

GreenSnape Annual Report

1 November 2019 – 31 October 2020

Chairman's report

It's been a difficult and different year for everyone and a testing one for **GreenSnape**. We've tried to keep things going as much as possible, but among activities that we've had to shelve is our Members Social evening & AGM, planned for 22 October. In lieu of this and to keep all our members up to date, we've produced this summary which we hope you'll find interesting and informative. It covers the period from our last AGM to the present.

We are fortunate to have a keen and able committee (photos on last page), a great asset as we move towards our fourth year. In particular, our joint secretaries have done great work in co-ordinating much of what we do. As you will see later, our finances are stable.

At the start of the covid pandemic we stated our intention to run as many of our events as possible and have had a certain amount of success in doing that. Many of you have volunteered to help **GreenSnape** achieve its aim – to make the village a nicer place for people and wildlife - in particular through participating in work parties. We do hope that there will be many more opportunities during the coming year.

Membership

Many thanks to all our members and donors for your continuing support, which is very much appreciated. Without you we would be unable to undertake all the things we do around the village. Our membership continues to hover around 100 - we currently have 99 members – beyond our dreams when we first started out. We have been very fortunate that as members have moved away, new residents have joined **GreenSnape** in their place.

In June, your committee took the decision to pause membership subscriptions to enable us to have a fixed 1 March – end February membership year and this will greatly reduce the admin involved. In addition, this membership fee suspension reflects the fact that we have been unable to do much of what had been planned for the year because of the pandemic. We shall resume membership subscriptions on 1st March 2021.

Finances

Carried forward from 2019 AGM	1150.25
Income – main items	
Members' donations and membership fees	369
Donation from Snape carol singers	100
Waitrose green disc scheme	365
Expenditure – main items	
Daffodils & crocuses for Church Road	92
Donation of crop protection to school	51
March newsletter copying – Leiston Press	58
Wildflower seeds	34
Safety goggles for work parties	47
Current GreenSnape funds	1746.58



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Activities undertaken

Our activities have been more restricted than we would have liked, but we:

- planted an additional 400 daffodil and crocus bulbs along Church Road
- carried out two work parties clearing unwanted self-set trees in Priory Wood
- enjoyed an orchid walk on SWT Snape Marshes
- cleared Snape School's vegetable garden of weeds prior to the growing season
- visited the charming 14th century Bedfield Hall
- provided homes to birds in nine of our swift boxes. None of these birds were swifts (house sparrows, blue tits and great tits) but we are ever hopeful for next year.
- raked off hay on Snape Marshes to encourage wildflowers
- are running a Lockdown through the Lens photo competition
- have started a project jointly with the parish council to make the village's verges more colourful and more attractive to insects.



**Priory Wood Work Party
August 2020**

The next year's activities

Sadly, we had to cancel or postpone several events this year – a guided walk on RSPB Botany Marshes, our Midsummer evening barbecue, an environmentally-friendly farm visit and a trip to RSPB Havergate Island nature reserve. We very much hope to be able to stage these events in the coming year.

In January/February we will be extending our Church Road verge bulb planting with snowdrops kindly provided by Jim and Marion Mountain of the Walled Garden. We are also planning further activities for the year and will be in touch with you again with details once the covid position becomes clearer.

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Bramford substation—Scottish Power's proposals for EA1N & EA2 could see two of these at Friston

Energy projects update

The year has also seen much activity regarding the proposed energy projects that threaten to change the character of our area. Much of the work around this has involved Victoria Hambley and former committee member Graeme Murray, with excellent support and input from our former chairman John Hambley.

GreenSnape registered as an Interested Party in respect of the Planning Applications by Scottish Power Renewables to build 2 enormous substations at Friston plus a connector station for National Grid. The Examination by the Planning Inspectorate has begun and runs until April 2021. **GreenSnape** is observing all the hearings and will be submitting a detailed written submission. We are aware that National Grid has offered preliminary connection points to a further 6 projects at Friston. This illustrates that the substation being proposed within the SPR applications is being seen by National Grid as a strategic connection point for future projects. We, along with many others locally, believe that the potential impacts are not being cumulatively assessed and could have a massive impact on us all. We will continue to keep members informed.

The committee also took the decision this summer to register **GreenSnape** as an Interested Party in respect of the Sizewell C application by EDF. This gives us the opportunity to voice concerns about the many environmental issues that EDF failed to address during the consultation process or in their 56,000 page planning application. EDF has just announced that it intends to make significant changes to the application and will be holding yet another round of public consultations in the next month. This may well be in response to the nearly 1300 relevant representations the application attracted from organisations such as the AONB, RSPB, SWT, the Environment Agency, councils, community groups and residents.

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YOUR COMMITTEE

Derek Walduck Chairman



Victoria Hambley Joint Secretary



Dean Musfelt



Brenda McConkey



Grainne Spain



Lesley Walduck Joint Sec.



Dave Norman



Finally, as we weren't able to hold our Social evening and AGM, which would have given you all the opportunity to chat through things face to face, any thoughts, suggestions or ideas would be most welcome.

With very best wishes,

Your **GreenSnape** Committee