**Stoke Environment Group - Project Plan**

Project Title: Photography Competition (R&I-1)

Project Dates: January – June 2022

Project Manager: Ian Upshall

Project Objectives

The objectives of this project are to raise awareness of the natural world within our Parish boundary and to encourage members of the community to take an interest how the natural environment plays a part in our lives. It is hoped this interest will contribute towards greater wellbeing, inclusiveness and involvement in the work of SEG.

Project Outline

It is important to the work of SEG that all members of our community engage with nature and take an interest in our environment. The idea of this project is to encourage people to submit a photograph, taken between January and May 2022 in the Parish of Stoke St Gregory, that captures an example of the natural world.

A competition will be run to find the best photographs in each of four age ranges and to award a prize for each at the Envirofair 22.

A Photograph may be submitted by a resident of SSG Parish or someone who works the majority of their time in the Parish. The competition is not open to professional photographers. There will be four age categories: under 12 years; 13 - 17 years; 18 – 59 years; and over 60 years.

Photographs may be taken using a simple ‘everyday’ device such as digital camera, mobile phone, tablet etc. No editing or ‘photoshoping’ of the image will be allowed.

Photographs will be accepted in digital format at any time between 1 January and 31 May 2022. There will be no specific topics, but the photograph must be taken in the Parish and is expected to capture a natural subject – it can be flora or fauna and any native species of either. So, the photograph can feature anything from an earthworm to a sunset! To ensure the quality is maintained when printed, images must be of 2Mb size, at least.

A panel of SEG members will be formed to judge the winner of each age category. If possible, a guest expert judge will be included.

The top four photographs will be printed, mounted and framed. Permission will be sought to display each picture in the HOTV Coffee Shop for three months after which, the framed photograph will be presented to the originator.

Competition Rules

The competition rules are included as Appendix A to this Project Plan.

Resources

Notices are to be produced to advertise the event. Hard copies available from the usual places (e.g. shop, pub, school, etc.). There will be a small cost to produce hard copy leaflets which will be borne by SEG.

A panel of judges will be formed from members of SEG plus one guest judge (tbc). The judges will be required to meet prior to the Envirofair 22 to agree the judging process. The panel will meet and make their judgment in the first week of June.

The estimated cost of printing and mounting the four prize winning entries is £100. This cost may be offset with the production of other items featuring entries. This is not a money-making exercise as much as it is a ‘nature awareness’ exercise.

Next Steps

* Competition announced on 24 December 2021 via all available means
* Competition takes place between 1 January 2022 and 31 May 2022
* Judging panel, to include an expert judge, to be finalised by 20 May 2022
* Winning entries to be agreed by 10 June 2022
* Winning entries to be printed and mounted by 18 June 2022
* Winning entries announced 25 June 2022 (at Envirofair 22)

**Appendix A - Competition Rules**

1 Opening and closing dates

The Stoke St Gregory 2022 photography competition will be open for entries from 1 January 2022. The closing date for entries is midnight on Friday 31st July 2020

2 How to Enter

a. Entries must be submitted electronically via the Stoke Environment Group email address: envirostoke@yahoo.com

b. Entries must be accompanied by the following information:

* entrant’s full name and age;
* entrant’s contact address (preferably email) and a telephone number;
* date and location of where the photograph was taken;
* a title for the photograph.

3 Eligibility

This competition is open to residents of the parish of Stoke St Gregory, or those who consider the parish of Stoke St Gregory as their main place of work.

Members of the Stoke Environment Group Steering Group, or anyone associated with the competition, may not enter the competition.

This competition is an amateur photography competition and is not open to professional photographers (where photography is a primary occupation).

An image submitted must be the work of the individual submitting it and must not have been published elsewhere or have won a prize in any other photographic competition. It is the responsibility of each entrant to ensure that any images they submit have been taken with the permission of the subject (where appropriate) and do not infringe the copyright of any third party or any laws. Entrants must warrant that the photograph they are submitting is their own work and that they own the copyright for it.

An Image can contain native or migrant wild species. Non-native species which permanently live in the UK are also allowed.

Digital adjustments to images are not permitted.

The photographs must be taken in the Parish of Stoke St Gregory between January and May 2022. Entrants must state where and when each photograph was taken.

4 Judging

A panel of four judges will be selected from the Stoke Environment Group Steering Group. One external expert judge will be appointed.

The judging panel will not be made aware of the entrant’s name, but they will be informed of the entry category (see below).

The judging panel will select, by majority decision, the best image in each of the four entry categories.

No responsibility can be accepted for lost entries and proof of transmission will not be accepted as proof of receipt. Entries must not be sent through agencies or third parties.

5 Use of Images

The four winning images will be reproduced, printed and mounted and awarded to the winning entrants

The Stoke Environment Group will reserve the right to use any image entered in the competition in future publicity material. The photographer will be duly credited.

6 Categories

The four categories are:

* under 12 years;
* 13 - 17 years;
* 18 – 59 years;
* over 60 years.

7 Policies

Stoke Environment Group reserves the right to remove or refuse any entries to the competition for any reason.

The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

All information detailing how to enter this competition forms part of these terms and conditions. It is a condition of entry that all rules are accepted as final and that the competitor agrees to abide by these rules. Submission of an entry will be taken to mean acceptance of these terms and conditions.

The welfare of the wildlife subject is more important than the photograph itself. If an entry is found to have evidence of undue disturbance or stress inflicted on wildlife in the process of taking the photograph, the entrant will be disqualified. Please avoid damaging habitat or disturbing wildlife in search of the perfect shot.

Stoke Environment Group takes no responsibility for loss, damage or injury incurred as a result of participation (and/or) involvement in the competition or subsequent publicity and awards.

Events may occur that render the competition itself or the awarding of the prizes impossible due to reasons beyond the control of Stoke Environment Group and accordingly the Group may, at its absolute discretion, vary or amend the promotion and the entrant agrees that no liability shall attach to the Group as a result thereof.

Stoke Environment Group is responsible for the promotion of the competition, which includes the publication and adjudication of the competition.

7 Copyright and Permissions

By submitting an image for the Stoke Environment Group 2022 Photography Competition, each entrant confirms that:

* The image they submit are their own work and they own the copyright for them.
* The image submitted has not been published elsewhere or have won a prize in any other photographic competition.
* The image submitted has been taken with the permission of the subject and does not infringe the copyright of any third party or any laws.
* They received permission from any human subjects which are included in the images submitted.

Stoke Environment Group has irrevocable permission to reproduce, enlarge, publish or exhibit, on any media, any of the images entered into the 2022 photography competition, for any purpose connected with Stoke Environment Group. This may include but is not limited to inclusion in or reproductions in online or print media which may be produced in the future; displays at exhibitions; displays on websites or social media for judging purposes or promotion; and for use in press releases to be distributed to national, regional, local or specialist press for information or promotion of present or future competitions. Copyright in all images submitted for this competition remains with the respective entrants. However, in consideration of their providing the competition, each entrant grants a worldwide, irrevocable, perpetual licence to Stoke Environment Group to feature any or all of the submitted images in any of their publications, their websites and/or in any promotional material connected to this competition.

Stoke Environment Group will make every reasonable effort to ensure that name credits of entrants are reproduced on photos published in online and printed publications.