

# Local Nature Action Plans

Embedding biodiversity in your community:  
guidance for town and parish councils



Warwickshire Coventry & Solihull  
Local Nature Partnership



**WALC**  
Town & Parish Council Support

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# 1. Introduction

This document has been produced by the [Warwickshire Coventry and Solihull Local Nature Partnership \(LNP\)](#), in partnership with [Warwickshire & West Midlands association of Local Councils \(WALC\)](#) to guide Town and Parish Councils in the development and delivery of a Local Nature Action Plans (LNAPs).

**The document provides a template for restoring local biodiversity and engaging communities with nature and builds on the work done in South Gloucestershire.**

Warwickshire County Council's (WCC) Climate Emergency Declaration recognises that we all need to take urgent steps to address the climate and ecological 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 WCC's Climate Emergency Action Plan and Sustainable Futures Strategy.

The Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Warwickshire will be produced by the Responsible Authority, Warwickshire County Council, working with the [Warwickshire Coventry and Solihull Local Nature Partnership \(LNP\)](#), a partnership of local organisations with the purpose of facilitating delivery of benefits for nature.

All local authorities, including Town and Parish Councils, must consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity, agree policies and objectives – and act to deliver these. This is the strengthened 'biodiversity duty' that the Environment Act 2021 introduces. A [model biodiversity policy and guidance](#) is available from the Society for Local Council Clerks (SLCC).

Town and Parish Councils have a crucial role to play in engaging with communities and driving local action. This step-by-step guide to help your Council develop, consult on, and deliver a Local Nature Action Plan (LNAP) which will be informed by and feed in to [Warwickshire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy](#).

**Protecting the biodiversity of our county needs a true partnership effort to ensure we maintain Warwickshire 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 defence and opportunities for reflection and recreation – all are critical for our wellbeing and survival.

Nature and wildlife are currently in decline at an alarming rate across the UK. The [State of Nature report](#) showed that one in six species are at risk of extinction in Britain. On average, wildlife studied has declined by 19% since 1970, and many important habitats are in poor condition.

A range of interacting factors are behind the decline in nature. The main direct causes of significant trends affecting wildlife and habitats in the UK are: changes in agricultural practice with widespread herbicide and pesticide use, climate change, fisheries, built development, water shortage, pollution, the modification of our waterways, the presence of invasive non-native species, disease and land management. (Source: Wildlife Trusts: [Why is nature in trouble](#))

However, projects working to restore wildlife and habitats have shown clear benefits for nature, people and the climate. By producing a series of Local Nature Recovery Strategies throughout England, we will be setting out **priorities for nature's recovery**, facilitating a **coordinated and informed effort** across the region to reverse the decline of nature.

The intention of this document is to ensure an integrated approach to the planning for and undertaking of nature restoration across Warwickshire by supporting Town and Parish Councils with best practice and guidance thereby contributing to Warwickshire County Council's commitment to achieving sustainable communities and quality of life for all.

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Hedgehogs are in decline in Britain and are now listed as "Vulnerable" on Britain's red list of mammals.

Hedgehogs in Britain have undergone a long historic decline, but differences between urban and rural populations are becoming increasingly apparent.

In urban areas, the picture is of a stable population that might be recovering, highlighting the importance of gardens and green spaces, and local action, in ensuring a future for hedgehogs.

In stark contrast, rural populations remain low and, in the last two decades, have continued to decline by between a third and three-quarters nationally.

