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### 1. Introduction

The purpose of this document is to ensure that our town and parish councils have the support and guidance they need to act on the ecological crisis the world is facing.

This is a step-by-step guide to help town and parish councils develop, consult on, and deliver their own Local Nature Action Plan (LNAP).

All local authorities including town and parish councils have a duty to have regard to biodiversity under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

Stroud District Council recognises that we all need to take urgent steps to address the climate and biodiversity emergency and that along with other factors, climate change is having a significant impact on the health of ecosystems. As such, nature recovery forms a central part of our Climate Emergency Action Plan and Greener Places Strategy.

Stroud District Council is working with Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership and all the other Gloucestershire Local Authorities to address the ecological crisis on a strategic scale and we want to ensure our town and parish councils are able, and supported, to join us on this journey to nature recovery.

Protecting the biodiversity of our county needs a partnership effort and landscape scale change to ensure we maintain Stroud District as a great place to live and work and visit.

# 2. Biodiversity

#### What is biodiversity and why is it important?

Biodiversity is the whole variety of life on Earth, all species of plants and animals, their genetic variation and the habitats and ecosystems they are part of. It includes not just the rare or the threatened but also the wildlife that is familiar to us in the places where we live and work.



Biodiversity is important for its own sake, along with the many benefits we derive from the natural environment – products like food, fibre, wood and water; services like pollination, nutrient cycling, soil formation, water purification, flood defense and opportunities for reflection and recreation – all are critical for our wellbeing and survival.

The intention of this document is to ensure an integrated approach to the planning for, and undertaking of nature restoration across Stroud District in supporting town and parish councils with good practice guidelines; thereby contributing to the council's commitment to achieving sustainable communities and quality of life for all.

# 3. Biodiversity decline

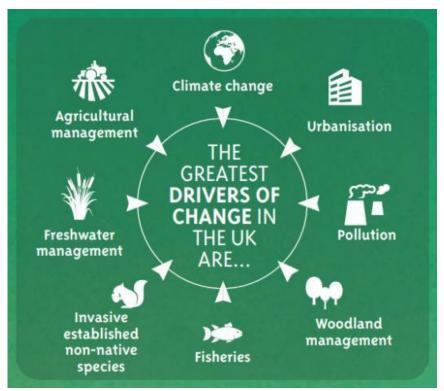
#### What is causing the decline of biodiversity?

The abundance and distribution of the UK's species has, on average, declined since 1970 and many metrics suggest this decline has continued in the most recent decade (State of Nature Report 2019).





75 percent of the land based environment and 66 percent of the marine based environment have been significantly altered by human activities (IPBES).



Source: State of Nature 2019 Infographics - National Biodiversity Network (nbn.org.uk)

# 4. What is a local nature action plan?

#### How can they help you to help nature?

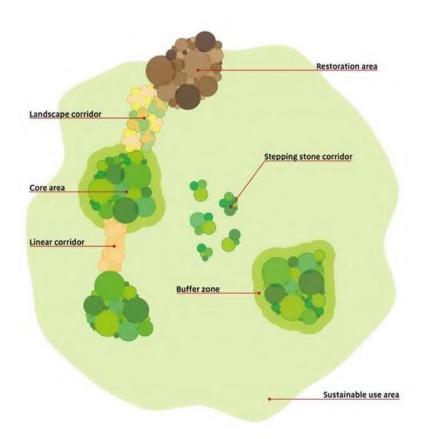
We have provided this guide to help you to recognise and improve your local biodiversity assets. You can use this information to produce a Local Nature Action Plan (LNAP). These LNAPs will form part of the wider District and County nature recovery plans.

A LNAP is **your** plan to declare what **you** will do to help natures recovery. Each plan will be slightly different, depending on your resource availability.

We have supplied a list of possible project ideas to help you get started. This list is by no means exhaustive but will give you a feel for what is possible in your Town or Parish. Please see appendix 1.

To complement this list of project ideas we have provided a supplementary information document with links to further sources of information (see appendix 2).

An example LNAP is included under appendix 3 – not a full version but enough to give you an idea of what to aim for. This is not your public facing document, we will leave that for you to design.



