

Minutes of the GEAG Action Meeting, 17 November 2010

Held in the Old Methodist Chapel, Gamlingay, 8.00pm – 9.40pm.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Present: Brycchan Carey (Chair), Sarah Sanders (Minutes), Peter Condon, Nick Hardiman, John Mercer, Anna Mercer, Roger Lee, Jennifer Docherty.

Apologies: Gareth Leech, Chris Barker, Mike Brettle, Alison Blake, Alice Hardiman

2. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

Item 3a – Letter sent to the RSPB in support of the Visitor Centre. Stall at the Gamlingay Show went down well.

Item 4b – Nothing to report on the airstack.

Green Acres Site – The land is on the market for development at £140,000. There is probably little we can do but BC will write to the Parish Council expressing GEAG's concern. GEAG's position will also be posted on the website. We shall recommend the council buy the land for Community allotments.

Green End Development – Nothing to report. A letter has been sent to RPS planning stating our preferences.

Gamlingay Community Wind Turbine – BC will write to the Gamlingay Community Turbine Company to ask how environmental safeguards will be adhered to and if we can have access to the ecological reports. Also who is doing what and the timing of the biodiversity/ecological surveys. GEAG will publish the GCTC response on the website. It was suggested that a stronger statement from GEAG in support of the wind turbine is put on the website. Pieces should also be written for the Gamlingay Gazette and Biggleswade Chronicle but agreed to first wait for the ecologist report. The Wind Turbine will be added to future agendas.

3. Reports

a) Co-ordinator's Report:

- Official notice is given of the AGM which will take place on 15 December 2010.

- All positions are up for election. There is a vacancy for the Treasurer as Mike has stepped down.
 - SPEP are establishing an ecorenovation directory so if members have experience of various companies (insulation, solar heating etc.) please send them in. There will be a Village Energy Show at Comberton on the 27th of November from 1 – 4pm. The thermal energy imaging camera is available for loan.
- b) Treasurer: in the treasurer's absence a report was tabled.
- c) Energy Working Party: nothing to report.
- d) Transport Working Party:
- 45 responses received on the transport survey. To have a representative sample we probably need 200+. A reminder to be published in the Gazette and forms to be left at key village locations (Coop, PO, Crafty Cupcake). GEAG agreed to extend the survey until March 31st and have a face-face morning on Saturday February 12th (Meet at the Mercers at 10am).
 - No further news from Sustrans on the cycle route.
- e) Community Centre Management Group Representative
- Nothing to report from the last month. The charity has been disbanded and reformed as a private company. A new marketing committee is in place and construction has started. Concern expressed about the inaccuracies in the GRA letter circulated around the village.
- f) Gamlingay Gazette
- A request was made for future news items. SS to get in touch with MB.
 - Suggested we promote GEAG on the back of the village crimewatch newsletter.

4. Discussion Items

- GEAG members would like more practical action and to get more people involved. We agreed that 1 Saturday every quarter will be given to group activities. The first event will be the Transport Survey on February 12th. Other activities suggested included litter collection, Gamlingay Woods and bike rides.
- A request was made to speed up on the formal section of the agenda so that more time can be spent on discussion items.

5. Announcements

- GEAG Christmas Dinner will be on the 10th of December. More details to follow soon.
- The next meeting is the GEAG AGM which is on the XX December 2010.

6. AOB: none.