

		Tadley Environmental Group Zoom Minutes Tuesday 30th March 2021 7.30
1		Welcome & Introductions. Attendees: AB, CS, JP, JS, KC, KP, MB, RH, RM, TF, SH, SP, WL (see table at end) New members: Kaitlyn Pibernik (social media)
2		Apologies: Matt Russell, Carol Monaghan
3		Minutes from 5 th meeting (18 th Jan 2021) Accepted (on TTC website) TEG is partnership between TTC councillors, Borough councillors and Tadley residents
4		Reports from Action/Project owners
	a	Jo Slimin: Vice chair TEG: Engagement Plan (Stakeholders List), Clean Air Zone banners, Calleva Community Energy. No action on schools as they have just gone back and now it is Easter. Jo will contact Burnham Copse. Kerry to talk to Tadley school. Calleva Community Energy still waiting for this at Barlows Park. Possibility of solar panels on roads which have been done in parts of West Berks. HCC advise thinking about solar panels for schools, possibly next financial year. Engagement plan out of date as lots of new members, to be sent to TF to circulate to members who can advise of any updates to make as current as possible. WL: When he was on the County Council they didn't want to know about solar panels but have now changed their minds.
	b	Social Media Accounts (Facebook, WhatsApp,) subgroup: CS, BL, KP: Social Media (Instagram, twitter and FB) going really well and easy to follow. Don't have direct contact with subgroups to let her now about future events/projects etc. but Kaitlyn has created Google slide (like PowerPoint) to share with all members of the group, so could update FB and Instagram to reach residents of Tadley. Kaitlyn to send link to TF to distribute among members by email so that everyone has access to the Google Slides. WhatsApp group about 5/6 members at present, happy to have more members to help with group communications. TF to send email again for mobile numbers to add members to group. KP: A discussion with Charity about comms problems so came up with Googles slides idea. If want to write a case study in text form to be covered in newsletter it would increase publicity and help image online. Have info online for people to access case studies etc. Slides – a bit difficult to add everyone individually info, would need individual emails if members agree. Members present agreed for their emails to be forwarded on. TF to arrange after the meeting. JS: asked how many followers: CS: FB 115 followers, Instagram 15, Twitter 10. TF: lots of things happening on WhatsApp: Group started on 8th Feb and already much discussion on various topics e.g. Sheila set up link to BTN (Basingstoke Transition Network), Fairtrade links, Charity's Action Poster, Kerri's links with schools, councils investing in fossil fuels (whist declaring climate emergency), Guardian article Right Tree – right place, TEG re-brand voting, major tree surgery (HCC) in Tadley (Sarisbury close/Ashurst/Purbeck Road, Vegetative nuisance (Selborne walk), Tesco recycling crisp packets and bread bags, Woodland trust grant of £300,000 to Wokingham council for over 250,000 trees, ditching lawn mowing e.g. in stately homes, parks and playing fields etc (to allow wildflowers to flourish), No Mow May areas in Tadley, Hants & IOW Trust – Team Wilder initiative, SP no hedge mow winter suggestion. On Facebook Charity has regular fact Friday article.
	e	Air Monitoring, B&D BC Climate Change, Waste subgroup: KC, SM, FM, TF: B&D Climate Change and Air Quality Strategy approved in February. Kerry part of borough Climate Change Members and Party group (MAP), recently attended meeting looking at climate emergency in terms of the local plan update for 2024 a big opportunity to address CC and our targets, attended presentation external organisation WFP which talked about using local plan to have control over building (both commercial & residential), things like Passivhaus, BRIAM ratings, all ways of controlling and monitoring what is being built to reduce carbon emissions. There are a number of councillors who are really supportive of

potentially putting in place things that go above and beyond government building regulations. Work in progress and positive. Passed motion at recent council (main) meeting to explore eco housing which received full support from all councillors.

MB: asked if we have local plan at present and what changes would be made to improve the environment. KC: yes we do have a local plan, for 2024 but CC high on agenda with targets for 2030 need to use this opportunity wisely

MB: what about cycle/walking routes KC: yes, would be part of local plan. MB: how enforceable, what pressures could be put on developers? KC: not on planning committee but if on local plan should but work, also have neighbourhood plans, work in progress. MB: paths blocked in past developments in Tadley, too late to change – emphasis on communication. KC: talking about retrospective more a problem and would be good to change but new build more sustainable and more control now. A lot of work to do to achieve 2030 target.