Core components of an ecological network. Source: Making Space for Nature – (nationalarchives.gov.uk)

# 5. Building your plan

#### **5.1 Partnerships**

It is important to have the right support to help you deliver your action plan. Form a small partnership group with key local organisations such as:

- Neighbouring town and parish councils
- In Bloom groups
- Friends of groups
- Sports clubs
- Climate action groups
- Ecological action groups
- Local nature groups
- Local business
- Resident groups
- Youth organisations such as: scouts, guides and youth clubs
- Local faith groups
- Stroud District Council

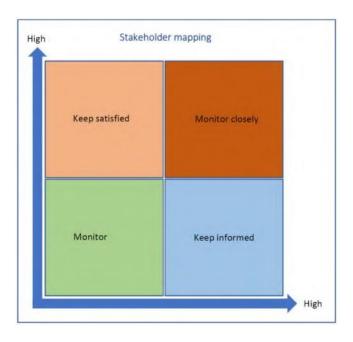
#### Top tip...

Keep the group small, bring on those most able to offer support and advice (remember this is an action plan). Operate as a sub-group to your Town or Parish Council to avoid the need to set up a new committee.

#### 5.2 Stakeholders

To make your action plan successful, you will need to carefully consider who your stakeholders are and the level of interaction you will need with them. Stakeholders are people who have an interest or concern, and it is important to identify and engage with them to help support your action plan.

Use the stakeholder mapping tool to help you determine the level of effort/interaction you need to expend on each of your stakeholders. This will help to manage the workload.



Example stakeholders		
Town or Parish Councils	Ward Councillors	
Stroud District Council	Residents	
Site users	Local businesses	
Special interest groups	Schools	
Youth groups		

#### 5.3 Communications

Communication is probably one of the most important factors to consider when designing your LNAP. It is very important to have a clear plan in place for who will be the main contact, how they will be contacted and then who they in turn will keep informed. To bring as many people as possible on board with change they must know what the change is and why it is proposed. Stakeholders must know at the earliest stage so that you can bring them along on the change journey with you. A clear communications plan can prevent a lot of worry and angst from stakeholders through the change.

Communication plan example				
Stakeholder	Objectives (actions)	Message content	Delivery method	Timeline
Stroud District Council	Keep informed of action taken	Number of hedgehog holes installed Acres of grass changed to meadow Number of trees planted Number of wildflower plugs planted	email	annually
Residents	Highlight proposed actions	Why changes of management method are changing How management is changing How many trees are being planted	Local social media accounts Town and parish council website/social media Notice board Local newsletters	Weekly/ monthly updates Start of project Impact on use of site

#### Top tip...

Plans need to be accessible for a range of disabilities. Avoid jargon where possible and, if jargon is used, ensure it is defined. It can help to include a glossary.

#### 5.4 Land Ownership

Identify what land you can influence biodiversity change on. Keep it simple and accurately map town or parish council ownership, Stroud District Council ownership and private ownership.

- Town or parish council ownership is high influence so target more effort here first
- Stroud District Council ownership is medium influence so target efforts here gradually
- Private ownership is potentially low influence so not a high priority to start with, but you can target communications to enable change here



#### Top tip...

Start with your HIGH influence land owned by your Town or Parish Council.

If you are unsure what land your town and parish council own or lease follow these steps to find out:

- Speak with your clerk
- Check your legal documents for deeds, leases and conveyances
- Use land registry searches

#### 5.5 Mapping

Create your LNAP on a free mapping service like <u>Google My Maps</u>. You can identify land ownership, input photos of key features such as trees or benches, input data about how land is managed or will be managed. The map can be freely shared with residents and other stakeholders to investigate and send you comments/feedback.

Create a baseline map showing your LNAP area as it is now.

- Trees of interest
- Woodlands
- Public open space
- Highway verges
- Wildlife corridors
- Land ownership
- Ponds

Create a new layer on this map showing opportunities such as:

- Tree planting locations
- New ponds
- New woodlands
- Wildflower meadows
- Long grass
- Nest box locations
- Fauna tower locations
- New hedgerows
- Hedgerows needing restoration
- Hedgehog or other wildlife corridors, runs and holes

There are some free online resources that will help with mapping:

Swift Maps - Swift Mapper

Hedgehogs - <u>BIG Hedgehog Map</u>

Magic Maps - MAGIC (defra.gov.uk)

#### Top tip...

Keep your map simple, try not to overwhelm yourself with information, remember this is an ACTION plan.



#### 5.6 Land management, maintenance and usage

Take note of how the land is used. It will be pointless trying to change a football field into a wildflower meadow, this will conflict with its important amenity use. However, there may be opportunities for nature within the same parcel of land that will not conflict with amenity use such as improving the poor condition of hedgerows on its border.

