



*Tees Valley Nature Partnership* | **2019**

# Tees Valley Nature Partnership Steering Group

18<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Middlesbrough Football Club



**Tees Valley Nature Partnership**





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## **NATURAL ASSETS**

Protecting and improving the natural environment



Support policies & projects that ensure the protection & enhancement of the Tees Valleys natural environment

## **NATURAL GROWTH**

Nature and economy working together



Embed a Natural Capital approach across the Tees Valley

## **NATURAL HEALTH & WELLBEING**

Reconnecting people and nature



Help more people realise the health benefits of engaging with the natural environment

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# Tees Valley Nature Partnership | 2019

<b>THEME 1:</b> <b>NATURAL ASSETS</b> Protecting & Enhancing the Natural Environment	<i>Our aim: Support policies and projects that ensure the protection and enhancement of the Tees Valley's natural environment</i>	<b>Objective 1: Protect What We Have</b>
		<b>Objective 2: Enhance What We Can</b>
<b>THEME 2:</b> <b>NATURAL GROWTH</b> Nature & Economy Working Together	<i>Our aim: Embed a natural capital approach across the Tees Valley</i>	<b>Objective 3: Promote Our Natural Assets</b>
		<b>Objective 4: Support Our Mayoral Combined Authority</b>
<b>THEME 3:</b> <b>NATURAL HEALTH &amp; WELL-BEING</b> Reconnecting People & Nature	<i>Our aim: Help more people realise the health benefits of engaging with the natural environment</i>	<b>Objective 5: Further Involvement &amp; Ownership</b>
		<b>Objective 6: Improve Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>
<b>THEME 4:</b> <b>STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP &amp; MANAGEMENT</b> Ensuring the Partnerships Future Success	<i>Our aim: A strong, functioning local nature partnership for the Tees Valley</i>	<b>Objective 7: Ensure Sustainability of TVNP</b>
		<b>Objective 8: Secure Partner Engagement &amp; Ownership</b>



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# From Network to Community of Practice

Rachel Murtagh  
TVNP Manager



**Tees Valley Nature Partnership**



## How our current activities connect



\*A Tees valley where more people are connected to bigger & better wildlife rich spaces



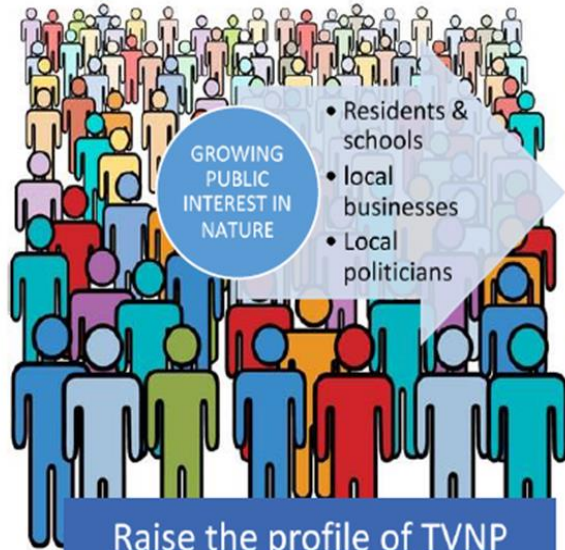


# Tees Valley Nature Partnership 2019

## BIG LOTTERY – PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAMME - PROPOSAL

Harness public love & concern for nature. Grow involvement - extend our influence

*A Tees Valley where more people are connected to bigger and better wildlife rich spaces*



GROWING PUBLIC INTEREST IN NATURE

- Residents & schools
- local businesses
- Local politicians



TVNP

- Local Groups/orgs
- Agencies & authorities
- 3rd Sector/charities

Our Purpose

- Unified voice
- Delivery framework
- Influence

### Raise the profile of TVNP

ACTIVITIES:

Marketing & promotion	Environment Awards	Feedback map	Links with industry
• Expert guidance	• Different categories	• interactive	
• Social media	• Local sponsors?		
• Website			

### Build the capacity of local groups

Training	Communication	Leadership	Small grant scheme
* Planning system	* On-line forum	* Cross partner mentoring	* Administered by TVNP
* Funding	* Newsletters	* Advice & support	* Community decision panel
* Marketing & promotion	* Conference		
* Data collection			

### Build the capacity of the partnership

Resources	Income 4 management	Communication	Expertise & Leadership
* Mapping Data	* Test income streams	* CPD for professionals	* Natural Capital
	* Chargeable services?	* Annual reports etc.	* Public health

Summary of 2019 TVNP National Lottery Community Fund bid



# Tees Valley Nature Partnership | 2019



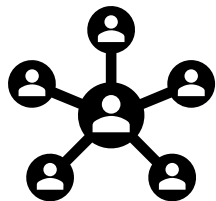
‘The future of nature is under threat and we must work together; Governments, conservationists, businesses and individuals, to help it.’