MB(2): sits on planning committee – all members very keen that developers build in eco management to any scheme but very little teeth to make sure that they do but hope with updated local plan more power to apply to applications.

SP: Basingstoke Transition Network in dialogue with local plan about Manydown Standard to build carbon neutral community and use it to exert some influence. Planning hustings on this subject. Very concerned about biodiversity, environment and green corridors hoping to get written into local plan. Important for Tadley to keep a green buffer/corridor.

AB: A couple of positives; Planning application Stacey’s estate Stacey Estate new commercial development have asked for support path along Silchester Road from Tadley, help from borough councillors would be appreciated. Also, agreed with Baughurst to a give a reminder to borough that we wish to preserve strategic gap between golf course and Bishopswood road.

JS: £5000 Green Homes retrofitting grant ends March 31st. For anyone thinking of upgrading it will not now be available (issues with systems apparently). **Post meeting note: see B&D press release below.**

MB: clarification on Silchester road footpath? – AB: runs from Tadley alongside of common towards Tadley market. This was on Wishlist.

TF: link sent a couple of weeks ago about pollution levels for own property (addresspollution.org) – useful to get individual readings of PM 2.5, PM10 and Nitrogen Dioxide levels.

d **Tree Planting & Green Infrastructure subgroup:** WL, CM, MT, RH, CS, BL

1) No Mow May & wilding

JS: This item is on Recreation and Leisure agenda next Tuesday (6th April)

KC: Borough perspective; approached officer who said it was not that simple but biodiversity improvement zone pilot scheme at Hatch Warren wildflowers and trees need particular soil so have to do work first to assess geology of area first. Also working with HCC with traffic sightlines as need to be wary of pedestrians and cars, continuing to pursue this and will ask more questions.

RH: encourage more nuanced message rather than mowing or not mowing an area, might be possible to leave verge around edge or maybe residents leaving areas uncut

WL: soil in Tadley (in Basingstoke chalk) very poor so flowers would grow more. Crescent in Wigmore road that council grassed area, reverse of what RH said, left area of grass in middle but just cut the edges which looks very attractive.

2) Tree Planting in Tadley

TF: Possibly on common run by the Turbary Trust (TTC councillors) meeting next Tuesday, 6th April at 7pm. Also looking at other areas of Tadley. Need to recognise that tree planting can cause problems, will therefore need to make sure we have the Right Tree in the Right Place. B&D have Green Infrastructure Strategy.

SH: Tadley common is protected as SSSI because it is peatland so planting trees would be a problem and would advise to plant elsewhere. TF: We have had specific advice from Natural England about the common and will need to read it very carefully. It may transpire that we can’t plant anything but at least we will look at it.

