



NATURAL ASSETS WORKING GROUP
10am 11/06/18
Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park

In attendance	Dave Askey, Stockton Borough Council; Graham Megson, Hartlepool Borough Council; Simon Blenkinsop, Middlesbrough Borough Council;
Apologies	Jeremy Garside, Tees Valley Wildlife Trust; Paul Murphy, Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council; Mike Leakey & Robert Woods INCA; Martin Allen, independent ecologist;
Chair	Philip Roxby, Darlington Borough Council
Secretariat	Rachel Murtagh; Tees Valley Nature Partnership Officer

Agenda Item	Notes	Action
NA/01.02.18 Minutes and Matters arising	Nat Assets 14/03/18	Thornaby road verge MA to check and Kirkleatham Business Park Pond surveys to be done before next meeting. GM to follow up with Ian Bond (INCA).
NA/02.02.18 Local procedure for Local Site designation	PR has proposed up-dated procedure for designation (flow chart) to be circulated to group. To sign off at 12-9-18 meeting and passed to TVNP Steering Group on 19-9-18.	RM circulate Terms of reference of NA group for comment. Once approved by group publish on TVNP website. PR to circulate new procedure for comment. RM once process/paper-work agreed send to all local authority Heads of Planning for comment. (please note they raised this at their meeting w/c 12 th March) Also bring to their attention outstanding proposals.
NA/03.02.18 New sites, site amendments and potential sites:	Update: Durham Tees Valley Airport: Darlington awaiting confirmation of local sites process. Stockton are considering at senior management level. Lower Ormesby Beck, verbal update only, tbc in writing from Planning Authority	Up-coming LWS at the Six Fields Site in Stockton. Discussions have started with landowner. Propose bring it forward for 12-09-18. RM update BOA statement 'proposed LWS' for airport. RM to prompt response from MBC to North Ormesby Beck.

NA/04.02.18 Updated Tees Valley BAP	JG compiled new local list.	RM send approved list to local planning authorities and ERIC & publish on TVNP website. Local Biodiversity Indicator species & habitats. JG to finalise RM to publish on website.
NA/05.02.18 government guidelines for designating grassland SSSIs.	http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-2303 provisional list of 20 sites from the Tees Valley Pre 1840 grassland 'considered' an ancient grassland. Query NE SSSI status for airport site. Compiled list of provisional sites from the Tees Valley. SSSI status gives greater protection.	RM to put into BOA statements. These are examples of the larger plant communities. PR/GM – to raise with his peers to assess wider picture beyond Tees Valley RM – TVNP letter to NE - brought to our attention these LWS meet SSSI status.
NA/06.02.18 TV Biodiversity Offsetting Policy.	Best biodiversity practice to include: Species rich mown grassland – offsetting priority hectare of these. (protect seed source)	Defra to publish an up-dated biodiversity off-setting metric. Due out in the autumn. Lead to national guidance. RM – Get update from national LNP conference.
NA/07.02.18 Biodiversity Opportunity Areas.	Add list of 'ancient meadows' to statements.	RM – circulate East Cleveland statements for comment.
NA/08.02.18 GCN District licensing project update	Strategic offsetting sites. Darlington to adopt the new approach of GCN Licenser as it has a significant populations across the area.	No further action.
NA/08.02.18 AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darlington phase 1 maps digitised. Ambition to map whole of Tees Valley. • TVNP Conference 21st June at the Trinity Centre. Middlesbrough • Time change for meeting to 2.00pm proposed. • Action for TVNP business plan. Data collection, standardisation and sharing how to involve Records Centre? Working Group 	
Next meeting:	2pm 12 th September. Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park	