Source: *The State of Britain's Hedgehogs 2022*



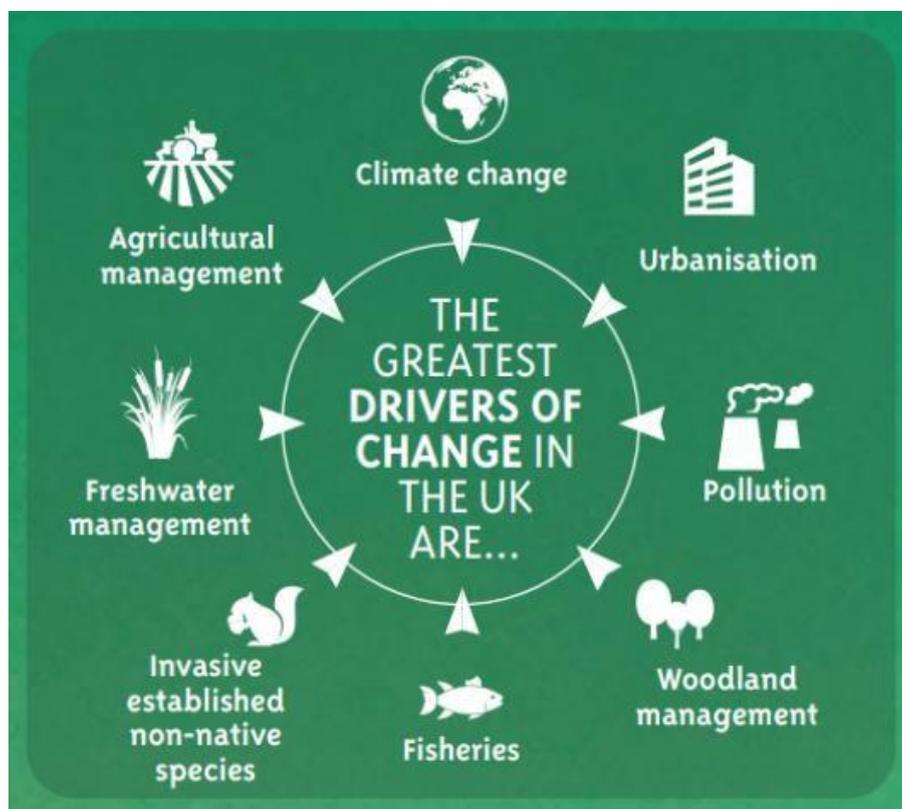
# 3. Biodiversity decline

## 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](http://nbn.org.uk))

# 4. What is a local nature action plan?

## How can they help you to help nature?

We have provided a step-by-step guide to help you to recognise and improve your biodiversity assets. You can use this information to produce a Local Nature Action Plan (LNAP) to complement the existing Biodiversity Action Plan.

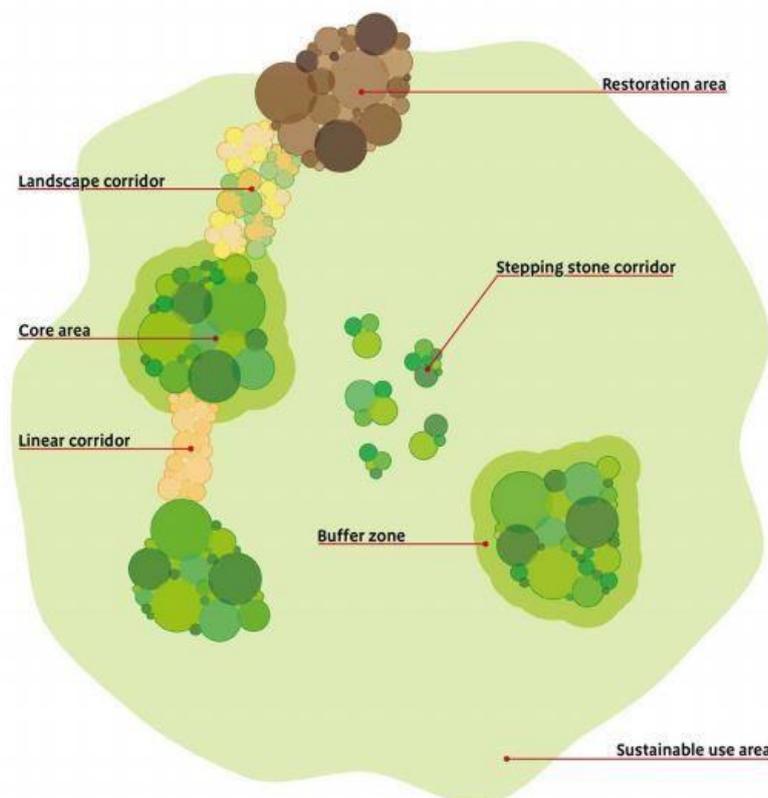
An LNAP is your plan to declare what you will do to help nature's recovery.

You do not need to follow every step, and each plan will be slightly different, depending on your resource availability.

We have supplied a list of great 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 inspirational photos and 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 and garden clubs
- Friends of groups
- Sports clubs and recreation grounds
- Climate action groups
- Ecological action groups
- Local nature and wildlife groups
- Local businesses, shops, pubs and gardens
- Community groups such as the WI, Lions and Rotary Clubs, as well as formal Residents Associations
- Youth organisations such as: Scouts, Guides and youth clubs
- Local faith groups and churches
- Warwickshire Wildlife Trust
- Warwickshire County Council
- Your District or Borough Council
- Severn Rivers Trust
- Canal & Rivers Trust

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### 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. This will obviate the need for a new bank account and public liability insurance.