	<p>MB: Has done volunteering for Pamber Forest Nature reserve Part of Hants & IOW Wildlife Trust, and warden there very knowledgeable about trees, contact name? AB: Graham Dennis WL: thanks to SH but we yes are aware of the limitations.</p> <p>CS: update on trees a lot harder have been in contact with Woodland Trust but waiting to hear back from them (delays due to cyber-attack), also in contact with Baughurst council about tree planting they have suggested possibly Pineapple Fields, Wild Woods, and along Brimpton road. Tadley Tree Trail – speaking to Catherine (Youth Worker) at TDCA and have created Tree trail which will launch in the May half term.</p> <p>Also running Tadley’s Favourite Tree (Tadley, Pamber Heath & Baughurst), people can vote on our Facebook page to raise awareness and encourage people to look at trees. We do have a wealth of trees but ironic we have most nature ...?? country in all of Europe. This Sunday launching Hearts competition with TDCA, fun younger people of Tadley, they send in creation of Easter Enchanted Tree.</p> <p>WL: HCC tree planting 30 trees on Baughurst estate about 15 feet high, also 6 trees planted on TTC land at Plantation Road/Heath End Road (this was in error but our gain!). We can discuss variety of trees and where we can plant them for the autumn</p> <p>TF: need a subgroup leader for this group – any offers?</p> <p>RH: Carol has done a lot of work and may be interested</p> <p>JS: several residents contributed to the New road Oak Tree campaign – one of them might be interested?</p> <p>RH: enlist help of local schools as they are large land owners in No Mow May & Tree planting</p> <p>JS: last year Tadley schools planted trees last summer and do leave areas unmown and have nature trails. New member Deborah Garrard does work with Bishopswood school advising on wildlife meadows etc.</p> <p>TF: asked RH about churches – he agreed to write to them</p> <p>RH: who is going to take on the action to contact schools (other than Bishopswood), e.g. Priory, Hurst and others. Someone need to be responsible for engaging them.</p>
e	<p>Cycling & Walking subgroup: RH, MB, RM, SP:</p> <p>MB: last September went around Tadley and compiled wish list which was put to Cllr Mellor. Problem is we don’t appear to have much support from local cyclists and need to publicize this list more.</p> <p>TF: This Wish list will be emailed to members. Cllr Mellor has said there is money and he will keep looking at this, so we need to keep this discussion open.</p> <p>TF: need subgroup leader. Nothing to stop subgroups getting together on zoom in between TEG main meetings.</p> <p>SP: Thinks that Cllr Mellor’s problem was that none of these projects suitable for Covid emergency fund scheme, not enough money for everything, but Cllr Mellor did say that he was listening to us and had longer term plans to improve cycling and walking. Potholes have been repaired but others then appear – so do report potholes on HCC website as they do fix them especially the big ones.</p>
f	<p>To discuss Designated Quiet roads and lanes: this was something raised by our new member Cllr Valerie Witton who is not here. Church Lane area of Tadley was suggested as a possible area. Item not discussed further as no questions/comments from members present.</p>
g	<p>To discuss TTC declaring a Climate Emergency (CE)</p> <p>TF: Background; HCC, B&D BC, West Berks, Reading and Overton among local councils declaring climate emergencies in 2019. They all followed this up with Strategies and Action Plans. If TTC did declare a CE then likewise they would need to back that up with an Action Plan.</p> <p>MB: read article that solar heating panels have a life of about 30 years and difficult to dispose safely (expensive) and some calculations show that they are not carbon neutral and similarly issues for wind turbines.</p> <p>SP: TTC should declare a CE and an air pollution emergency as well cooperate with B&D BC in the implementation of it and express complete cooperation with B&D in this. Not sure what TTC is responsible for but work through list of actions and make sure everything done is as</p>

	<p>climate and nature friendly as possible. TTC comment on planning applications in the light of a CE and TTC should encourage more recycling</p> <p>TF: lots of help available to draw up CE Action Plans.</p> <p>JS: Tadley Parish council (as it then was) in 1984 set up recycling of cans in car park before anyone else had thought of it so we have led from the front in the past. In 2000 also did a lot of work in recycling with the help of the borough went to schools and encouraged people to consider recycling and energy uptake. Borough came much later and in more formal way. Look at working on CE with B&D, but also West Berks who are way ahead on this subject, went to WB conference. Overton producing Community energy plan and putting solar panels on roofs.</p> <p>CS: should declare CE and councillor members on this group in support. Consider having a zoom meeting with residents and TTC to discuss. 1st step ask TTC how are we going to do it?</p> <p>AB: What does TEG want? Put something together and TTC will look at it. No point in declaring a CE if nothing then done.</p> <p>TF: I will put something together and send it to members.</p> <p>RH: Is worth council declaring a CE then bouncing it out to citizens of Tadley who are the largest stakeholders all areas of local gov think the same but also residents, churches would be interested and businesses also maybe individuals sign a CE</p> <p>TF: informal vote taken of TEG members to put this proposal to TTC – all present agreed apart from one abstention (AB).</p>	
h	<p>Recycling subgroup: KH, SM, FM, KC, RH, RC:</p> <p>MB: what happened to Sainsbury’s bins?</p> <p>KC: Sainsbury decided to change the contract which hasn’t yet begun, should be available by 12th April, frustrating because main recycling for Tadley and we do depend on it. Raise with borough where a borough wide audit is taking place and Tadley will be considered. Of concern that main recycling is privately run and we have no control.</p> <p>RH: spoke to then manager last year and cost involved re fly tipping.</p>	
	<p>Litter picking subgroup: FM, RC, TF, JS:</p> <p>TF: Cllr Richard Charlick is organising a litter pick in Tadley</p> <p>Not much activity due to Covid but members of the public are taking the initiative themselves and we thank them for that.</p> <p>JS: Someone has cleared Shaw Lane in last few days. AB: Yes, TTC did that and Lions doing a big litter pick (22nd April?) in ditch along Silchester Road and do have a couple of families with children regularly picking litter so word is getting around.</p> <p>WL: a couple from ?? crescent Huntsmoor road and others have volunteered so arranged with Nicki to provide equipment. Things have improved.</p> <p>CS: Nextdoor Tadley calling for litter group to be arranged, but Covid restrictions, but stilled managed to litter pick, and growing appetite for monthly litter pick</p> <p>JS: in past encouraged under Keep Britain tidy scheme (or Great Britain Spring Clean) and attempted to get involved last year. Could put dates on FB page when known (info provided on website). If anyone wants to litter pick TTC will insure you and provide equipment. JS willing to lead subgroup.</p> <p>TF: Clean Air Day 17th June. TEG may wish to do something?</p> <p>SP: yellow notices on trees with borough council stamp (Rimes Lane area) interested to know who put them there?</p> <p>AB: B&D put the notices there.</p>	
j	<p>Electric Vehicles, Energy, battery storage subgroup: TF, RS:</p> <p>No time for discussion on this but TF would like to describe what the future home could look like in terms of energy – lots of interesting things happening in this area.</p> <p>AB: AWE charging, new car park arrangements, plenty of units. At TTC planning meeting raised issue disabled car charging – drivers don’t have enough room on standard bay size.</p>	
5	All: Other Suggestions/Volunteers for Actions/Projects (see above)	
6	Next TEG Meeting 2 months time	
	Future Events:	