Answering these questions will help:

- How is the land you would like to improve for nature currently being managed?
- How will this management need to change to support the biodiversity options you decide to take forward?
- What management is currently done at different times of the year?
- Who is currently maintaining the land, and can they accommodate the required changes in management? Do they have the correct equipment, will there be an increased cost etc?

#### Top tips...

Keep it simple – simple management practices are resilient to change such as loss of volunteers and reduced funding which can happen over time.

Visit the site regularly at different times of the day and week to see how it is used. Are there corners or areas not used that could be easily enhanced for nature?

#### **5.7 Service searches**

It is important to consider all the services that may run under or over any land you want to improve for nature, if it involves planting or altering the service of the land.

You can organise service searches yourself at Home - LinesearchbeforeUdig

#### Top tip...

Services are things like water pipes, sewer pipes, BT lines, overhead or below ground electric cables and gas pipes, so don't dig before checking for services, you never know what is underground.

#### 5.8 Funding

It is important to have a range of funding sources to enable your Local Nature Action Plan to be effective. Some management changes can benefit wildlife whilst saving you money, so it's good to highlight this where possible as it will help you gain more support for the changes you make.

There are local funding opportunities from:

- Member awarded funding (MAF)
- Community benefit money from nearby developments like solar farms and waste transfer stations
- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
- Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANGS)
- \$106 (off site open space contributions secured through the planning process)
- Sponsorship by residents or business sponsor a tree, pond or square metre of meadow
- External grant funders
- Developers on nearby development sites

#### Top tip...

Recognise the importance of this work and assign budget for it. It is important to cover the cost of the initial work, but don't forget to cover the cost of the ongoing maintenance.

#### **5.9 Information resources**

There are many sources of information to call upon when building your LNAP, some are free, and some may charge. Some of these organisations also offer conservation management services, carry out habitat surveys and produce site management plans.

Making Space for Nature

The Conservation Volunteers

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust

**Groundwork** 

State of Nature Report

**Buglife** 

Prof Dave Goulson, Insect Report

# 6. Submitting your Local Nature Action Plan

Once you have completed your draft LNAP, you can submit it to SDC Natural Environment working group, but this is not a requirement.

Once your LNAP is underway it would be great to have a regular update on progress.

This document is not a statutory document, it is a guide to help you take action if you choose to.

#### Top tips...

Remember even the best laid plans may need to change, so make sure you are flexible in your approach.

Don't be too ambitious. Make sure your plan is achievable and start off with small steps which you can learn from and build on.

Not everything has to happen in the first year, take a staged approach and spread the change over several years.

# 7. Contact

#### **SDC Natural Environment Working Group**

There are employees at SDC who can help and advise. We want to help you achieve your vision for nature. Our resources are limited but we will try to respond to all queries as fast as possible.

# "THE GREATEST THREAT TO OUR PLANT IS THE BELIEF THAT SOMEONE ELSE WILL SAVE IT."

ROBERT CHARLES SWAN OBE



# Appendix 1 - Ideas to get you started:

When mapping your opportunities for nature, consider if any of the below suggestions are suitable for your town or parish. This list is not exhaustive, there are many ways to help nature recover. More information is included in the LNAP Supplementary Information Document.

Project	Methods	Benefits
Hedgehog recovery program	<ul> <li>Share the link to Hedgehog Highways online via local social media groups. www.hedgehogstreet.org</li> <li>Put key information on the local council website</li> <li>Put up a notice about their decline and action that can be taken on your fence line</li> <li>Purchase a 13cm hole cutter for wood and/or stone, set up a volunteer hedgehog champion and advertise for people who will be happy to have hedgehog highways through their gardens. Lead the way by making sure all town and parish council land is accessible to hedgehogs</li> <li>Part-buy hedgehog homes with residents to install on their properties e.g. you buy several and sell at reduced rate to residents</li> <li>Install hedgehog homes on all town and parish council land</li> <li>Ensure all planning applications receive a comment about hedgehog access needed for all boundary fencing. Produce a standard statement that the whole community can use, the more comments the better</li> <li>Become a Hedgehog Friendly town or parish</li> <li>Map new holes and hedgehog sightings on the map at hedgehog highstreets and contribute to national data gathering</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increased biodiversity</li> <li>Help prevent a species from going extinct</li> <li>Family friendly species, great one to engage the public with</li> <li>Low cost</li> <li>Mental health benefits</li> <li>Improved resilience of nature locally</li> </ul>

