

GREENING GLEMSFORD
Glemsford Parish Council working group for Climate and Nature

Report 14th May 2024

Hedgehog Information Evening on 7th May

This event was well attended and our speaker, Sue Stubbley of Suffolk Hedgehog Hospital, was an inspiration! We were all delighted to meet Magnolia, a rescued hog who had suffered being scalped by a strimmer. Sue's message was "Check before you trim" as frogs, toads and grass snakes could also be hidden in the undergrowth.

The mapping of hedgehog sightings in the village is underway; please email for a survey form (contact details below).

St Mary's Churchyard Wildflower Project

Visiting the area on a warm, sunny 12th May a cuckoo was heard across the valley in Stanstead Great Wood! The Yellow Rattle plug plants are in flower, with knapweed leaves coming through in clumps and the crab apple treelets are looking healthy.

Andrew Powell, St Mary's Eco Church representative, is keen to survey the range of wildlife using the churchyard, such as invertebrates, amphibians, birds and mammals. This could be a one-day snapshot in the summer or a series of observations on a regular basis. If you are interested in helping please get in touch (contact details below) and if you have any expertise in identification, particularly of invertebrates, that would be useful though we will of course provide ID reference material.

Solar Panels on the Village Hall

Plans are underway to seek funding to install a solar PV system on the village hall roof, plus batteries to store energy for night-time users. Generating our own renewable energy will help to reduce the Parish Council's carbon footprint and therefore the village carbon footprint, and will contribute towards Suffolk's ambitions to be 'the Greenest County'.

The village hall is a well-used community asset and it's hoped villagers will ultimately benefit from the long-term savings on energy bills that solar panels will bring, with more money to invest within the hall and the village.

Community consultation on this project is essential to receive capital grants funding. Views will be sought via the local Contact Magazine, the Greening Glemsford Facebook page, Glemsford Matters Facebook page, the Parish Council Facebook page and from village organisations who use the hall, such as Glemsford Library and the Gardening Club.

Diary Dates:

Glemsford Summer Fete, Saturday 8th June 12-3pm at Glemsford Village Hall

June 8th is UN World Oceans Day so please come along to meet our marine visitor on the Greening Glemsford stall. Despite being an inland village we are connected to the sea, and ultimately the oceans, by our rivers - the Stour and its tributary the Glem. How clean are our rivers? Find out more on the day! Our stall will also have news on Glemsford's Hedgehog Mapping plus activities for children.

Wildlife Friendly Open Gardens, Sunday 23rd June, 12-3pm in Glemsford

Our native wildlife is threatened by many factors, including habitat loss and climate change, so making your garden more attractive to wildlife is more important than ever. Visit our open gardens to pick up some ideas. This event is a first for Glemsford and, as a trial, will be on a small scale. Look out for posters soon.

Lesli Tunbridge, Chair

Email to : greeninglemsford@btinternet.com