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Although widespread across much of Britain & Ireland, Breeding Bird Survey data have documented a significant decline in swift populations.

**On the strength of the BBS decline, the Swift was moved from the green to the amber list of conservation concern in 2009 ([Eaton et al. 2009](#)) and then to the red list in 2021.**

The reasons for these losses are likely to include poor summer weather, a decline in their insect food and continued loss of suitable nesting sites.

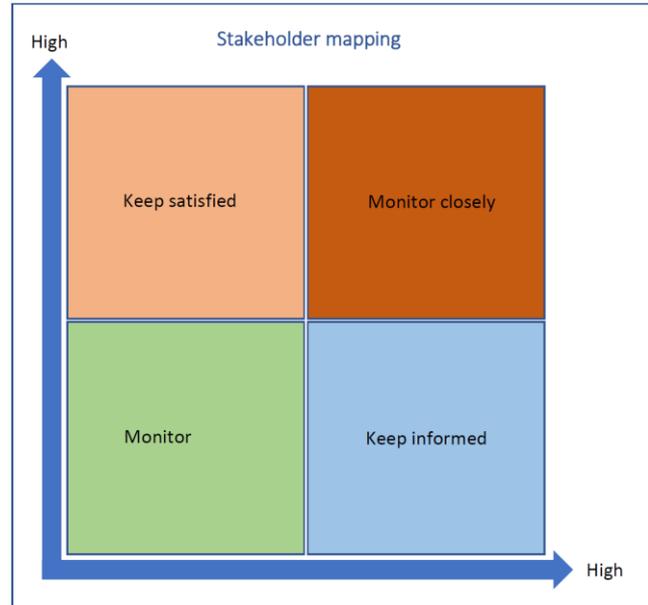
*Source: British Trust for Ornithology*



## 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 your workload.



Example stakeholders	
Town or Parish Councillors	District or Borough Councillors
Warwickshire County Councillors	Residents
Site users	Local businesses
Special interest groups	School
Village or Town Hall	Shop
Pub	Sports Club
Church	



## 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
WCS Local Nature Partnership Warwickshire County Council	Keep	Number of hedgehog	Email:	Every 6 months
	informed of action taken	holes installed Acres of grass changed to meadow Number of trees planted Number of wildflower plugs planted		
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

You must identify what land you can influence biodiversity change on. Keep it simple and accurately map Town or Parish Council ownership, District/Borough or County Council ownership and private ownership.

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

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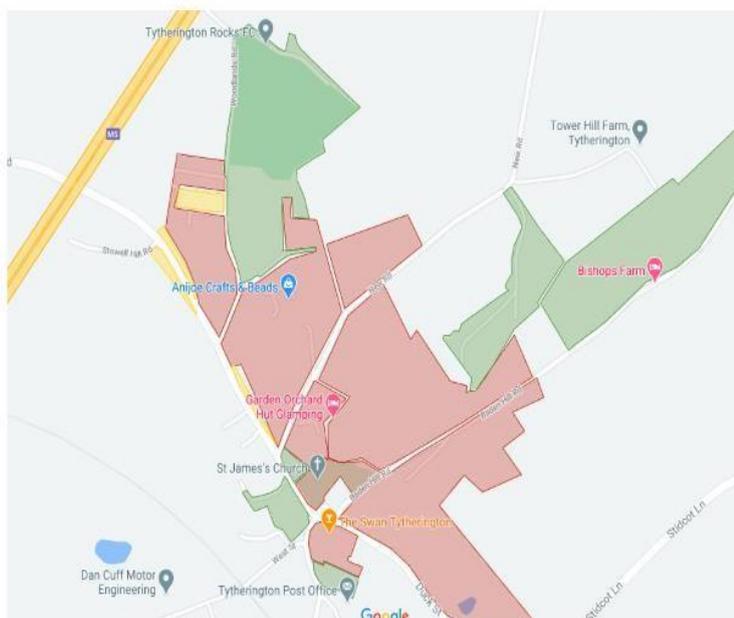
### Top tip...

An alternative, or complementary approach, could be a [Community Nature Recovery Scheme](#) or [Community Nature Reserve](#) whereby residents are encouraged to allocate at least one square metre of land to wildlife-friendly planting, ponds and insect lodges to create an area the size of a football pitch (or local playing field, your choice). The opportunities for education and engagement are high, with film screenings such as "[Six Inches of Soil](#)", local gardening club talks, community conversations and newsletters.

