

## MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER MARCH 2025

Welcome to our March newsletter for Sustainable Cottenham members. We're excited to share updates on some of the projects we've been working on, as well as details of upcoming events. Going forward, our newsletters will be arriving more regularly, so you can stay up to date with all the latest news and events. We hope this spring brings new energy and inspiration to us all – and we can't wait to share it with you. 🌱



### THANKS TO THE CO-OP AND ROTARY CLUB OF CAMBRIDGE SOUTH

We are very grateful for grant funding received recently from these two organisations and to Cottenham residents for supporting us as one of the Co-op's local causes

There are now a range of projects which we can plan thanks to this funding: additional tools for green space management, a 'Swish' clothes swap later this year, improved publicity and marketing materials and maybe even some help for local butterflies.

We are also planting a tree – always a good thing for an environmental charity to do – to commemorate their help and support. The tree-planting will take place on 17 March and Sustainable Cottenham members would be most welcome – see details below

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### DATES FOR YOUR 2025 DIARY

There are many interesting events coming up, so get the dates in your diary:

- **4pm Monday 17 March** Tree-planting with Co-op and Rotary Club @ junction of Broad Lane and High Street
- **3 – 4.30pm Friday 21 March** Food Waste Action Week stall @ Cottenham Co-op
- **10am Saturday 22 March** Parish Council tree-planting session (40 trees) @ The Old Rec, Broad Lane. If you would like to help with this, please contact Beth to book a space: [facilities@cottenham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:facilities@cottenham-pc.gov.uk) Please bring a spade, gloves, and wellies!
- **2pm Saturday 5 April** Village Litter Pick @ Cottenham Village Hall. Contact Peter Pilbeam on [pgp1@cam.ac.uk](mailto:pgp1@cam.ac.uk) so we can keep track of numbers.

- **2pm Saturday 5 April** Cycle Path Tidy-up @ Cottenham Village Green. Contact Peter Pilbeam – see above.
  - **8pm Saturday 26 April** Dragons on the Moat @ The Moat, Tenison Manor. Our local newt expert will introduce us to some of our local newts
  - **7.30pm Thursday 15 May** Sustainable Cottenham AGM @ 11 Margett Street
  - **10am – 2pm Saturday 17 May** Cottenham Repair Café @ Cottenham Community Centre (opposite the Co-op)
- Check our website and Facebook page for updates on events – details below.

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## **WORKING WITH COTTENHAM PARISH COUNCIL AND NEIGHBOURING SUSTAINABILITY GROUPS**

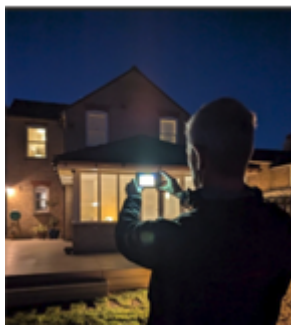
Sustainable Cottenham has been a key participant in Cottenham Parish Council's Climate and Ecological Emergency working group and has led on drafting the PC's CEE policy. It is now working on developing an action plan. SusCott members have also been liaising with neighbouring groups such as Histon and Impington Green Spaces and Sustainable Rampton. It is great to be able to exchange ideas and learn from others

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## **ECO EATS AT THE YOUTH CONNECTIONS BUS**

We are always keen to talk with young people about sustainability – whether at the village schools or youth groups. Sustainable Cottenham volunteers collaborated with Cambridge Sustainable Food in the EcoEats 'All About Food' session with the Connections Bus Youth Project last November, led by volunteers Karen and Louise from Cambridge Sustainable Food. Discussions took place on climate friendly diets and avoiding food waste.





### **THERMAL IMAGING**

A small team of trained volunteers provided thermal imaging surveys for 23 Cottenham residents and community groups in January – to help them see where insulation was faulty or drafts needed attention. Many thanks to Cambridge Carbon Footprint for the loan of the thermal camera. As one householder said: “It helps us do some quick (& cheap) fixes before we spend more money on longer term things.”

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### **COTTENHAM NATURE RECOVERY**

*This sub-group has been organising work parties to plant trees and hedges, manage woodland and encourage wild flowers around Cottenham – with particular interest in encouraging butterflies. They plan to run an information stand alongside the Repair Café in May. Please get in touch if you are interested in getting involved in this group: Mardie on [mks@jmsutton.co.uk](mailto:mks@jmsutton.co.uk)*

### **ECO EATS RECIPE BOOK – STILL SOME COPIES LEFT @ £2.50**

The headline and subheader tells us what Don't forget to get your copy of the excellent EcoEats recipe book of planet friendly meals. It costs just £2.50 and you can buy copies at the Community Centre coffee shop, at Ward's greengrocers or contact Chris Ward – see email below.

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### **PLEA FOR MORE HELP WITH ORGANISING OUR ACTIVITIES**

Are we putting on the kind of events and activities that you think Cottenham needs? As well as your ideas, please consider joining the committee to make things happen. If you are willing to get involved in planning our events, please get in touch with Chris Ward on [chris@sustainablecottenham.org.uk](mailto:chris@sustainablecottenham.org.uk)

Remember to watch for announcements and requests for volunteers on our website and Facebook page

[www.sustainablecottenham.org.uk](http://www.sustainablecottenham.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/suscottenham](http://www.facebook.com/suscottenham)

[chris@sustainablecottenham.org.uk](mailto:chris@sustainablecottenham.org.uk)

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