	Purchase or get designed some hedgehog highways signs to be installed on all hedgehog holes to protect them against blockages or removal	
Tree planting	<ul> <li>Identify street tree planting locations</li> <li>Identify gaps for trees on Town and Parish Council owned land</li> <li>Set up a sponsor a tree programme</li> <li>Offer a voucher scheme to part buy trees with residents that they can plant on their land – you save all the maintenance and planting costs but the whole community still benefits from increased biodiversity and canopy cover</li> <li>Purchase trees to go on school properties</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Low to high costs</li> <li>Increased biodiversity</li> <li>Reduce air pollution</li> <li>Sequester carbon</li> <li>Reduce noise pollution</li> <li>Increased nesting habitat</li> <li>Can be a source of free food for people</li> <li>Mental health benefits</li> <li>Increased flood resilience</li> <li>Increased climate change resilience</li> <li>Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>
Nesting birds	<ul> <li>Install nest boxes on all town and parish council properties where suitable</li> <li>Install fauna towers on public open spaces where suitable</li> <li>Offer a voucher scheme to part buy nest boxes with residents for installation on their properties</li> <li>Purchase nest boxes to go on school properties</li> <li>Volunteers may be keen to make nest boxes. There are many free instructions online</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Low cost</li> <li>Increased biodiversity</li> <li>Mental health benefits</li> <li>Improved resilience of nature</li> <li>Great engagement for families with nature</li> </ul>

Green screens /rain water gardens	<ul> <li>Install on boundaries of town and parish properties where suitable</li> <li>Purchase for local schools to install on their grounds, especially on boundaries facing roads</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Medium cost</li> <li>Increased biodiversity and new habitat for insects</li> <li>Increased privacy and noise reduction from traffic</li> <li>Reduce air pollution</li> <li>Food source for insects and birds</li> <li>Greens up the urban landscape</li> <li>Low maintenance</li> <li>Increased climate change resilience</li> <li>Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>
Grassland management	<ul> <li>Change some of the amenity mown grass to longer grass, only cut once a year</li> <li>Plant up areas with wildflowers and cut and collect once a year</li> <li>Plant flowering lawns where grass needs to remain short for amenity use</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Medium cost or reduced cost through reduced mowing</li> <li>Increased biodiversity</li> <li>Carbon sequestration</li> <li>New habitat for insects</li> <li>Food source for insects and birds</li> <li>Shelter and food source for mammals</li> <li>Mental health benefits</li> <li>Increased climate change resilience</li> <li>Increased flood resilience</li> <li>Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>
Go pesticide and peat free	<ul> <li>Make your Town or Parish a pesticide and peat free zone</li> <li>Ask SDC to only use pesticide where absolutely necessary such as only on bound surfaces like roads</li> <li>Encourage residents to stop all use of pesticides in their gardens – set up a pledge system</li> <li>Utilise and share information from - Pesticide-Free Towns - Pesticide Action Network UK (pan-uk.org)</li> <li>Encourage residents to use peat free compost</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Low cost</li> <li>Increased biodiversity</li> <li>Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>

Log piles	Install log piles on all Public Open Space	Low cost
	Encourage residents to install them on their land	Increased biodiversity
	Utilise the dangerous trees (eg Ash) you have to remove	New habitat for insects

Litter picking	<ul> <li>Make Stag Horn Beetle pyramids - How to build a log pyramid for stag beetles - PTES</li> <li>Compost green waste generate by your public open space discreetly on the public open space</li> <li>Form local litter picking groups</li> <li>Put out social media about the dangers of litter to wildlife</li> <li>Provide litter pickers to individuals in the community</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Food source for insects and birds</li> <li>Shelter and food source for mammals and amphibians</li> <li>Improved resilience of nature</li> <li>Low cost</li> <li>Improved habitat condition for wildlife</li> <li>Less wildlife deaths from litter</li> <li>Improved mental health</li> <li>Safer public open space</li> <li>Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>
Conservation grazing	Return some land to grazing for local small holders	<ul> <li>Medium to high cost for set up and low running cost</li> <li>Increased biodiversity</li> <li>New habitat for insects</li> <li>Food source for insects and birds</li> <li>Carbon sequestration</li> <li>Increase climate change resilience</li> <li>Low food miles</li> <li>Mental health benefits</li> <li>Natural land management</li> <li>Improved resilience for nature</li> </ul>
Town or parish arboretum	<ul> <li>When you have mapped your suitable tree planting locations, select 10 to 20 trees spread out in a walkable trail that can be planted with unusual specimens and create your own local walking arboretum.</li> <li>Run a competition to select them, engage with schools, scouts, brownies to promote community engagement and support</li> <li>Get a local business to sponsor a tree</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Low to high cost</li> <li>Increased biodiversity</li> <li>New habitat and food for insects</li> <li>New habitat and food for birds</li> <li>New habitat and food for mammals</li> <li>Reduce air pollution and noise pollution</li> <li>Sequester carbon</li> <li>Can be a source of free food for people</li> <li>Mental health benefits</li> <li>Increased flood and climate change resilience</li> <li>Great public engagement</li> </ul>