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Your Town or Parish Council should maintain an asset register. However, if you are unsure what land your Town and Parish Council own or lease, follow these steps to find out:

- Speak with your Clerk, and ex-members of your Council
- Check your legal documents for deeds, leases and conveyances
- Use [land registry searches](#)



#### Example Land Ownership Map

Green = Town or Parish Land, public open space, town/village halls (**High Influence**)

Yellow = SGC Land, verges & public open spaces (**Medium Influence**)

Red = Private Land, residential, farm & business areas (**Low Influence**)

## 5.5 Mapping

Create your LNAP on a free mapping service like [Google My Maps](#). Your Council could also consider subscribing to [Parish Online](#); fees are scaled to the size of your Council's electorate. One of the many advantages of this digital mapping tool is the ability to overlay national datasets, including SSSI's, Environment Agency and Land Registry amongst others.

You can plot 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 on your Council website for residents and stakeholders to investigate and send 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

Other free online resources to help with mapping:

Swift Maps - [Swift Mapper](#)

Hedgehogs - [BIG Hedgehog Map](#)

Magic Maps - [MAGIC \(defra.gov.uk\)](#)



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### 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.?

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### 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?

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## 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. Warwickshire County Council can carry out a service search for a fee.

A map of the land in question highlighted with by a clear border with co-ordinates for central point provided should be supplied as part of the "[Develop a Wildflower Area](#)" application form, which can only be submitted by a Town or Parish Council.

Alternatively, you can organise service searches yourself at [Home - LinesearchbeforeUdig](#)

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### 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 deliver your Local Nature Action Plan. Some management changes can benefit wildlife whilst saving you money; highlight this where possible as it will help you gain more support for the changes you make.

There are local funding opportunities from:

- Your [County Councillor Grant Fund](#)
- Community benefit money from nearby developments like solar farms and waste transfer stations, e.g., [Heart of England Community Energy](#) , Severn Trent Community Fund
- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
- S106 (off site open space contributions secured through the planning process)
- Sponsorship by residents or business, e.g. sponsor a tree, pond or square metre of meadow
- External grant funders, try [Heart of England Community Foundation](#)
- Developers still on nearby development sites

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### Top tip...

Recognise the importance of this work and assign a budget for it from your Town or Parish Council precept. It is important to cover the cost of the initial work, but don't forget to cover the cost of the ongoing maintenance.

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## 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.

[Warwickshire Wildlife Trust](#)

[Warwickshire Coventry & Solihull Local Nature Partnership](#)

[Warwickshire County Council - Ecology](#)

[Trees Call To Action Project \(Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick Districts\)](#)

[Making Space for Nature](#)

[The Conservation Volunteers](#)

[Groundwork](#)

[State of Nature Report](#)

[Buglife](#)

## 6. Submitting your Local Nature Action Plan

Once you have completed your draft LNAP, you can submit it to the Local Nature Partnership team, at [wcslnp@wkw.org.uk](mailto:wcslnp@wkw.org.uk), who will review and send any feedback. Depending on workload feedback may take up to four weeks.

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

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### 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.

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## 7. Contact

Email the Warwickshire Coventry and Solihull Local Nature Partnership at [wcslnp@wkw.org.uk](mailto:wcslnp@wkw.org.uk)

Or Warwickshire & West Midlands Association of Local Councils at [climateofficer@walc.org.uk](mailto:climateofficer@walc.org.uk)

Our resources are limited but we will try to respond to all queries as fast as possible.

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

ROBERT 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 style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share the link to Hedgehog Highways online via local social media groups. <a href="http://www.hedgehogstreet.org">www.hedgehogstreet.org</a></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 or a <a href="#">Hedgehog Hero</a> or a <a href="#">Hedgehog Friendly Club or Campus</a></li> <li>• Map new holes and hedgehog sightings on the map at hedgehog highstreets and contribute to national data gathering</li> <li>• Purchase or get designed some hedgehog highways signs to be installed on all hedgehog holes to protect them against blockages or removal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>

Tree planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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 style="list-style-type: none"> <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 style="list-style-type: none"> <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 style="list-style-type: none"> <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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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 style="list-style-type: none"> <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 style="list-style-type: none"> <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 style="list-style-type: none"> <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 free	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make your Town or Parish a pesticide free zone</li> <li>• Ask your County/Disrict or Borough 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 - <a href="http://Pesticide-Free Towns - Pesticide Action Network UK (pan-uk.org)"><u>Pesticide-Free Towns - Pesticide Action Network UK (pan-uk.org)</u></a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low cost</li> <li>• Increased biodiversity</li> <li>• Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>
Log piles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install log piles on all Public Open Space</li> <li>• Encourage residents to install them on their land</li> <li>• Utilise the ash trees you will be removing</li> <li>• Make Stag Horn Beetle pyramids - <a href="#"><u>How to build a log pyramid for stag beetles - PTES</u></a></li> <li>• Compost green waste generated by your public open space discreetly on the public open space including cemeteries</li> <li>• Community compost scheme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low cost</li> <li>• Increased biodiversity</li> <li>• New habitat for insects</li> <li>• Food source for insects and birds</li> <li>• Shelter and food source for mammals and amphibians</li> <li>• Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>

