



Steering Group Meeting Minutes 10.00 am 15/09/20

Attended	Paul Clarke Middlesbrough Borough Council; Graham Clingan Stockton Borough Council; Chris Francis RSPB; Jeremy Garside Tees Valley Wildlife Trust; Eddie Halstead Environment Agency; Ben Lamb Tees Rivers Trust; Rachel Murtagh TVNP; Andy Whitehead Natural England; Rebecca Wren Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council; Graeme Hull Environment Agency Sarah Scarr Hartlepool Borough Council; Ben Lamb Tees Rivers Trust; Clare Deasy Northumbrian Water
Apologies	David Hand Darlington Borough Council; Geraldine Brown TVCA
Chair	Timothy Crawshaw Chair TVNP
Secretariat	Louise Richards TVNP

Agenda Item	Notes	Action
SG/01.03.20 Minutes and matters Arising	<p>Minutes of the last meeting 16-06-21 accepted</p> <p>RM informed the steering group of Arcadis who are committing 100 hours to climate and environment projects in the Tees Valley, are there any organisations in the partnership who could offer the 100 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SS Hartlepool Council would have opportunities along the estuaries • GC this is something that could be picked up in the engagement group. The partnership has a role to signpost towards organisations who have a hand in this. • BL Tees Rivers Trust have some work they could use help on but for litter picking this needs to be coordinated with local street scene. 	GG Engagement group to review this in the December meeting
SG/02.03.20 Working Groups	<p>Governance Wasn't anything specific that came out of this Governance group meeting only reviewing the risk register for TVNP</p> <p>Natural Assets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Between August 2020 and May 2021 DEFRA set up 5 local nature recovery pilots across the country: Manchester, Cornwall, Buckinghamshire, Northumbria and Cumbria. These reported back on the lessons they learned in July. - The group reviewed these lessons particularly in terms of ecological data to get ahead of the next round where local authorities will have to deliver these Local nature Recovery Strategies. Didn't make any progress on LWS'. <p>Engagement Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ambassadors programme - peer to peer support for green groups to help support them in their work. Some of the volunteers are retiring from the groups or have retired during the pandemic and that the term 'Ambassadors' needed some rebranding. - Members plan - hasn't been as much progress as we would have wanted but this is something that we're developing. - Festival of Thrift - largest sustainability festival of its kind in UK, we have the 'Enlightentent' hosting talks and partner stalls for local organisations and have eco-ambassadors talking to festival goers collecting information on people's views on nature in Tees Valley. - SOTGBGW have been working on recording local speakers on climate change all the videos can be seen here 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teesside University holding a mini COP26 on the 20th of October and RM will be giving the keynote speech. - In discussions with Ormesby Hall to discuss organising the Nature recovery Network's national conference - Friends of the Earth have a green jobs summit on the 5th of October 2021. <p>Strategic projects group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aiming to have a projects summary sheet to give a quick summary of each project. Went through a number of projects including - Green Recovery Challenge Fund 2 - Groundwork have a project on revitalising our estuaries - Tees Rivers Trust have a Fish for Seas project from the start of the Tees down to the North Sea - A couple of catchment scale projects: Brightwater project on the Skerne and Living Leven partnership from the Tees Rivers Trust running to 2023/24 across the catchment - Climate Action Middlesbrough - still ongoing - You've Got This also ongoing - There are funds available, there is a flood risk environment support scheme open to all risk management authorities to mitigate flood impact, flood protection and land drainage. Relatively new and untapped. Deadline June next year. - A call for expressions of interest for championing coastal coordination role which is a 6 month project. 	
<p>SG/03.03.20 Planners workshop</p>	<p>This workshop was one of the key parts of work which was part of the National lottery bid and something we felt important to deliver with the changes coming up for planning with the Local Nature recovery networks and biodiversity net gain</p> <p>Reflections from JG Becky's information and support was fantastic as she had a good understanding of the net gain process, the stage the environment bill was at, and the work being done on the Environment Bill and the LNRS'. It helped highlight the need and where the gaps are. One of the things that is of some concern are the funding needs, DEFRA has said it will support Local Authorities as this is an extra burden and therefore there are extra requirements. Another concern is that the whole process may be too small in the Tees Valley. There will be statutory 10% net gain but areas with low biodiversity will have the same burden of working on and monitoring that net gain but a smaller gain in biodiversity. This needs looking at could we instead aim to match the UK average %.</p> <p>Reflections from GC Really useful presentations and discussion. Would we be challenged on this 10%? Also this is a minimum so there may be justification to aspire to a higher percentage, but this would only make sense if adopted across the Tees Valley as a whole. There is also an issue around local authorities ecological capacity as only Hartlepool has in house ecological expertise.</p> <p>Reflections from GH The government may be able to sell credit notes to developers which can then be spent on offsets and there is a concern that these offsets may be somewhere else, communities impacted need to be benefitted by these.</p>	<p>RM The Nature innovation hub is the TVNP response to this to help operate this at a Tees Valley level.</p> <p>RM it would be good to have another workshop when net gain comes into force.</p>

SG/04.03.20	Break	
SG/05.03.20 Draft Annual Report	RM showed the draft report that will be sent to the National Lottery Community Report The full report will be sent to the steering group once its been approved by the NLCF.	
SG/06.03.20 AOB	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GH A strategic group on flood risk wanted contact with TVNP to discuss their plans and so they could improve their plans, which group would be best to engage with them? 2. The Northeast Nature Partnership is undergoing a restructure as their manager Claire has moved roles to another organisation. VONNE is overseeing this RM will update at the next steering group. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GH Invite once to steering group and ask them to give a brief presentation. Then after that they can attend the strategic projects group regularly 2. RM will update at the next steering group.
Date of next meeting: 10am Wednesday the 15 th of September via Zoom unless stated otherwise.		