



NAWG Minutes
09/09/2020
Zoom

Attending	Fiona Hurworth Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council; Dave Askey Stockton Borough Council; Martin Allen independent ecologist; Simon Blenkinsop Middlesbrough Borough Council; Rachel Murtagh TVNP; Tom Stephenson Hartlepool Council
Apologies	Phil Roxby INCA
Chair	Jeremy Garside Tees Valley Wildlife Trust
Secretariat	Louise Richards , Tees Valley Nature Partnership

Agenda Item	Notes	Action
NA/01.03.20 Minutes	Minutes and Matters arising. Review of the 10.06.20 Summary Document – no outstanding items. All items on the agenda	
NA/02.03.20 Introductions	Tom Stephenson, the new Ecologist for Hartlepool Council, welcomed to the meeting	
NA/03.03.20 Proposed LWS'	Update on proposed LWS sites: 1. St Joseph's Cemetery Grassland Outstanding LWS recommendations: 2. South Bank Station Black Path Grassland – FH has found most of the owners these are: ▪ Redcar and Cleveland Council ▪ AVIVA Rail North Ltd. ▪ Northern Gas Network Ltd However, some sections are unclear on ownership 3. Billingham Beck Saltmarsh North 4. Aislaby Grange A67 road verge Grassland – Heavily mown so difficult to identify grasses – There is also a possible plan to put in a roundabout 5. Hardwick Dene Grassland	1. St Josephs – RM to send letter to Middlesbrough Council as it was approved by Steering group 2. South Bank Station FH to send maps to MA so that he can ascertain who owns the most important sections 3. Billingham Beck is on hold until we hear from ML 4. Aislaby Grange DA to double check if this is on Stockton Land 5. Hardwick Dene – as this is separate to the existing Hardwick Dene best to call it Bishopsgarth Grassland to avoid confusion – DA has a meeting with residents, he will raise future management of site in meeting

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	<p>6. Greystones A174 central reservation Grassland Was missing a grass from grassland criteria so unclear about next steps</p> <p>7. Blackwell Grange Golf Course</p> <p>8. Stainton Way Grassland Proposal put forward by MA</p> <p>9. Brass Castle Lane Grassland</p> <p>Other Sites</p> <p>1. MA is investigating possible sites on the Castle Eden Dene walkway and near Bishopton village (Darlington) MA hasn't got the information on these together yet as some sites need owner's permission before a survey.</p> <p>2. SB reported that consideration of the Lower Ormesby Beck pLWS had progressed with support being given to an initiative to establish a nature reserve in the area.</p>	<p>6. Greystones on hold for now</p> <p>7. On hold until update from PR</p> <p>8. Stainton Way RM to put to steering group on the 16th if SB has confirmed landowner</p> <p>9. Brass Castle Lane – On hold pending further visits from MA and SB</p> <p>Other Sites</p> <p>1. MA and DA to investigate further ownership of site and MA to look at a site close by that DA has suggested JG to investigate funding opportunities for Bishopton road verges</p>
NA/04.03.20 Priorities Document	<p>Reviewing the priorities document</p> <p>A number of the priorities needed to be re-aligned with the forthcoming Environment Bill and Nature Recovery Strategy – it was decided to merge discussion with the next agenda item</p>	
NA/05.03.20 DEFRA NRN	<p>Update on DEFRA Nature Recovery Strategy - Presentation from RM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – New role for “Local Partnerships” in Nature Recovery Strategies – 5 National Pilot areas have been selected – “Local Habitat Map” and “Statement of Biodiversity Priorities” identified as initial requirements. – Should we focus on public land as this is what we can influence? – Prioritise trees on farmland and streets to absorb carbon? – Private landowners would need the right incentives to convert farmland – would need a similar amount of subsidy (biodiversity Credits) that they receive from the land already. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Need to review NAWG priorities in light of new Strategy. – Assess the work done to date on Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping, how this relates to the Local Habitat Maps – Consider how this might be resourced

NA/06.03.20 COVID Update	It's likely we will continue to use Zoom for meetings for the time being.	
NA/07.03.20 AOB	The upcoming nature and climate event was discussed at length thought included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Expand the point of view from schools to include local residents' views on nature e.g. how would they change where they live? – Include a presentation on Middlesbrough's blue/green strategy in the conference 	
Next meeting	9 th December 2.00 pm TBC	