Litter picking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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 or schools in the community or purchase a group kit to be stored in village or town hall or community facilities</li> <li>• Follow <a href="#">Keep Britain Tidy</a> for risk assessments and other resources and campaigns to improve public spaces</li> <li>• Sign up to be a <a href="#">Plastic Free Community</a> to reduce plastic pollution in your environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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 style="list-style-type: none"> <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 style="list-style-type: none"> <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 style="list-style-type: none"> <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>

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 style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased biodiversity</li> <li>• Improved resilience of nature</li> <li>• Mental health benefits</li> </ul>
Night corridors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify light pollution affecting your nature areas and corridors</li> <li>• Work with County or Parish Council 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 style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased biodiversity</li> <li>• Improved resilience of nature</li> </ul>
More land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider Town or Parish Council owned land – can it be improved?</li> <li>• 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. There may be land-owners 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create community nature reserves and local wildlife sites</li> <li>• Enter into land management partnerships with WCC Ecology for biodiversity improvement – visit <a href="#">Yarningale Common</a> in Claverdon or Attey's Field in Snitterfield</li> </ul>
Pollinator planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change your planting schemes to pollinator friendly varieties, no doubles or hybrids.</li> <li>• Use perennial and native UK species in planting schemes</li> <li>• Encourage In Bloom groups to use native or pollinator friendly plants</li> <li>• Encourage <a href="#">gardening for the environment</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Bee Squared</a> is an easily adapted campaign, or become a <a href="#">"Bee Friendly Town"</a></li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased biodiversity</li> <li>• Improved resilience of nature</li> <li>• Great public engagement</li> </ul>

## Appendix 2 – More information

Activity	
Hedgehogs	<a href="http://www.hedgehogstreet.org">www.hedgehogstreet.org</a>
Tree planting	<p>Produce a simple plan for your site. Display it on site and put it on your website with at least two months' notice to address any concerns raised by the site's users and nearby residents. A few sentences should accompany the plan to explain what people are looking at. <b>Ensure a Tree Management Plan is in place; tree surveys are necessary for insurance purposes.</b></p> <p><a href="#">A-Z Guide - British Trees - Woodland Trust</a>  <a href="#">The value of different tree species for insects and lichens (countrysideinfo.co.uk)</a>  <a href="#">How to Plant Trees - Plant Trees - Woodland Trust</a>  <a href="#">Trees Call To Action Project (Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick Districts)</a></p>
Nest boxes	<p><a href="#">Nestboxes For The Garden - The RSPB</a>  <a href="#">Nesting Boxes for Birds, Bats, &amp; Mammals, UK Manufacturer (nestbox.co.uk)</a>  <a href="#">Make a nest box   BTO - British Trust for Ornithology</a>  <a href="#">Vivara Pro : wildlife and environment solutions   Vivara Pro</a></p>
Green screens	<p><a href="#">Hedera Helix Woerner Living Ivy Green Screens - Green Walls &amp; Ivy Screens   Green-tech (green-tech.co.uk)</a>  <a href="#">Living Green Screens and Ivy Screens   Biotecture</a>  <a href="#">Mobilane Green Screen   An instant green hedge panel   Mobilane</a></p>
Grass	<p><a href="#">Magnificent Meadows</a>  <a href="#">Plantlife: The Wild Plant Conservation Charity</a></p>

