

REPORT TO ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

NATURE ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Report Reference EN-20-06
Meeting Date 25th January 2021
Agenda Item 8
Prepared by Town Clerk



1.0 UPDATE

The Nature Action Plan was adopted by the committee at the March 2020 meeting and it was agreed it would form a standing item on committee agendas to review progress.

The action plan summary is appended, to date 18 specific actions have been completed.

Since the previous meeting the bird and bat boxes have been installed at the council owned open spaces. These were all made by the Planning and Facilities Officer and installed by the Town Ranger. The Planning and Facilities Officer has collated the feedback from the planting plan consultation and is coordinating a working group meeting to finalise the plan.

The Planning and Facilities Officer will then programme the first tree planting phase for March. Subject to the COVID restrictions in force at the time, activities will be planned to involve volunteers to support the planting.

Ref	Action	Task	Responsible	Target	Status	Notes
1	One	Potential tree planting locations identified tree planting proposal prepared for committee.	WG/PFO	Sep-20	Complete	
2	One	Committee to agree tree planting plan	Committee	Sep-20	Complete	
3	Two	Town Clerk to write Cheshire East Council urging permission be given for tree planting on suitable highway verges	TC	Mar-20	Complete	CEC has stated it is undertaking a review which will be concluded towards the end of 2020. Town Clerk has chased for an update.
4	Two	Subject to agreement from Cheshire East Council, verges to be included in the tree planting plan	PFO/Committee	Sep-20	Complete	Verges included, pending permission.
5	Three	Tree Mission page set up on Town Council website	PFO	May-20	Complete	
6	Three	Launch of the tree mission	PFO	May-20	Outstanding	Will be launched shortly.
7	Three	Planning logs to be monitored and letters sent to applicants regarding replanting of trees	PFO/ASO	Ongoing	Complete	System now in place.
8	Four	Tree tracker to be included on mission page	PFO	May-20	Complete	
9	Five	Review of planting areas to be undertaken and planting schemes to be prepared to comply with the policy	PFO	Apr-20	Complete	
10	Six	Cheshire Wildlife Trust to be commissioned to create meadow annually from 2021	PFO	2021	Complete	
11	Seven	Potential verges for planting schemes identified and proposals prepared for committee	WG/PFO	Sep-20	Complete	
12	Seven	Committee to agree verges improvement plan	Committee	Sep-20	Complete	
13	Eight	Bulb planting areas to be identified	WG/PFO	Sep-20	Complete	
14	Eight	Annual bulb planting events to be organised	PFO	Oct-20	Outstanding	Not organised for 2020 due to COVID restrictions. Plans being put in place for Autumn 2021.

15	Nine	Information to be published on council website promoting hedges and hedgehog holes	PFO	May-20	Outstanding	Information being prepared and will be published within the next month.
16	Nine	Hedgehog highway campaign to encourage creation of hedgehog holes	PFO	Nov-21	Outstanding	Preliminary work completed.
17	Ten	Open spaces where hedges could replace or complement fences identified and planting plan prepared	WG/PFO	Sep-20	Complete	
18	Ten	Committee to agree hedge planting plan	Committee	Sep-20	Complete	
19	Eleven	Target landowners identified to encourage planting of trees and hedges to connect green corridors	WG/PFO	Sep-20	Outstanding	
20	Twelve	Project established with landowners to create wildlife corridor from Bluebell Wood to the Heath	WG/PFO	Jun-20	Outstanding	
21	Twelve	Planting undertaken on open space on Longridge to extend wildlife corridor from St Johns Wood	PFO	Mar-20	Outstanding	To be included in first phase of planting plan implementation.
22	Twelve	Engagement with Cheshire East Council and Developer to link Booths Mere to wildlife corridor from St Johns Wood	WG/PFO	Jun-20	Outstanding	Pending a planning application being submitted to identify the route of the corridor
23	Thirteen	Identification of suitable ponds for planting schemes	WG/PFO	Sep-20	Outstanding	Preliminary work commenced by working group. Planting plan has been prioritised.
24	Fourteen	Bird / bat boxes to be installed in Wallwood	Committee	Mar-20	Complete	Boxes will be installed shortly.
25	Fourteen	Bird / bat boxes to be installed on Higher Town Green	Committee	Mar-20	Complete	Boxes will be installed shortly.
26	Fourteen	Bird / bat boxes to be installed near Obelisk	Committee	Mar-20	Complete	Boxes will be installed shortly.
27	Fourteen	Bird / bat boxes to be installed in Cemetery	Committee	Mar-20	Complete	Boxes will be installed shortly.
28	Fourteen	Bug hotels to be installed in Wallwood and Higher Town Green	Committee	Aug-20	Outstanding	First hotel installed in Wallwood
29	Fifteen	Project established to undertake tree mapping across Knutsford	WG/PFO	Aug-20	Ongoing	

