**NAWG Minutes**

**08/06/2022**

**Zoom**

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| **Attending** | **Dave Askey** Stockton Borough Council; **Paul Stevens** ERIC; **Annemarie Mehl** Tees Valley Wildlife Trust; **Simon Blenkinsop** Middlesbrough Council; **Martin Allen** independent ecologist; **Mark Harrison** Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council; **Ambroise Baker** Teesside University |
| **Apologies** | **Rachel Murtagh** TVNP; **Mark Dinning** Durham Wildlife Trust; **Fiona Hurworth** Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council, |
| **Chair**  | **Jeremy Garside** Tees Valley Wildlife Trust |
| **Secretariat** | **Louise Richards**, Tees Valley Nature Partnership  |

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| **Agenda Item** | **Notes** | **Action** |
| **NA/01.02.22** | *Minutes from the last meeting* Introduced new member Mark Harrison covering for Fiona while she’s on maternity leave **PS** ERIC has recruited people for the woodland officer roles who should be in place by July. Whitton bridge - Stockton Council have assessed the site but can’t process this further. The next step for **MA** would be to go to the environment agency or the police.  |  |
| **NA/02. 02.22** | *Update on Nature Recovery Strategies*Trying to convince the TVCA to be the accountable body for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, although they have yet to accept the role. If a Responsible Body does not step forward it will be up to Defra to appoint one, which might be Natural England, a neighbouring local authority (Durham and/or North Yorkshire) or any alternative that they might select.  | **JG** to bring this up in the summary at the steering group to possibly action.  |
| **NA/03.02.22** |  *Phase 1 & beyond digitised maps*The TVNP / NAWG had previously commissioned ERIC to digitise the historic Phase 1 maps and it was discussed how these could be accessed in order to make use of the information to formulate a Nature Recovery Strategy.**PS** reported that there might be licencing issues in connection with the Darlington data, which had been provided from a different source. In comparison, the Cleveland data could be supplied either through ERIC’s website or by transferring files to the body which is appointed to lead on the LNRS. Other preparatory work discussed at the last meeting has still to be progressed. This might be a student project if funding is still available. |  |
| **NA/04.02.22** | *NRN conference 12th & 13th of July***LR** updated the group on the NRN conference and the progress so far |  |
| **NA/05.02.22** | *Update on proposed LWS sites: Update on proposed LWS sites:* 1. [Hartburn Beck](https://teesvalleynaturepartnership.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Hartburn-Beck.pdf)
	1. Update from **JG & DA**
2. [Stillington Forest Park](https://teesvalleynaturepartnership.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Stillington-Forest-Park.pdf)
	1. Update from **JG & DA**
3. Bowesfield Nature Reserve Extension

[Proposal attached JG](https://teeswildlifeorg-my.sharepoint.com/%3Ab%3A/g/personal/tvnp_teeswildlife_org/EUZlDVr1Vx1Hv7agFpC3bj4BSMcTLrAYxf6Iqsbqm60gjw)Part of the site was never designated as an LWS, so it was proposed to extend the LWS to include the entire site *Outstanding LWS recommendations:* 1. [Aislaby Grange](https://teesvalleynaturepartnership.org.uk/200310-plws-a67-road-verge-aislaby-grange/) A67 road verge Grassland
	1. Update from **DA**
	2. The road near the airport is likely to go through the site – **MA** waiting for an update from Stockton council on this.
2. Billingham Beck Saltmarsh North
	1. Update from **DA & MA**
	2. Still waiting on a visit from **DA & MA**
 | 1. Approved and designated
2. Approved and designated
3. Proposed as an extension to an existing LWS. Agreed.
4. Waiting for further information
5. DA and MA to visit site
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| **NA/06.02.22** | *AOB / Updates from members:** Cut and remove/collect will be a problem for all councils and Middlesbrough has ordered a cut and remove machine. **MA** suggested Linthorpe cemetery as a test site for this.
* Stockton will be the lead authority on Nutrient Neutrality.
* Billingham Beck project – project is progressing with biodiversity gains calculated
* **AM** working with Middlesbrough to improve green spaces including leaving some areas uncut around Middlesbrough.
* ERIC working on an invasive species rapid response with the Rivers Trust – have been sending out surveys to local organisations about how they might manage this on sites they work on/own. Any red/blacklist species will be automatically flagged if they are recorded in iRecord/iNaturalist.
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| Next meeting  | 7th September 2pm  |