~Sir David Attenborough

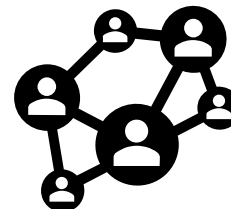


All communities of practice are networks in the sense that they involve connections among members. But not all networks are communities of practice!

**A network-** a group or system of interconnected people or things.



**A community -** group of people who identify with a common problem and engage socially to solve it.



TVNP

\*observation from social learning training 29-08-19

<https://wenger-trayner.com/resources/communities-versus-networks/>



## Leadership for Social Learning

FUNCTION	
AGENDA ACTIVIST	Shape our joint learning agenda
COMMUNITY KEEPER	Ensure that all voices are at the table
CRITICAL FRIEND	Notice what's working & what's not
SOCIAL REPORTERS	Create a shared internal memory
EXTERNAL MESSENGER	Craft a public narrative
VALUE DETECTIVE	Make the value visible

**For a resilient and dynamic community of practice all 6 functions needs to be met. These don't need to be assigned to individuals.**

# Q: How do we develop our emerging community of practice together?

Consider:

- How does the community develop outside of the meetings - formal/informal opportunities?
- How do the functions get shared amongst the community?

Feedback:

- Relevance in what we do
- Site visit to enthuse and energise existing group
- Must be relevant to 'day job'
- Wider buy in – bring someone else along from our organisations
- Use networks to broaden community
- Engage with people outside existing partnership & networks
- Publicise partnership more in each partner organisation (social media/website etc)

# SG/04.04.19 Update from Working Groups

- Natural Assets (Jeremy Garside);
- Engagement (Paul Clarke)
- Natural Capital & CPD for Planners (Eddie Halstead)
- Strategic Projects (Graeme Hull)
- Mapping (Graham Clingan tbc)

# Billingham Beck Saltmarsh South LWS

**OS National Grid Ref:** NZ 476-203

**Land ownership:** Inter Terminals (Riverside Site)

**Contact:** David Lyon (Senior Terminal Manager)

**District:** Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

**Qualifying feature:** Saltmarsh

**TVNP Qualifying criteria code:** C1

**Most recent site survey date:** 17 July 2018

**Research and survey undertaken by:** INCA (Mike Leakey and Ian Bond)

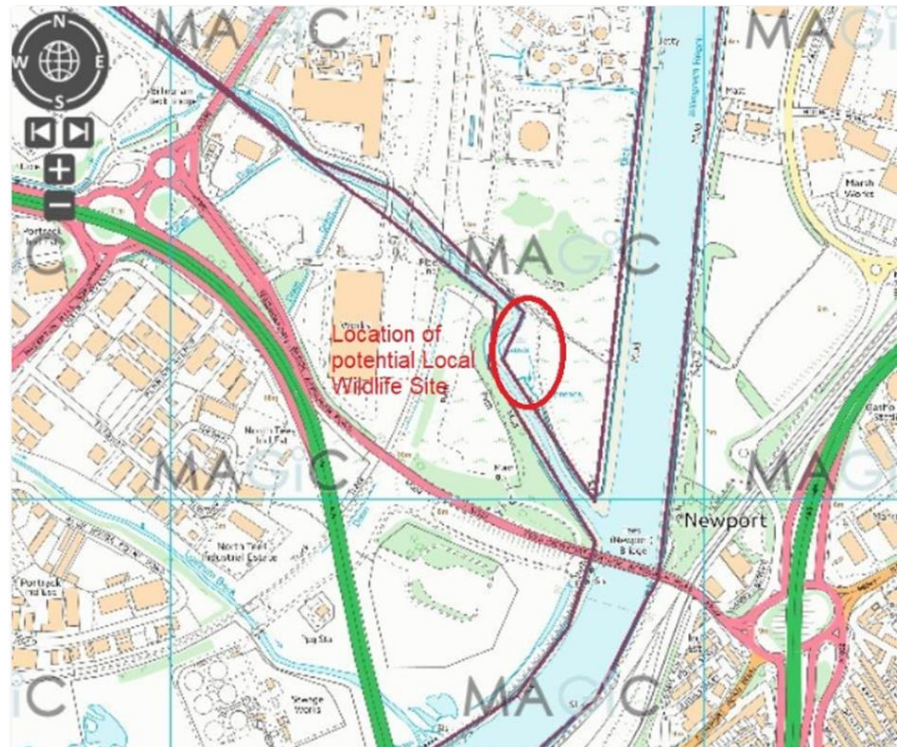
**Location of site details and evidence:** INCA Habitat Assessment Project, INCA office

