 60% of the waste feed will be from outside the county. It is expected to release 250,000 tonnes of CO2 into the atmosphere. There is a need to raise awareness of this issue and write with our objections and concerns to

Councillors/MPS/Leader of Wiltshire Council.

Chess: to raise awareness of the issue in our next MCAN newsletter

Brian provided an update of the climate taskforce, noting there had been over 30 meetings since the taskforce's inception with recommendations from the group starting to trickle through to the cabinet.

Brian: to make the group aware when these recommendations become public information.

Town Council news

Gavin explained the situation at Filands, with Gleason keep for the Educational restriction to be lifted at the site. A meeting had taken place with key stakeholders in local education about possible educational uses for the site. Such a use for the space would allow the opportunity for further community facilities e.g. orchards. Should the restriction be lifted, Gavin will look in to calling it in to N Area Planning Committee.

Campbell reiterated the significance of the potential changes as a result of the Future Planning White Paper, which would have series consequences for the ability for communities to determine what happens within their own neighbourhoods. Brian noted that Campbell/MTC's actions to galvanize the 33 communities whose Neighbourhood Plans were at risk was beginning to be felt within the council.

AOB

Malmesbury Against Plastic will be taken over by a new group, with Laura acting as the new SAS community lead. Julie and Ben, along with a fourth individual, will support her. Campbell already works closely alongside Ben. Ben's skills as filmmaker were also discussed.

Campbell/Laura: Could Ben develop a short film explaining MAP takeover and introduce Plastic Champion Businesses in time for event on 21st November? This could be repurposed for a MAP trail on the Explore Malmesbury site.

Chess will be stepping back from MCAN central committee to pursue projects in Cirencester. She will be with the group until the end of the year and will help organise the 2040 screenings and event on 21st November.

Date of Next Meeting

Monday 2nd November, 7pm.