Log piles	<a href="#">Dead Wood for Wildlife   Garden Ideas - The RSPB</a> <a href="#">How to make a log shelter   The Wildlife Trusts</a> <a href="#">Log piles and rockeries (froglife.org)</a> <a href="#">How to build a log pyramid for stag beetles - PTES</a>
Hedgerows	<a href="#">Hedgerows - People's Trust for Endangered Species (ptes.org)</a>
Pond design	<a href="#">Create A Pond - Freshwater Habitats Trust</a> <a href="#">Freshwater Habitats Trust</a> <a href="#">Microsoft Word - Amphibians Common Toad, Great Crested Newt and Grass Snake -new logo.doc (freshwaterhabitats.org.uk)</a>
Monitoring and reporting	<p><b>Monitoring</b></p> <p>You never know who is walking your open spaces, could have an ecologist in your midst or a bird spotter or just a general wildlife enthusiast.</p> <p>Put a message out on your Facebook page, Parish or Town 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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trap cameras – 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 be for butterflies, bats, birds, anything really. <a href="#">Butterfly Transect Counts-Manual v1.pdf (butterfly-monitoring.net)</a></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. <a href="#">Surveys - National Bat Monitoring Programme - Bat Conservation Trust (bats.org.uk)</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Reporting</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>RERC <a href="#">Welcome to BRERC Online Recording   BRERC Online Recording</a> iNaturalist - <a href="#">A Community for Naturalists - iNaturalist</a></p>

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# Appendix 3 – Example LNAP

## Tytherington Local Nature Action Plan

### Background

Tytherington Parish Council in partnership with South Gloucestershire 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 in order for 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 Tytherington Parish Council with support from:

Organisation	Role	Contact
Tytherington Parish Council	Lead, funding, committee structure	Clerk Phone Email
Tytherington Countryside Group	Volunteers, work, surveys, site management	Name Phone Email
South Glos Council	Guidance	nature@southglos.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
- SGC Biodiversity Officer
- 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
- Tytherington in Bloom

## Stakeholder interest grid

<b>POWER</b>	High	<b>Keep satisfied</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site Users</li> <li>• Residents – via parish Facebook Page</li> </ul>	<b>Manage closely</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish councillors / clerk</li> <li>• Countryside group volunteers</li> </ul>
	Low	<b>Monitor</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>	<b>Keep informed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ward Councillors</li> <li>• SGC Biodiversity Officer</li> <li>• Tytherington in Bloom</li> </ul>
		Low	High
	<b>INTEREST</b>		

## 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	<p>Presentation at PC meeting</p> <p>Information to go on PC website</p> <p>Progress reports</p>	<p>Year 1 by end of Feb</p> <p>Year 1 by end of March</p> <p>Monthly updates for PC meetings (email to clerk before 15th each month)</p>
Ward Councillors	<p>General support for project</p> <p>Gain access to member awarded funding</p>	Sales pitch – explanation of support needed, type of resource, type of actions proposed, importance of this work	<p>Presentation at PC meeting</p> <p>Progress reports</p>	<p>Year 1 by end of Feb</p> <p>Monthly updates for PC meetings (email to clerk before 15<sup>th</sup> each month)</p>
SGC Biodiversity Officer	<p>General support for project</p> <p>Access to SGC knowledge bank</p>	Completed LNAP proposals	<p>Draft LNAP</p> <p>Signed off LNAP</p> <p>Progress reports</p>	<p>Year 1 by end of July</p> <p>Year 1 by end of September</p> <p>6 monthly (Email to nature@southgl os.gov.uk)</p>
Countryside Group Volunteers	<p>General support for project</p> <p>Gain access to volunteer labour</p>	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 June

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 June  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 June  Dec (via email / phone call)  Contact local press at least 1 month in advance
Pre School	Nature improvement on Pre-School Grounds	Sales pitch – bring them on board, engage them with project	Letter / presentation for staff and one for the kids	Year 1 by end of June
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 June
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 Feb  Year 1 by end of March  Monthly updates for PC meetings (email to clerk)

			Regular updates on Parish Facebook Page  Poster in noticeboard	before 15 <sup>th</sup> each month)  Once a fortnight update or as and when activity is taking place  Year 1, end of Feb
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
Tytherington in Bloom	General support for project Gain access to volunteer labour	Sales pitch – bring them on board, engage them with project, explain importance of this work	Letter / Presentation to committee	Year 1, end of Feb

## Land Ownership

PC Ownership / leased (HIGH Influence) (Green on Mapping Layer)

Site Name	PC Owned	PC Leased	Map of site
Jubilee Field	Some	Some from local business 1	Appendix 1
Coronation Garden		Whole site from business 1	Appendix 2
Hardwicke Field	Whole site		Appendix 3
Village Hall	Whole site but leased to third party		Appendix 4
Tytherington Hill North	Whole site		Appendix 5

Tytherington Hill South		Wholes site leased from business 2	Appendix 6
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SGC Owned (Medium Influence) (Yellow on Mapping Layer)

Site Name	Details	Map of site
Road Verges	Xx number of metres	Appendix 7
Village Green - Southlands	Managed by SGC	Appendix 8
Green field in middle of Woodlands	Managed by SGC, possible building plot	Appendix 9