AB	Cllr. Avril Burdett	BL	Ben Lenton	CM	Carol Monaghan	CS	Charity Smith
CW	Cat Wilde	DG	Deborah Garrard	FM	Francesca Meloni	JP	Cllr. Jo Page (Chair TTC)
JS	Cllr. Jo Slimin Vice Chair TEG	KC	Cllr. Kerry Carruthers (Borough)	KH	Kristina Hook	KP	Kaitlyn Pibernik
MB	Mark Beauchamp	MB (2)	Cllr. Mike Bound (Borough)	MR	Cllr. Matt Russell (Baughurst)	MT	Martin Toovey
NB	Nicki Barry (town clerk)	RC	Cllr. Richard Charlick	RH	Rev. Richard Harlow	RM	Richard Musson
RS	Robert Sharpe (Evergreen)	TF	Cllr. Tony Flahive Chair TEG	TTC	Tadley Town Council	SH	Stephen Hodgson (Sustainable Silchester)
SM	Cllr. Susan Mullen	SP	Sheila Peacock	VJ	Vicky Jones (Ecosentials)	VW	Cllr. Valerie Witton
WL	Cllr. Warwick Lovegrove (Borough)						

The government have withdrawn the Green Homes grant but B&DBC have funding – see press release below:

12 April 2021

PR 9925

Funding scheme launched to reduce fuel poverty and carbon emissions

Help is at hand for **Basingstoke and Deane** residents living in cold homes and struggling to pay their energy bills.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is offering up to £10,000 of government grant funding to low income households to provide energy-efficient home improvements. These include solar panel systems, park home insulation, solid wall insulation and low carbon heating systems, such as air source heat pumps. Residents in rented homes are also eligible, with funding for 66% of the cost of improvements, up to £5,000, with their landlords contributing the remaining third.

This funding is through the government's Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery scheme. The borough council is working with partners, led by Portsmouth City Council and managed by AgilityEco, to deliver the energy-saving measures and reduce local fuel poverty.

The council's Executive Director of Residents' Services Rebecca Emmett said: "This scheme supports residents on low incomes who are living in the least efficient properties in the borough to save energy and money. It will not only tackle fuel poverty by helping reduce energy bills, but the improvements at these homes will also help to reduce carbon emissions. This supports our council's Climate Change and Air Quality Strategy which aims to achieve a carbon-free borough by 2030."

If you have a household income of less than £30,000 then this scheme is a great opportunity. Applications are open now and funding will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, with measures to be installed by September 2021. For more information and to apply visit www.warmerhomes.org.uk/insulation.

The council is expecting further funding to be made available in our area as part of the next phase of this scheme in order to help even more of our residents.

For further information on this release please contact: Senior Communications Officer Krissy Lloyd on 01256 845240 or email krissy.lloyd@basingstoke.gov.uk.