		Improved resilience of nature
Access for nature	Remove unnecessary fencing within public open space or make holes where suitable to allow greater movement of all ground mammals like hedgehogs, badgers, foxes, deer etc. through the landscape.	<ul> <li>Increased biodiversity</li> <li>Improved resilience of nature</li> <li>Mental health benefits</li> </ul>
Night corridors	<ul> <li>Identify light pollution affecting your nature areas and corridors</li> <li>Work with SDC to reduce light spill from lamp posts</li> <li>Work with local business to reduce light pollution</li> <li>Work with residents to reduce light pollution</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increased biodiversity</li> <li>Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>
More land	Put out a local call for conservation land. You never know who owns the land around you and what they want to do with it. They may welcome input and advice on management for nature. There may even be landowners who are willing to donate land to their local town and parish councils to hold in trust as biodiversity rich public open space - you don't know if you don't ask.	
Pollinator planting	<ul> <li>Change your planting schemes to pollinator friendly varieties, no doubles or hybrids.</li> <li>Use native UK species in planting schemes</li> <li>Encourage In Bloom groups to use native or pollinator friendly plants</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increased biodiversity</li> <li>Improved resilience of nature</li> <li>Great public engagement</li> </ul>

# Appendix 2 – More information

Activity	
Hedgehogs	www.hedgehogstreet.org
Tree planting	Produce a simple plan for your site. Display it on site and put on your website with at least two months' notice to address any concerns raised by sites users and nearby residents. A few small sentences should accompany the plan to explain what people are looking at.
	A-Z Guide - British Trees - Woodland Trust
	The value of different tree species for insects and lichens (countrysideinfo.co.uk)
	How to Plant Trees - Plant Trees - Woodland Trust
Nest boxes	Nestboxes For The Garden - The RSPB
	Nesting Boxes for Birds, Bats, & Mammals, UK Manufacturer (nestbox.co.uk)
	Make a nest box   BTO - British Trust for Ornithology
	<u>Vivara Pro : wildlife and environment solutions   Vivara Pro</u>
Green	Hedera Helix Woerner Living Ivy Green Screens - Green Walls & Ivy Screens   Green-tech (green-tech.co.uk)
screens	Living Green Screens and Ivy Screens   Biotecture
	Mobilane Green Screen   An instant green hedge panel   Mobilane
Grass	Magnificent Meadows
	Plantlife: The Wild Plant Conservation Charity
Log piles	Dead Wood for Wildlife   Garden Ideas - The RSPB
	How to make a log shelter   The Wildlife Trusts
	Log piles and rockeries (froglife.org)
	How to build a log pyramid for stag beetles - PTES
Hedgerows	Hedgerow   The Wildlife Trusts

	Hedgerows - People's Trust for Endangered Species (ptes.org)
Pond design	<u>Create A Pond - Freshwater Habitats Trust Freshwater Habitats Trust</u> <u>Microsoft Word - Amphibians Common Toad, Great Crested Newt and Grass Snake -new logo.doc (freshwaterhabitats.org.uk)</u>
Monitoring and reporting	<ul> <li>Monitoring         You never know who is walking your open spaces. You could have an ecologist in your midst or a bird spotter or just a general wildlife enthusiast.         Put a message out on your Facebook page, council website, raise it at your next meeting or put it in your local newsletter for wildlife sightings on specific sites to be sent in.         <ul> <li>Cameras traps – A cheap investment to help back up you up with photographs. Don't forget to buy a secure housing as you are on public open spaces.</li> <li>Transects– Set up a regular monitoring walk for a volunteer to record wildlife through the open space – it could for butterflies, bats, birds, anything really. Butterfly Transect Counts-Manual v1.pdf (butterfly-monitoring.net)</li> <li>Bat surveys – Lots of options but there are new gadgets on the market that will actually identify bats for you from their sounds. Surveys - National Bat Monitoring Programme - Bat Conservation Trust (bats.org.uk)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Reporting  Every planning application for new development must submit an ecological report. The first phase of this is a desk-based assessment, where they look at all the sightings of wildlife reported to the regional record office in that area. You may have seen wildlife at your site but if you haven't reported it, it won't be a consideration in the planning application.  GCER - Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records.  iNaturalist - A Community for Naturalists · iNaturalist

