

## **Modbury Parish Council**

### **Sustainability Committee**

The committee has not met since the meeting in February and is next due to meet on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Below is a review of the activities of committee members in the interim.

#### **Provision of a warm space and community hub in the Little Kitchen.**

This was run by members of the committee and volunteers until the end of March. This is an area which crosses sustainability and community engagement. Cllr Price has provided a separate review of this initiative.

#### **School garden**

A member of the committee has been working with Modbury School PTA on developing a calm garden for children needing respite from noisier school activities and on reviving the kitchen garden which became rather neglected during covid. There is a gardening club but teachers have only limited time to work on this. The plan is, with approval from the school, to invite members of the community to help to maintain the garden and work with the children. The PTA will have a table at the Parish Council assembly to publicise their work and recruit volunteers.

#### **Rivers Assembly**

Members of the committee attended this event which was run by Sustainable South Hams. The aim of the event was to bring together interested parties and organisations to look at the condition of South Hams Rivers, work currently being done on monitoring and improvement and identifying future activities.

Each river catchment then had separate meetings, the river Erme group was well attended. An outcome was an agreement to collate information about work being done in order to avoid duplication and agree future actions.

Two members of the committee attended the session on legislation and volunteered to be part of a working group monitoring consultations such as SWW and the environmental aspects in the upcoming review of the Joint Local Plan.

## **River Erme Catchment Councils**

The second joint meeting of parish and town councillors from across the Erme Catchment was held on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Also in attendance were representatives of the Environment Agency, the AONB, a local landowner and to community groups. The aim was to further develop an agreed framework for collaborating on matters such as joint funding of initiatives, responses to planning matters to ensure drainage, flooding or contamination are routinely considered. To develop partnerships with community groups and statutory organisations. To agree coordinated responses to legislation and to represent the collective views of our communities.

### **Proposal.**

For the Parish Councils to agree in principle to work together to maintain, protect and improve the river Erme catchment.

To approve the principle of joint funding for appropriate initiatives such as, for example, training for community volunteers, water monitoring equipment, administrative time.

**Next meeting of the Sustainability Committee: Friday, April 14th 10.00.**

**Venue: Parish Office**

Ann Turner

April 2023