



[For Environment and Community](#)

Core Team Meeting 5th December 2024

Apologies: Isabelle Garnett, Mike Henchy, Charles Tomalin, Steve Glen, Lisenka Klompenhouwer

Present: Kate Moss (Chair), Mark Ayres, Anna Stockley (Secretary)

Food Group

- Mini Allotments: **Lisenka** to let us know if there are any updates.
- Community Orchard going well.

Transport Group

- Bikefix: ticking along, closed for Winter.
- Bike racks – **Kate** to ask Guy Varty in the spring.

Environmental Strategy/ Energy Group

- Put relevant posts on FB - **All**
- Thermal Camera is with **Anna**, advertised now as cold again. Needs a logbook, simple instructions, and waiver. Anna has sent list of people waiting to **Steve**, who will kindly coordinate. **Mark** to look at putting it on the website.
- Solar Group Purchase Scheme – possible event in the future.

Tree Planting

- Planting in front gardens instead? **Anna** still working on what is possible.
- Bulbs/wildflowers/trees on forest approach? Could start with area in front of Kate and Mark's. **Anna** and **Kate/Mark** to discuss.
- KCA tree planting over this winter – **Anna**

Wildplaces

Charles is now an officer: TKC Wildplaces Co-ordinator.

Activities since last meeting in September:

With the sheep due back onto KC Meadow, in October we had our annual bramble bash there, to reduce the risk of sheep being caught up. The

Hebridean flock are now grazing again. After the extensive growth from this year's wet summer, they have been increased to 40 in total. They may also be kept on site for lambing in the spring, which will be a first!

As the adders have gone into hibernation, the electric fence here has now also been deactivated. This allows the sheep to graze down the northern boundary area over the winter.

In November we began our hazel coppicing work in Millennium Wood, which should be repeated each year on different zones, to create a more varied habitat area. A small group also met up to repair the steps at Wood Lane end of the railway path. The revised footpath map is now available, with a new main image of the village field meadow, to replace the meadow bridge one since it was demolished. The railway path has also been updated to reflect the changes at Meadow Junction.

We have now established a steering group, to democratise our priorities and share observations and concerns. After two meetings, this process is working well.

RFV Grant:

Our £6000 grant from Rockingham Forest Vision has now been completed. Isabelle Garnett organised the new information board for meadow junction, which was installed in September. The tree trail was installed in Millennium Wood, with a couple of additional signs to go up over the winter. The rest of the grant was used for adder equipment and tracking consultancy, plus a lot of new signage for the railway path and adder information signs.

Northamptonshire Greenway:

Charles met with Lucy Hawes from NNC, and Barrie Galpin from Fineshade, to discuss the plans for the Northamptonshire greenway, which aims to connect main towns and villages with accessible routes for walkers and cyclists. This is a long-term project, and frankly may never happen. However, our input has been readily accepted, as Lucy has not had a great take-up across the county, and should it take off we are well placed to influence and to get our particular area high on the priority list.

Parish Council - Village Field

- Back in September the Parish Council voted to allow the cricket club to develop the village field, along with the football club. Objections were raised about the way in which this was done, and at the last PC meeting the vote was rescinded. It is likely that the motion will be proposed again soon. There are a lot of things that need to happen before the proposal can be implemented, and we will be monitoring it all the way to ensure that conservation is a priority.
- PC elections are in May 2025... perhaps we could encourage more people to stand? **All**

Finance

- Any ideas for projects? **All**
- **Anna** has priced up trees – approximately £15-20 per tree.
- Awaiting a financial update from **Mike**.

Communications

- Facebook page ticking along nicely. Be careful about which posts you approve, make sure you follow the rules and ethos of the page.
- Website. **Charles** to review Wildplaces content. More content needed to get BLOG going – photos of events etc. **All**
- £2-300 for banner agreed, one general and one for bikefix – **Mark/Kate** to present design to group. Photos are needed – **All**
- Not everyone is in WhatsApp group so use email for important comms.
- Mark has put a process in place to send emails to our Members list. If you would like to do so, please send the email to Mark and ask him to send it out. **All**

Events

- We're not running a Christmas Fair this year. **Kate** has agreed to project manage a talks event in May/June next year. We agreed a date: Sunday June 22nd in the afternoon. Ideas for talks (Green Gardening take 2):
 1. Rain gardens (Sustainable Drainage Systems)? **Mark** to do a talk, possibly with **Rob/Anna**?
 2. **Kate** to ask Nick to do a talk around a planting plan for rain gardens.
 3. Biodiversity – what is it and why is it important? How does it relate to our gardens? **Kate** to ask Mark Avery to do a talk, which may require payment.
- Other ideas for future talks include Adders by Ian Froggatt, NNC Restoring Nature strategy.
- Another idea for a talk, maybe later next year early Autumn? Around Home Energy success stories. Anna? Bob Gamble?

AOB/Organisational Stuff

Possible name change was suggested for the group. Transition means many things and currently to most means a change in gender! Usefulness of being a transition group discussed – insurance, banking etc. It should be noted that we need a formal group (TKC) to cover most of what we do, e.g. work parties and events. Suggested idea is to stop using the word transition and use TKC more, with emphasis on the action/project, e.g. TKC Wildplaces, TKC Orchard, TKC Allotments, TKC Events/Fund Raising, TKC Trees, TKC Energy Group, TKC Communication/PR. These projects would sit under the umbrella of TKC and utilise insurance, funds, banking etc, but emphasis placed on the project name. Projects would essentially work as break out groups under the TKC umbrella, enabling more focused discussion and action.

Leaders of each project would need to attend at least one core group meeting a year, more if necessary.

A need to streamline the admin side of TKC to enable more action was discussed. It was agreed that a new structure with Officers (and relevant others) meeting 4 times a year to review overall status and go through administration stuff. Then ad-hoc meetings could just focus on individual projects as necessary, as is happening with TKC Wildplaces now.

It was also agreed that the Secretary does not need to be middle-person for Gazette each month. The new plan is for each person to submit their entries directly to Jo, who has agreed this will not be a bother for her. If you would like something to be included in our article emails entries directly to Jo: gazette@kingscliffe.church. Mention that it's to go in the TKC article and she will do the rest.

To reduce workload for our Secretary, it was agreed that we would take it in turns being the minute-taker and writing them up/sending them out. Generally, we use the last set of minutes as the agenda for the next meeting.

Next meeting Thursday 13th March at 7.30pm in the Club.