



NATURAL ASSETS WORKING GROUP MINUTES
2pm 06/03/19
Tees Valley Wildlife Trust HQ

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

Agenda Item NA/Item.Meeting .Year	Notes	Action
NA/01.01.19 Minutes and Matters arising	<p>Outstanding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TVNP letter to Natural England – bring to their attention that Durham Tees Valley LWS meets SSSI status for an under-designated priority habitat. 2. Terms of Reference for group circulate via e-mail. 3. Letters from TVNP Chair to SBC & MBC re outstanding LWS 4. Inform ERIC of LWS recommendations. 5. Single Data list. 6. Biodiversity Opportunity Areas. Cited in Business Plan. Await further funding to complete. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GM/RMM to draft and send. 2. ALL to review and sign off before next meeting. 3. GM & RMM to attend Planning Managers (Local Plan) & DC Planning Officers meeting on 12/03/19 to discuss. 4. GM & RMM to draft & send. 5. ALL – send to RMM for publication on website. 6. RMM – circulate East Cleveland statements for comment & maps when ready. Add list of ‘ancient meadows’ to statements.
NA/02.01.19 New sites, site amendments and potential sites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) New LWSs: recommendations for Durham Tees Valley airport & Lower Ormesby Beck - written replies not received 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) GM & RMM to attend Planning Managers & DPO’s meeting 12/03/19 to discuss. GM & RMM to formally request a steer on this matter from the TVNP

	<p>from LPAs. Agreed that LPA should be given a reasonable length of time to formally respond (90 days). Appears that the five LPAs are not co-ordinated in their designation procedures. Should this group propose the R&CBC model to the five?</p> <p>2) Potential new LWS identified: <i>Billingham Beck Saltmarsh North</i> (NZ 46416 21189) – flagged by Cleveland Nats. INCA to clarify ownership for potential access request for survey. (Phase 1 habitat map & note from ML circulated).</p> <p>3) Potential new LWS identified: <i>Billingham Beck Saltmarsh South</i> (NZ476202). INCA have surveyed, and site meets the criteria.</p> <p>4) Potential new LWS grassland site flagged, at Hardwick Dene (west of Hardwick Dene nature reserve).</p> <p>5) Discussion regarding Water Vole Report provided by Amy Carrick for Hartburn Beck LWS. Agreed that updated site-specific surveys would be useful.</p> <p>6) Discussion on loss of monitoring programme (five-yearly recommended) – noted that there are no resources for this. Discussion on recording & highlighting the loss of LWSs. Useful to report regularly to TVNP steering group.</p> <p>7) According to DEFRA guidance, responsibility to monitor LWS falls to the ‘local sites group’ Consider</p>	<p>steering group. Carry over to next meeting.</p> <p>2) Billingham Beck Saltmarsh North – land ownership INCA believe it is Scott Brothers. GM & RMM to contact, confirm ownership & request access.</p> <p>3) Billingham Beck Saltmarsh South – ML/PR to prepare LWS application, inc plan, for consideration at 12-06-19 meeting.</p> <p>4) DA to collate application, inc plan, for consideration at 12-06-19 meeting.</p> <p>5) ML to liaise with Ian Bond (INCA) re: Water Vole survey using rafts. DA to prepare plan of the site.</p> <p>6) MA to produce a spreadsheet containing details of de-designated LWSs.</p> <p>7) Carry over to next meeting.</p> <p>8) Carry over to next meeting.</p>
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	<p>putting a funding bid in for this work, as part of TVNP natural assets work.</p> <p>8) Consider recommending to LPAs that LWS are added to information given out in new property searches.</p>	
<p>NA/03.01.19 TVNP Business Plan</p>	<p>The group agreed to the following Business Plan actions assigned to NAWG:</p> <p>1) Objective 1: Protect What We Have <i>Activity 1.1:</i> Deliver our Local Sites process ensuring it is robust, clear and fully supported by the planning authorities. Milestones:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. By 29/03/19 TVNP to confirm to all LPA current process & invite comment/points of clarification. ii. By 30/09/19 agree process with LPAs. <p>2) Objective 2: Enhance What We Can: <i>Activity 2.2:</i> Develop and adopt a system of local biodiversity metrics to assess the value of current assets, set targets and measure future progress. Milestones:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. By 12/06/19 produce a paper recommending a system of local biodiversity metrics ii. By 11/09/19 consult on adoption of this with LPAs and developers. iii. By 11/12/19 obtain adoption /MoU/Protocol/Concord at on use of the system <p>PR referred to the [Bright Water?] Natural Capital work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Actions on-going. 2) Carry over to next meeting: Brief for a Natural Capital Account commission, to be drawn up by NAWG. Clarity required – does this deliver Objective 2?
<p>NA/04.01.19 Tees Valley Local Plans</p>	<p>Darlington BC & Middlesbrough BC yet to submit their pro-forma TVNP Local Plan Assessment for</p>	<p>GM & RMM to raise this issue at the Planning Managers (Local Plan) meeting.</p>

	Nature & Biodiversity, for TVNP sign-off.	
NA/05.01.19 National Lottery Community Fund Bid	Successful round 1 bid circulated. Round 2 bid to be submitted for round 2 decision at the end of May 2019. In summary: project is to be people led and involve high level of input from people at the grass roots level. Congratulations to RMM for pulling together bid to date.	
NA/06.01.19 AOB	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Create a dedicated page on the TVNP website for NAWG. Plan is to update website to be more accessible and 'user friendly' as part of lottery project. 2) Congratulations to PR who is leaving DBC to join INCA in April. 3) Welcome FH who has returned after maternity leave. 	RMM to create NAWG webpage.
2019 Meeting dates:	12 th June 28 th June - Tees Nature Conference 11 th September 11 th December All meetings: 2pm TVWT meeting room, Margrove Park.	