# Appendix 3 – Example LNAP Local Nature Action Plan

#### Background

The Parish Council in partnership with Stroud District Council has recognised the importance of taking steps to address the ecological crisis our world is facing. A Local Nature Action Plan has been drawn up to enable us to take the necessary steps to stop the decline of biodiversity. This is a five year plan.

#### Partnership

The action plan is led by ..... Parish Council with support from:

Organisation	Role	Contact
Parish Council	Lead, funding, committee structure	Clerk Phone Email
Nature Groups within the parish/ town	Volunteers, work, surveys, site management	Name Phone Email
Stroud District Council	Guidance	rebecca.charley@stroud.gov.uk
Residents Action Group	Volunteers, work, surveys, site management	Name Phone Email

#### **Project Leads**

Cllr One

A Another

#### **Project Team**

Cllr two

Another One

Someone Else

Another person

#### Stakeholders

- Parish Councillors / Clerk
- Ward Councillors
- SDC Strategic Lead for Nature Recovery and Biodiversity
- SDC Senior Ecologist
- Countryside Group Volunteers
- Local Business 1 (Have agreed to sponsor actions)
- Local Business 2 (Have agreed to supply materials)
- Pre School
- Village Shop
- Residents via Parish Facebook Page
- Site Users

#### Stakeholder interest grid

	1			
POWER	High	<ul> <li>Keep satisfied</li> <li>Site Users</li> <li>Residents – via parish Facebook Page</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Manage closely</li> <li>Parish councillors / clerk</li> <li>Countryside group volunteers</li> </ul>	
	Low	<ul> <li>Monitor</li> <li>Local Business 1 (Have agreed to sponsor actions)</li> <li>Local Business 2 (Have agreed to supply materials)</li> <li>Village shop</li> <li>Pre school</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Keep informed</li><li>Ward Councillors</li><li>SDC</li></ul>	
		Low	High	
	INTEREST			

# Communication plan

Communication Plan					
Stakeholder	Objectives (actions)	Message content	Delivery method	Timeline	
Parish Councillors / Clerk	Support action for nature on all PC grounds and help us to engage with all residents and businesses	Sales pitch explanation of support needed, type of resource, type of actions proposed, importance of this work	Presentation at PC meeting  Information to go on PC website  Progress reports	Year 1 by end of  Year 1 by end of  Monthly updates for PC meetings	
Ward Councillors	General support for project Gain access to member awarded funding	Sales pitch – explanation of support needed, type of resource, type of actions proposed, importance of this work	Presentation at PC meeting  Progress reports	Year 1 by end of  Monthly updates for PC meetings	
SDC Stategic Lead for Nature Recovery and Biodiversity	General support for project Access to SGC knowledge bank	Completed LNAP proposals	Draft LNAP  Signed off LNAP  Progress reports	Year 1 by end of Year 1 by end of annually	
Countryside Group Volunteers	General support for project Gain access to volunteer labour	Sales pitch – explanation of support needed, type of resource, type of actions proposed, importance of this work	Letter / Presentation to group	Year 1 by end of	

Local Business 1	Sponsorship for x10 trees each year for 5 years	Sales pitch – explanation of what, why, where. Explain they could generate great publicity for their business.	Letter / presentation if they request one  Yearly update  Publicity when trees planted	Year 1 by end of  Within 1 month of trees going in each year (via email / phone call)  Contact local press at least 1 month in advance
Local Business 2	Sponsorship of £500 each year for 5 years	Sales pitch – explanation of what, why, where. Explain they could generate great publicity for their business.	Letter / presentation if they request one  Yearly update  Publicity when money spent	Year 1 by end of  Contact local press at least 1 month in advance
Village Shop	Nature improvement on Shop Land	Sales pitch – bring them on board, engage them with project	Letter / Presentation to shop committee	Year 1 by end of
Residents	General support for project Gain access to volunteer labour	Sales pitch – bring them on board, engage them with project, explain importance of this work	Presentation at PC meeting  Information to go on PC website  Progress reports	Year 1 by end of  Year 1 by end of  Monthly updates for PC meetings