**Date of LWS recommendation to TVNP:** 18/12/2019

**Recommended management:** Non intervention

**Recent management history:** None

**Site in positive management:** Yes (17/07/2018)



# Billingham Beck Saltmarsh South LWS

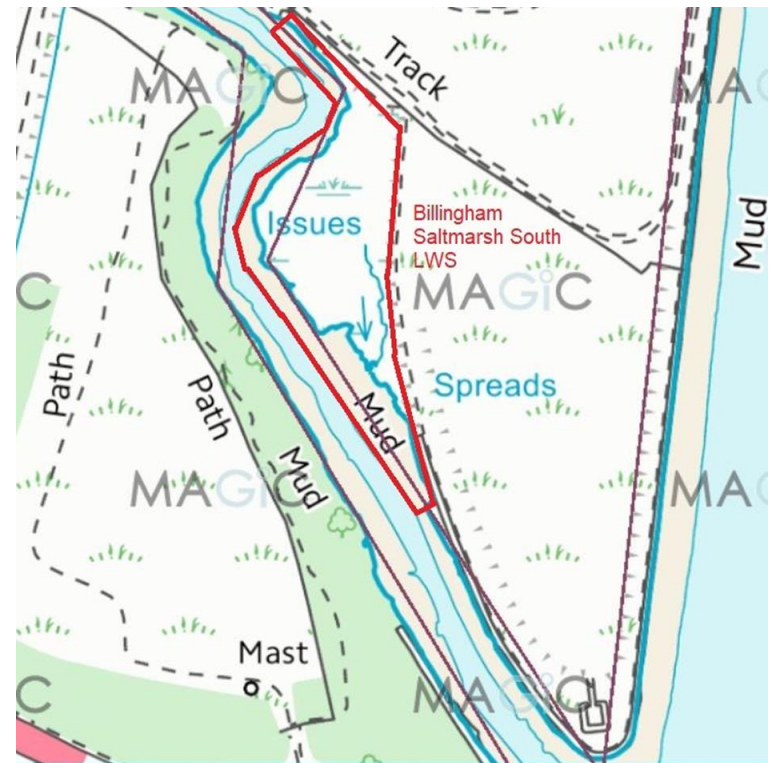
## Site description:

An **area of saltmarsh** extending to approximately 0.66 Ha on the northern bank of Billingham Beck, 300m upstream from its confluence with the River Tees.

Zonation apparently confined to mid and upper saltmarsh communities. Vegetation is dominated by Sea Couch *Elytrigia atherica* (Dominant) along with Red Fescue *Festuca rubra* (Frequent). Other **key indicator species** comprise of Saltmarsh Grass *Puccinellia* spp. (Rare), Sea Arrowgrass *Triglochin maritima* (Rare), Spear-leaved Orache *Atriplex hastata* (Rare), Grass-leaved Orache *Atriplex littoralis* (Rare), Sea Beet *Beta vulgaris* (Rare) and Sea Aster *Aster tripolium* (Rare). Percentage of bare ground: <2%.

The habitat is **used as a high-water haul-out** by small numbers of both **common and grey seals**, predominantly in summer.

The saltmarsh habitat lies outside the Inter Terminals operational site.