Third Party (Low Influence) (Red on Mapping Layer)

Site Name	Details	Map of site
Businesses	6 land holding businesses	Appendix 10
Gardens	Approx 300 in parish	Appendix 11
Farms	10 farms, approx 70% of the parish ( 1 organic) 7 livestock and 3 arable	Appendix 12

## Land Management, maintenance, usage

Refer to layer within LNAP Mapping –

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1Q0QzISpko8jw9NKYxtA-rk5NPWastfFY&usp=sharing>

## Service Searches

Service Searches for Year 1 sites are in appendix 13

## Funding

We have secured funding for the first 5 years of the programme.

Source	Amount	How Often	Specific Project or General
PC Budget	10% of yearly budget assigned	Yearly for first 5 years of project plan – Budget starts 5 <sup>th</sup> April	General project costs
MAF	£500	Year 1	Plug Planting
		Year 3	Towards new pond

CIL	£10k – from Duck Street development	Year 1 Year 2 Year 3	Bird Boxes New Wildflower Meadow New Swift Colony
S106	£800 – allotments £5k – semi-natural open spaces	Year 3 Year 3	Plant new Community Orchard Tree Planting x 5 heavy standards and x 10 medium standards
Sponsorship- local business 1	£500 per tree	Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5	X 5 heavy standards each year
Sponsorship - Residents	£500	Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5	Sponsor a tree, sponsor a square metre of plug planting

## Road Verges

Some residents have highway planting licences already and are improving stretches for nature. We have identified other key stretches of road verge that will be ideal to improve. SGC are in the process of investigating how they will better manage all their road verges for wildlife, this won't be rolled out until year 2 or 3 of our programme timeline. We have decided not to concentrate our efforts here until it is clear what SGC are doing. If individual residents wish to progress this themselves we are not obstructing but as a group we will wait and re-evaluate what we are going to do on road verges in Year 5.

## Proposed 5 Year Programme

Given how much land and property the PC owns or manages, we have determined that the first 5 years will concentrate on this land/property only. During this 5 year time period we will investigate what can be done on SGC and other third party land, plan for what we would like to do and start the negotiations but practical works will not be planned for until the next 5 year phase.

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. If projects need to be extended into other years, this is not a failure, it is adaptation to acknowledge resource availability. In some years there may be a glut of availability and resources so projects can be bought forward or speeded up.

The Programme is below:

## Link to Mapping

Please follow the link to visit an example of how you could map your information using Google. Some Parish or Town Councils may use Parish Online, a digital mapping tool. This is just a rough plan and does not show all the potential opportunities for this area, none of these have been agreed with anyone, it is just an example of what you could do.

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1Q0QzISpko8jw9NKYxtA-rk5NPWastfFY&usp=sharing>

## Work Program Years 1 to 5

Project Name	Site	Description	Timeline
<b>Hedgehog recovery program</b>	Jubilee Field	Install x 2 holes in East Boundary wall Install x 2 holes in South boundary, one within the gateway Install x 2 log piles, 1 in South West corner & 1 in North West corner Install x 1 vandal proof hedgehog home, within North West corner Ensure pesticide free management going forward	Year 1
	Coronation Garden	Install x 1 hole in south boundary with church yard ( <i>Speak to Church Wardens</i> ) Install x 2 log piles, both in shrubs along East Install x 1 vandal proof hedgehog home, within shrubs to East Ensure pesticide free management going forward Install x 1 hedgehog information board, with relevant information and actions residents can take	Year 1
	Hardwicke Field	Install x 5 log piles, all within SNCI Install x 5 vandal proof hedgehog homes, all within SNCI Ensure pesticide free management going forward	Year 2
	Village Hall	Install x 1 hole in north boundary ( <i>speak to pub</i> ) Install x 1 hole in east boundary ( <i>speak to resident of xxx house</i> ) Install x 1 hole in South boundary ( <i>speak to village shop</i> ) Install x 1 hedgehog house ( <i>do with Pre-school</i> ) Install x 1 log pile ( <i>do with pre-school</i> ) Ensure pesticide free management going forward	Year 2
	Tytherington Hill North	Install x 10 log piles Install x 10 vandal proof hedgehog homes Ensure pesticide free management going forward	Year 2
	Tytherington Hill South	Install x 5 log piles – within scrub areas Install x 5 vandal proof hedgehog homes – within scrub areas 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
<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<b>Tree planting</b>	Jubilee Field	Cut down and replace x2 diseased Ash tree on East boundary Cut down and replace x 1 diseased ash tree in South West corner – Maybe make a wood carving of the trunk Plant x 1 new tree – whole life spacing in South East corner – sponsored by local business 1	Year 3 Year 4 Year 5
	Coronation Garden	Plant x 1 new Cherry Tree – sponsored by local business 1	Year 2
	Hardwicke Field	Plant x 30 new trees as per agreed plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 – 3 sponsored by business 1, 2 in memorial trees, 5 out of CIL-watered by wardens</li> <li>• 10 – 3 sponsored by business 1, 2 in memorial trees, 5 out of CIL-watered by wardens</li> <li>• 10 – 3 sponsored by business, 4 sponsored by residents, 3 out of CIL-watered by wardens</li> </ul>	Year 1 Year 2 Year 3
	Village Hall	Plant x 1 new tree – species to be agreed –sponsored by Village Hall Committee	Year 2
	Tytherington Hill North	Allow for natural regeneration after Ash Die Back removals – majority of site 5 locations identified for whole life tree spacing – all sponsored by residents Plant x 2 Plant x 2 Plant x 1	Year 1-5  Year 1 Year 3 Year 5
	Tytherington Hill South	20 locations identified for whole life tree spacing Plant x 5 – sponsored by residents – watered by volunteers Plant x 5 – sponsored by business 1 – watered by volunteers Plant x 5 – in memorial trees – watered by volunteers Plant x 5 – paid for by CIL	Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5
	Residents	Purchase medium sized trees (5ft to 8ft) and sell onto residents at £10 each for them to plant in their own gardens – x 10 each year	Year 2 Year 3 Year 4

			Year 5
	Arboretum Trail	Investigate tree species options and map out a route Incorporate arboretum specimens into overall tree planting plan Produce online map or leaflet for village shop or notice board Public launch of Tytherington Arboretum Trail	Year 2 Year 3-5 Year 5 Year 5
	General Notes	Start investigating SGC land and planting options Approach SGC with a planting plan on their land in our parish	Year 2-3 Year 4-5
<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<b>Nesting birds</b>	Jubilee Field	Install x 1 fauna pole – concentrating on Starlings & House Sparrows	Year 1
	Coronation Garden	Install x 1 fauna pole – concentrating on bats	Year 1
	Hardwicke Field	Install x 2 fauna towers – Bird & Bat combined	Year 2
	Village Hall	Install x 5 House Martin & x 5 Swallow nest cups with poo collectors	Year 2
	Tytherington Hill North	Install x 2 fauna towers – Bird & Bat combined	Year 3
	Tytherington Hill South	Install x 1 fauna pole – concentrating on Starlings & House Sparrows	Year 4
	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 residents at half price – aim for x 10/year	Year 1  Year 2  Year 3-5
	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 in the Church Tower	Year 1 Year 2-4 Year 5	

# Appendix 4 – Invasive Non-Native Plant Species

Invasive non-native species (INNS) are one of the top five threats to global biodiversity, costing the economy nearly £1.9 billion a year. Once established, they have a harmful impact on the environment and wildlife, and human health and recreation and can be extremely costly and difficult to control. Source: [Animal and Plant Health Agency \(APHA\)](#)

Read more about invasive plant species, what they are and why we should be concerned as well as what we can do [from APHA](#)

Please:

- keep any boats, clothing, footwear and equipment used in water free of invasive non-native species – remember to [Check Clean Dry](#) after use
- [Be Plant Wise](#) and don't let your garden, pond or aquarium plants enter the wild
- never release your pets or allow them to escape into the wild
- look out for other non-native [alert species](#) and record your sightings
- consider [volunteering with a Local Action Group](#) working on invasive species management

To brush up on your knowledge of invasive species, or find activities taking place, visit the [Non-native Species Secretariat website](#).

You can also [find guidance](#) from Natural England, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Environment Agency on how to stop the spread and dispose of invasive non-native plants that can harm the environment in England.

## Types of invasive non-native plants

The most commonly found invasive non-native plants include:

- [Japanese knotweed](#)
- [Giant hogweed](#)
- [Himalayan balsam](#)
- [Rhododendron ponticum](#)
- [New Zealand pygmyweed](#)

Find out how to [identify other invasive plants](#).

### Himalayan Balsam

Having become dominant in its invaded habitat, the shallow root system can promote erosion during the annual cycle through dieback and subsequent destruction of bankside structure. Dense stands can impede water flow at times of high rainfall, thereby increasing the likelihood of flooding.