			Regular updates on Parish Facebook Page Poster in noticeboard	Once a fortnight update or as and when activity is taking place  Year 1, end of
Site Users	General support for project Gain access to volunteer labour	Sales pitch – bring them on board, engage them with project, explain importance of this work Explain proposal for the site	Posters on site – showing map of site, proposed tree planting or pond, proposed dates for the works, benefits	At least 1 month before any work takes place  Provide email address for people to contact with any concerns

# Land Ownership

PC Ownership / leased (HIGH Influence)

Site Name	PC Owned	PC Leased	Map of site
Playing Field			
Sports pitch			
Village Hall			
Village Green			

SDC/County Council Owned (Medium Influence)

Site Name	Details	Map of site
Road Verges		
Play parks/areas		

#### Third Party (Low Influence)

Site Name	Details	Map of site
Businesses		
Gardens	Approx ?? in parish	
Farms	Organic? Livestock? Arable?	

#### Land Management, maintenance, usage

Refer to layer within LNAP Mapping

#### Service Searches

Service Searches are programmed in advance of any activity on land

### Funding

Potential/ actual Sources of funding for the first 5 years.

Source	Amount	How Often	Specific Project or General
PC Budget	?% of yearly budget assigned		
CIL?			
S106			
Sponsorship- local business 1			
Sponsorship - Residents			

#### Road Verges

Identify which road verges come under SDC or Highways control and determine whether the Parish Council are able to take over their management. Identified key stretches of road verge that will be ideal to improve. SDC are in the process of investigating how they will better manage all their road verges for wildlife, this will be rolled out during 2025 (on purchase of new machinery).

#### **Proposed Programme**

It should be noted that to increase bird and mammal numbers we not only need to provide them with homes but we must ensure suitable food supplies. Projects involving increasing insect numbers through reducing pesticides, providing nectar rich food sources and reducing light pollution should run alongside other key projects like installing nests.

The programme is a guide and it is not necessary to stick to it rigidly. Availability of volunteers and project team members will change over time. The project will be extended into future years.

It is recommended to develop a 5 year programme, which will develop into a rolling programme as things progress.

# Link to Mapping

Develop a link to mapping to enable participants to access the information.

# Work Program Years 1 to 5

Project Name	Site	Description	Timeline
Mapping	Whole parish	Determine land ownership and areas of influence	Year 1
Hedgehog recovery program	eg	Install x 2 holes in boundary wall Install 2 log piles, Install x 1 vandal proof hedgehog home, w Ensure pesticide free management going forward	Year 1
	Residents	Put a post on Parish Facebook Post – explain what the holes are for, why there are little signs and link to hedgehogstreet.org  Encourage residents to install hedgehog holes  Organise a talk for residents about hedgehogs and hedgehog highways  Set up a Hedgehog Champion to install holes and signs on residents properties – aim for x 10 gardens a year  Encourage residents to pledge to go pesticide free in their gardens	Year 1 - 5
	General Notes	All holes to have Hedgehog Highway Sign All holes to be mapped on hedgehogstreet.org Produce planning statement ref hedgehogs and hedgehog highways – share with residents, Pc commit to put comment on all relevant planning applications.	Year 1 - 5
Project Name	Site	Description	Timeline
Tree planting	Identify suitable locations		

	General Notes	Liaise with SDC land and planting options	
Project Name	Site	Description	Timeline
Nesting birds/			
bat boxes	Residents	Post on facebook to see who has any nesting birds on their properties – will help identify existing species  Organise presentation about nesting birds, threats, how to help, what type of nestboxes, where to get them or build  Purchase bulk order of nestboxes and sell to	Year
		residents at half price – aim for x 10/year	
	General Notes	Provide guidance with each nest box sold on how and where to install.	
	Sub-project (A Swift Recovery)	Use swift mapper and a post on Facebook to identify existing Swift colonies in the parish Support residents with suitable buildings nearby to install swift nest boxes and start new colonies Start investigating options for creating a colony	