# Hartburn Beck LWS

**OS Nat Grid Ref:** NZ374131

**District:** Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

**Land ownership:** Stockton Borough Council

**Qualifying feature:** Water vole (*Arvicola amphibious*)

**TVNP Qualifying criteria code:** M4

**Most recent site survey date:** August 2019

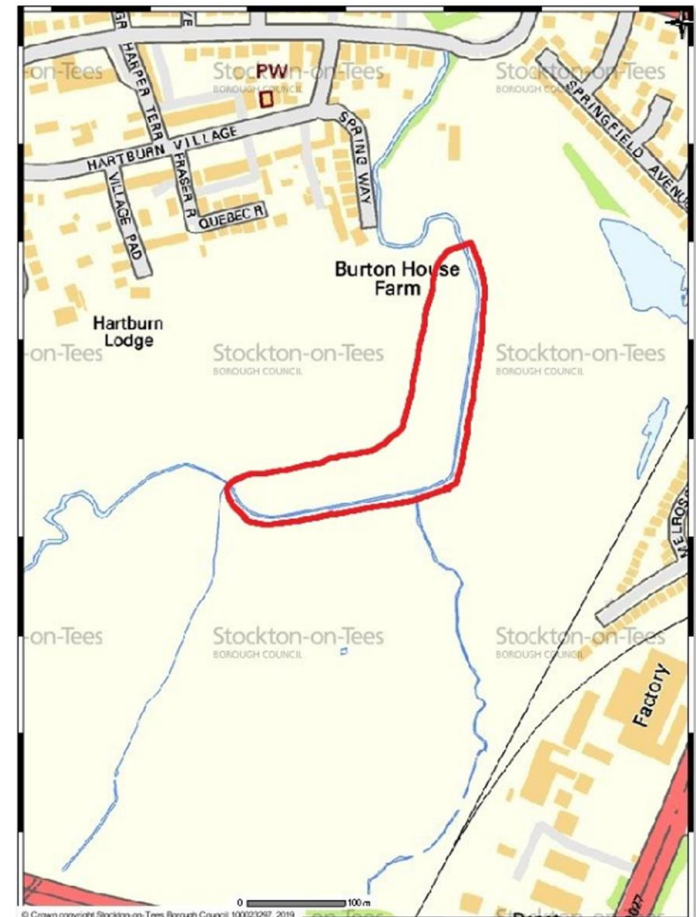
**Recent survey effort and Ecology reports:** Research undertaken by Stockton BC (David Askey) and INCA (Ian Bond). Report produced by Ian Bond. Video footage of active water vole taken by Kirsty Pollard of Durham Wildlife Trust in July 2019

**Location of site details & evidence:** Stockton BC (c/o David Askey)

**Date of LWS recommendation to TVNP:** 18/12/2019

**Recommended management:** Minimise disturbance (people, dogs, cats), monitor for American mink, eradicate American mink, maintain high water quality, avoid ground disturbance on banks including upstream, minimise water pollution (e.g. fertiliser input), ensure in-stream works are only undertaken to a 'water vole conservation management plan'.

**Site in positive management:** Yes (18/12/2019)



## Hartburn Beck LWS

### Site description:

Hartburn Beck and two smaller tributaries support a **colony of water voles** at the Stockton Borough Council owned Hartburn Fields site (aka The Six Fields).

The beck channel has previously been straightened through the main part of the site, although is still subject to seasonal flooding. Several **ponds were added in 2018 as part of an Environment Agency flood alleviation project on the Hartburn Beck / Lustrum Beck catchment**. These are included within the LWS boundary.

### Recent management history:

Informal footpath alongside a length of the beck moved further away from the watercourse in 2018. Several, variously sized ponds created in 2018..



Figure 1 shows the location of the ponds. NB: the southern group of ponds and the extreme three western ones fall outside of the LWS.

# Working Group Key Challenges:

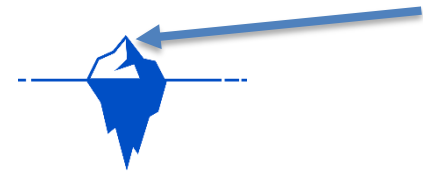
## Mapping Group:

- What do you want/what do we need from the maps?

