KEG meeting 11th January 2024

Item	Notes	Actions
1.	**Welcome + notes from last meeting**	
	Round the room / present: Phil Durrant (chairing, Kid Baptist Church), Peter & Julia Trowles (St Mary's Fields, Abundance), Sue Baines (Kid Gardening Soc), Steve (has a smallholding in Islip, Membership Secretary of Cyclox), Doug Williamson (KPC), Alison Street (KPC), Ruth Mo (Baptist Church, Community allotment, taking notes) Apologies from Chris Brennan **Matters Arising:** Julia still to contact Martin Wainwright in Thrupp re moth surveying of St Mary's Fields & Park Hill. Maybe we look to doing a moth trapping & breakfast event in June. Doug noted it would be useful for the parish council to have info from moth surveys, and advice, to help for planning planting in the village. George is a friend of Rhiannon's, knowledgeable about moths and should also be happy to help.	**Julia**
2.	**Connecting**- sharing news / events (+ intros for any new groups/guests or requests for help etc).	
	N.B. Kid News deadlines: Noon, Friday 12th Jan **Wild Kid's** last (in a series of 6) Nature Hour at Moorside place was lovely. Attended by 3, plus staff got involved. Moorside would love more of these events. Rhiannon hopes to do more later in spring, as well as making a bee friendly garden & putting up swift boxes. **Cherwell Collective's** Big Christmas lunch was well attended, and many households came along for the mass distributions of surplus food over Christmas & New Year. **No-Waste Noel** – we talked about this last meeting, but it was again noted that KEG's stalls and activities were appreciated and some useful conversations were had, although prices were high on some of the stalls in the main hall. **The Coronation Garden** – again mentioned last time, but there is now a native hedgerow in, and Alison will put a notice in Kid New advertising the monthly maintenance work parties (2nd Sat of the month, 10-12). **SHARE Oxford** do have 2 infrared cameras for hire (in addition to Cosy Home's camera) but these are often booked out during the winter months. There is advice here, although the link to the talk doesn't work, about setting up a "draught-busting" team. https://www.lowcarbonhub.org/p/draughtbusters-its-easier-than-you-think-to-set-up-july-2023	**Alison**

	Phil will write an article for Kid News promoting the Library of Things at SHARE Oxford, as well as the book swap at Exeter Hall.	**Phil**
3.	**Communicating**	
	KEG calendar of events updated by Phil, including: Wellbeing Walks being run every Friday by Kelly from K5 / Cherwell District Council. Cherwell Collective may also be planning wellbeing walks around Blenheim? No Garden Soc in June, July & August. Plant & cake sale 4th May 10-12. RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch 26th-28th Jan. Coombe Mill planning an Environment Day on 3rd Saturday in June. WISH to be included on weekly activities page. Ruth to get a sentence from the team and send to Phil. Earth Hour Sat 23/3/24 – Plan another evening nature walk? Wildlife Garden Open Day 15th June, showcasing local gardens that have wildlife-friendly features that could inspire others, and linking to the patchwork nature reserve idea. Rhiannon is researching the best way to do this. We discussed a paper leaflet with a map & addresses on it, and that the optimum number of gardens would be about 10. We could extend the timings into the evening. People who open their gardens might be able to make appointments to view other's gardens at other times. Rhiannon has included it in Kid News article and will continue to work on publicity via posters in shops, social media etc. She will need help with logistics - maps etc. The schools might want to get involved. It's at the end of Big Green Week. Does KEG want to plan anything else for this? Moth trapping for eg? Rhiannon to email wildlife gardening tips to Sue for KGS newsletter.	**Ruth** **Rhiannon** **Rhiannon**
4.	**Collaborating**	
	Dreaming/ goals for the year: As previously discussed, Kidlington is quite strong in Orange & Green areas of the Green Living Plan. We discussed projects for the year around: **"Blue Project"** – incl Towpath Taskforce, river testing at SMF, promoting ponds, water saving etc. Hold a "Great Big Blue Week"? Peter will organise a survey of the canal, then email Dan from Rivers & Canal Trust. The Big River Watch is September time.	**Peter**

	“Winter Project” (Red) – Pulling together membership of Low Carbon Hub, People’s Power Station, look into the Draughtbusters project (see above), use infrared camera… For next winter, but could begin to be plugged in summer already. **DONM: 1st February, 1pm, Small Hall at Exeter Hall**	