

Agenda item no.	
Report to	Burwash Parish Council
Subject	Wild About Burwash
Date	12th November 2019
From	Cllr Julian Kenny

The group was initially formed as part of the Neighbourhood Development Plan to look into environmental issues in the parish including the protection and enhancement of our biodiversity and AONB landscape. It was launched at the Christmas Fair in the Bear in December 2017 with a flyer asking people to report wildlife/flowers etc to Sussex Wildlife Trust in preparation for the publication 12 months later of the parish Biodiversity report. The Community Initiatives were set out in section 9 of the Environmental Assessment appendix https://6c32bb67-e718-4e68-9249-b1398e928812.filesusr.com/ugd/256a7b_e64c0f0c9c6147948484346267facab1.pdf

Since its inception, there has been quite a big take up at Wild About Burwash events and meetings by parishioners. We now have a range of regular events planned for the coming year. The group have developed a constitution and is in the process of setting up a bank account.

Wild about Burwash functions independently and, as we have regular meetings and events, it would slow the development of the group down if actions etc. have to be ratified by the Parish Council. The items in the PC 2019 Business Plan for the Environment & Maintenance workstream include:

1. Planning and developmental issues AONB
2. Neighbourhood plan - actions arising
3. Open Spaces - Down Meadow, Hornbeam
4. Ecology -wild flowers, wildlife protection, dark skies, parish planting programme
5. Parish Maintenance - verges, grass cutting, bind (grit/litter/dog), lime trees, war memorials
6. Allotments
7. Seek listed status for village pavements
8. Rights of way and footpaths

It is suggested that the ecology section (4) should be transferred to Wild About Burwash, the other sections will be continue to be covered by the Environment & Maintenance workstream. Wild About Burwash can give regular updates to the Parish Council and would like to have a page on the Parish Council website to promote ecological ways forward, events etc.