### Feedback:

- Bankable projects
- Multi-layered accessible platform
- Landownership – other partners
- Trading element e.g. tree planting, offsetting
- Resulting opportunity – map correct place
- Development control
- Net gain – offsetting
- Local Plan

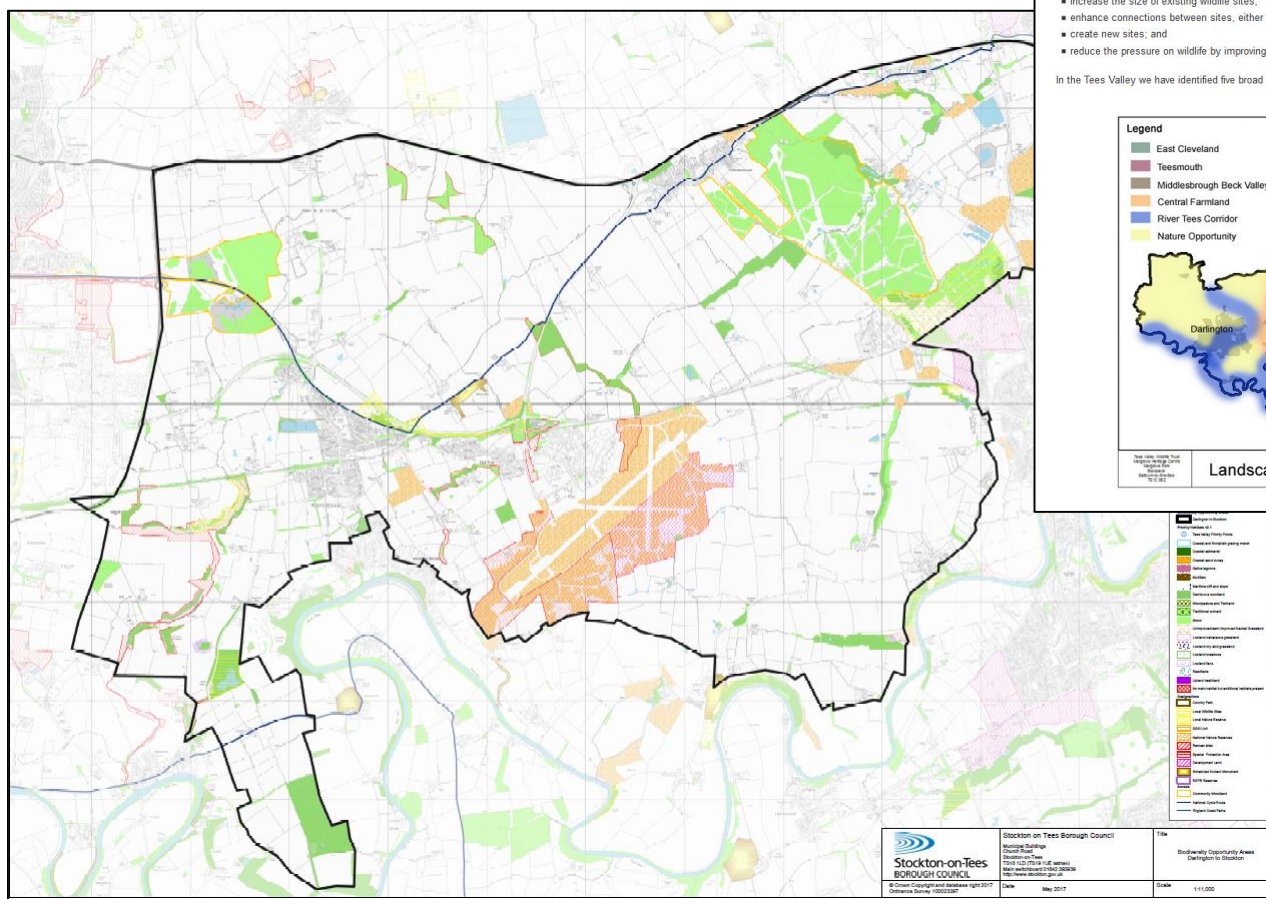
} Inform  
planning





## Pilot Biodiversity Opportunity Area Maps

<https://teesvalleynaturepartnership.org.uk/resources/natural-networks-opportunity-maps/>



## Natural Networks & Opportunity Maps

The importance of creating larger and better connected areas of natural habitat is now recognised as a key strategy for maintaining biodiversity and enabling wildlife to adapt to climate change. Many organisations are now promoting the creation of ecological networks and the use of landscape-scale approaches to conservation.

### Making Space for Nature – more, bigger, better and joined up

The Making Space for Nature review of terrestrial wildlife sites in England argued that we must:

- improve the quality of current wildlife sites by better habitat management;
- increase the size of existing wildlife sites;
- enhance connections between sites, either through physical corridors or through 'stepping stones';
- create new sites; and
- reduce the pressure on wildlife by improving the wider environment.

In the Tees Valley we have identified five broad areas of landscape type:

