



**TVNP LSWG Meeting Minutes**  
**2.00pm 18/08/16**  
**Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park**

<b>Present</b>	Phil Roxby, Darlington Borough Council; Graham Megson, Hartlepool Borough Council; Simon Blenkinsop, Middlesbrough Borough Council; Fiona Hurworth, Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council; Dave Askey, Stockton Borough Council; Martin Allen, independent ecologist; Jeremy Garside, Tees Valley Wildlife Trust;
<b>Apologies</b>	Katherine Pinnock, ERIC North East Coordinator
<b>In attendance</b>	Rachel Murtagh Tees Valley Nature Partnership Officer

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>LSWG/01.01.16</b> Minutes and Matters arising	GM raised guidelines for artificially created grassland sites Ian Bond had initiated.	GM agreed he would look into this
<b>LSWG/02.01.16</b> Local sites in positive management	DA has submitted SBC 'return'. They use it as a local indicator & lever to prompt funding for site maintenance. MA suggested differentiating sites that are; owned by LA's, private, other body (e.g. TVWT)	All LA partners to submit their returns to RMM by <b>5/09/16</b> so this can be ratified by the September TVNP board.
<b>LSWG/03.01.16</b> New sites & amendments to sites	New LWS: Lingdale Meadow, Skelton Ellers, Upleatham Bridge. Amendment to boundary LGS Red Howles, Marske Sands.	Agreed. Recommendation taken to TVNP board 22/09/2016 to sign off. Letter from Chair then sent to the Head of Planning at Redcar & Cleveland for LA final agreement.
<b>LSWG/04.01.16</b> New local sites system, discuss	<a href="#">Guidelines for the selection of local wildlife sites in the tees valley</a> Latest published guidance from 2010. JG suggested simplifying by removing species from criteria as protected by law already, leaving habitats.	Maintain annual reporting. Meet twice a year to agree new sites. 'Tees Valley Biodiversity Group' element to communicate via e-mail & meet as & when needed
<b>LSWG/05.01.16</b> Draft TVNP	<a href="#">TVNP Draft Plan 2016</a> <a href="#">Tees Valley Local Plan Guidance for Nature</a>	Any further comments on Planning guidance please submit to RMM by

plan	<a href="#">&amp; Biodiversity</a> Discussion on <a href="#">TV Natural Networks &amp; Opportunity Maps</a> and developing more detailed maps showing Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs)	<b>1/9/16</b> RMM to undertake some research into viability & local relevance of BOA's with GIS manager & Graham Clingan at SBC 08/09/16
<b>LSWG/06.01.16</b> ERIC NE	Redcar & Cleveland have approached ERIC to enter into a service level agreement.	FH to confirm details
<b>LSWG/07.01.16</b> New name? New remit?	Retain LWS remit – simplify. Agree on what else the group is offering as a 'service' over the next 3 years (in line with TVNP 3-year funding commitment). Task & finish group for BOA mapping? PR mentioned best practice & areas more expertise is needed. Link into TVNP forum (celebrate best practice/ CPD workshops). Proactive e.g. developing TV biodiversity offsetting criteria, mitigation guidelines, urban nature development opportunities etc.	'Tees Valley Biodiversity Group' element to communicate via e-mail & meet as & when needed  New terms of reference to be circulated by RMM for group to agree in time for September board meeting.  Members to submit x 2 e.gs of best practice share and x 2 areas would like more expertise on.
<b>LSWG/08.01.16</b> Date, time & location of next meeting	DA offered use of Cowpen Bewley again – convenient location. If share best practice could meet at these locations	TBC

**NOTE:** These minutes will be published on TVNP website w/c 05/09/16 so please inform RMM if any amendments are needed.

Rachel Murtagh 19/08/16