DATCHET PARISH COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS WORKING GROUP REPORT-7 11th January 2021

Flood Plan

Following the yellow warning for rain which Cllr Thompson asked to be circulated recently, I suggested that we look at the flood plan with a view to updating it. This plan, was published in 2018 following the 2014 floods. I believe it needs urgent attention as information it contains is out of date, and maps in particular should be revised so they are easier to use in the field and can be used by others (eg army). We should also be aware of how Covid might impact the plan.

Action: There are councillors willing to help Cllr Thompson with updating this plan. We would like to request that Cllr Thompson assists the council to form an action/working group to bring the flood plan up to date. This group could include members from Grounds, the EA Group or other councillors. Once changes have been made and agreed, Vision ICT will have to upload the revised plan to the DPC website.

Tree Planting Project

Following a response from Grounds concerning proposed tree planting sites, I was supplied with further maps from the DPC office. Some proposed sites may alter but before I produce a revised plan, I also need to confirm the location of underground electricity cables.

Action: Cllr Corcoran to investigate this information from the parish office.

Solar Panel Project

At the December meeting, Cllr Davies offered to circulate an Environmental Awareness booklet to the EA Group. This has not been received yet. The group is also interested to liaise with Cllr Davies on her thoughts for green energy for the Village Hall complex.

Action: Cllr Davies to circulate EA booklet please.

Environment information & projects

The EA Group would like to know how residents see themselves contributing to the protection of our environment specifically to reduce our carbon footprint. In the previous report, we proposed an online survey, with paper versions available on request for those who are not online. We would like to encourage all councillors to be involved in this process.

Action: A draft of the survey will be sent to councillors over the coming weeks so they may suggest additional questions and comment on the proposed questions before it goes live.

General

At the October DPC meeting, the EA Group discussed environmental issues which overlap with DPC Highways, and those which require liaison with RBWM. See EA Group Report -5. Projects included, for example, 'No idling' signs, cycle parking, pollution/speed limits, etc.

Action: At the November meeting, Cllr Buckley explained he would set up a working group, including Highways, EA Group members and other interested councillors. We await the formation of this working group.

Clir Allen Corcoran, Clir Peter Hough & Clir Ian Bacon