

GREENING GLEMSFORD
Report to Glemsford Parish Council
April 2023

Successful Litter Pick

On Sunday 5th March the Community Litter Pick saw 50 bags of rubbish collected by 43 volunteers, including 7 children! Over 60 empty vodka bottles were found in verges and ditches, especially the Cavendish Lane and Fern Hill areas. Fly tipping of car tyres, children's plastic toys and pieces of furniture, all found in the Crownfield Rd area, was reported to Babergh District Council.

Presentation - Climate Crisis and Biodiversity Loss: What can we do?

On Tuesday 14th March John Hall, Chair of PACE (Practical Actions for Climate and the Environment) Eco group in Manningtree and former CEO of Essex Wildlife Trust, gave a thought-provoking illustrated talk in the Methodist Church which was well received by the audience, some of whom had travelled from Sudbury and Clare. Refreshments followed, with cakes kindly donated by the GG committee, and donations totalling £50 were gratefully received to cover costs.

Locality Funding Award

Following the success of our trial home insulation survey in February, using a thermal imaging camera borrowed from Suffolk Climate Change Partnership, Greening Glemsford has been granted a Locality Fund Award of £250 from Babergh District Council. This will go towards buying our own Flir One Pro camera, which means we can do surveys in the village next winter whenever it's cold enough, rather than just the one week in February.

Kings Rd no-mow project

An area of grass opposite the footpath to Post Office Lane has, for the past few years, been left uncut in the spring by Babergh District Council in order to create a long grass habitat for invertebrates. Originally the part to be left long was roped off by members of Greening Glemsford, but now the plot is on the Public Realm mapping system, so the contractors should just mow the edges nearest the footpaths and leave the rest to grow long, like a mini-meadow.

Trees

Five trees have been planted round the edge of Tower Meadow at Glemsford Village Hall. The three Rowan (Mountain Ash) and two Silver Birch have replaced those which didn't survive last year's summer drought. Several Field Maple whips have been planted around the Wildflower Project area in St Mary's Churchyard.

Make Your Garden a Nature Reserve

This family event is on Sunday 16th April at the Methodist Hall. With the insect population in crisis families will be encouraged to create habitats for invertebrates by making log piles or stag beetle stumperies, where logs are partly buried in the ground (logs will be provided). Stag beetle larvae can live for at least 5 years underground and feed on rotting wood. The stag beetle population has decreased dramatically in this area as dead wood is often removed, so the message is 'leave it for the beetles'! Other activities will include sowing seeds for pollinators.

L Tunbridge, Chair