

Blackdown Hills
 Parish Network
 Steering Group

INTERIM MEETING BHPN STEERING GROUP Wednesday 13 April 2022 at 14.30 at Culm Pyne

Attendance:

Heather Stallard Chair, Hemyock parish rep
 Catherine Bass Co-ordinator
 Bob Nelson Broadhembury PC
 Daniel Lazar Membury PC
 Graham Long Upottery PC
 Ken Pearson Clerk to Stockland PC
 Mike Canham Otterford PC

Apologies

Alex Stevens Upottery PC
 Alison Weekes Clayhidon PC

| 1. | Apologies received from AS, AW | Who | When |
|----|--|-------|------|
| 2. | The previous minutes of the meeting March 14 were not discussed | | |
| 3. | Single point agenda to discuss the draft Climate Action report submitted by AONB for BHPN comment. | | |
| 4. | <p>BN noted that the climate subgroup (BN, GL, MC & DL) had met to discuss the draft Action Plan and proposed the following: The climate subgroup meet with Tim Youngs and the consultant commissioned to comment on the plan. Points to cover (accepting that BHPN and parishes cannot take on activities in the most polluting sectors nationally, agricultural and transport): Data, Housing, Planning and Rivers. The development of a robust plan for this AONB could be offered as a template to the wider AONB ‘Colchester group’. The current Climate Action draft appears to place much responsibility on parishes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data & Housing collection for the draft appeared to be lacking, ignoring the existence of the CEE Exeter / CSE Bristol IMPACT tool which offers a credible base line at parish level. IMPACT covers the entire country, hence the opportunity for all AONBs to benefit. • AONB might be persuaded to purchase an IR heat seeking camera to lend to parishes to ascertain where housing heat losses occur and offer advice. • Households need advice about energy conservation, yet the latest Govt white paper does not mention this, the paper is all about future energy generation. • Energy prices are increasing and will continue to do so throughout this year. Longer term, the AONB could be encouraged to produce information, describing energy saving strategies and grant opportunities. • Planning & Rivers Data is lacking here, test kits are available from the West Country Rivers Trust for £30 each, currently in use in the Axe Catchment, to develop more robust data re turbidity, PO₄ levels, dO₂, temperature, dissolved solids etc. The state of catchments in this and other AONBs is such that applications for new development are on hold (eg Axe catchment Yarcombe applications). GL noted that the NFU is updating guidance but is not yet linked to AONB guidance. | | |
| 5. | BN and MC will meet with Tim Youngs as soon as possible to put these points to Tim Youngs. A suggested way forward is for the AONB Design Guide for Housing to be updated to include advice relevant for the current situation and for future reference. While the current Guide is often cited in application responses by AONB parishes, it holds little significance in the LA planning process and this needs to be changed. | BN MC | asap |
| 6. | The next full Steering Group meeting is planned for the w/b May 16 provided the meeting with Tim Youngs has happened. | | |

