

Meeting notes

Meeting Title:	Local Nature Partnership Board Meeting
Date:	9 September 2021
Time:	10:00 – 12:30
Location:	via Microsoft Teams
Present:	Robin Teverson (RT) Chair, Carolyn Cadman (CC) Deputy Chair, Wesley Smyth (WS), Oliver Baines (OB), Nick Bruce-White (NB-W), Martin Howlett (MH), Peter Marsh (PMar), Cllr Steve Watt (SW), Cllr Martyn Alvey (MA), Clarissa Newell for Helen Dobby (CN), Paul Masters (PMas), Ilya Maclean (IM)
In attendance:	Lorna Gaunt (Minutes), Philippa Hoskin (PH), Carl Warom (CW)
Guests:	Emma Browning, Cornwall AONB Manager and Ruth Williams, Marine Conservation Manager, Cornwall Wildlife Trust

Item	
1	<p>1.1. Apologies, items for AOB <i>Apologies:</i> Karen Burrows (KB), Tom Hooper (TH), Steve Ford (SF), Sophie Hosking (SH) <i>AOB:</i> none</p> <p>1.2. Minutes of previous Board Meeting Minutes approved.</p> <p>1.3. Matters Arising and Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G7 update - A range of terrestrial and marine projects will go to the Legacy Project Board after which CC will communicate project details. • Terms of Reference – the Safeguarding Assurance clause to be sent to Board Members for approval. • SSSi – Penwith – face to face meetings are taking place with land owners who might be affected. There will be a 4 month public pre-notification consultation period, with a planned notification date of November 2022. <p>1.4. Chair's report RT's report was circulated with papers ahead of the board meeting; these were some of the highlights: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELMs - RT had a good meeting with South West LNP Chairs about the opportunities offered by ELMS. RT to chase feedback. • RT keen to focus on what the LNP does next year. There will be 1:1 conversations with individual board members to find out their views.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Bill – is going through the last stage for amendments during October before becoming an act before COP26. Government has put forward amendments intended to strengthen the bill around: the ecological crisis; air quality; meeting targets; environmental principles; and the Office of Environmental Protection’s enforcement functions. • RT has submitted a bid to the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust for a local liaison officer to support Parish and Town Councils with their work on climate change and biodiversity. The board discussed this role and approved the initiative. Who would host the role is to be decided. <p>RECOMMENDATIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To note the report – NOTED 2. To agree the proposal to seek funding for a biodiversity and climate change local liaison officer - AGREED
2	<p>Executive report</p> <p>PM’s Executive Report was circulated ahead of the meeting. The highlights were: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farming in Protected Landscapes – both Cornwall and Tamar Valley AONBs are co-ordinating their approaches. • Investing in Nature - Cornwall has successfully been awarded funding for 3 out of 27 national Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund projects which aim to explore innovative mechanisms to drive private investment in nature and tackle climate change. • Broadway Initiative – Martyn Alvey will be speaking at this event alongside Defra officials and CEOs. • Cornwall Sustainability Awards – growing greener: sustainable food and farming is a notable new category. • Black to Nature – PM met with Cllr Nicole Broadhurst, the Chair of the Race Equality Forum. Cllr Broadhurst might be able to help with practical steps available to the LNP to better engage with a range of range of minority groups. <p>Comments from the board include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In response to the recent IPPC report the board were reminded that 2 further reports are expected • OB has been asked to sit on the FiPL panel <p>RECOMMENDATION: to note the report - NOTED</p>
3	<p>Sub Committee Update</p> <p>The Sub Committee Update paper was circulated with papers ahead of the meeting and was taken as read.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION: to note the report – NOTED</p>
4	<p>Isles of Scilly</p>

	<p>Cllr SW gave an update from the Isles of Scilly: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Nature Recovery strategy – working with Kate Sugar from Natural England; concerns about producing the LNR with limited staff and funds. • Environment Growth Strategy – approved at Full Council in July – working on the Scilly supplement as there are no forests, lakes or rivers on the Isles of Scilly. Tanya Saker (TS) has a meeting to get data to inform the supplement. • AONB management plan – approved at Full Council; next step is to pick up with Defra. • FiPL – comms went live from Monday through AONB. • Climate Change Action Plan – TS is preparing the plan for the IoS which is due to go to Full Council in October. <p>Comments from the board: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Burden funding will be available to local authorities apportioned by population size. • Who should be responsible for Local Nature Recovery Strategies is being considered. • PM has spoken to Sajid Javid and is planning to speak to Robert Jenrick with a proposal to reduce bureaucracy and improve funding. <p>Recommendation: to note the report - Noted</p>
5	<p>Environmental Enforcement Working Group</p> <p>NB-W informed the board that the first meeting of the working group was held last week. The initial discussion found that the subject is large and complex and poorly understood. Finding ways to simplify and explain how environmental regulation works would be useful. The focus could be on better education so enforcement isn't required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The three main areas that the group are considering concentrating on are: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Agriculture ○ Water ○ Waste <p>The proposal is to carry out a task around communications, raising awareness - a public facing campaign.</p> <p>Board comments: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Septic tank effluent isn't included in legislation (IoS). • Water conservation issue on IoS. • Is marine and fisheries considered within 'Water' section? • There isn't currently a lot of enforcement activity around water regulations. • Highlighting what has worked well/successful enforcement was seen as a good approach. • Another area to focus on is lack of developers applying conditions? <p>Action: to come back to October's Board Meeting with update on progress – NB-W</p>

6	<p>Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL)</p> <p>Emma Browning, Manager of the Cornwall AONB, was introduced to the board and gave an update on the above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's a 3 year programme giving grant funding for farmers and land owners • There has been a lot of interest from farmers and land owners coming forward for applications that they want to deliver. 50 Expressions need to be delivered in 1 year. • Defra have provided a National Framework Document and a 4 page applicant guide. • Cornwall AONB have 12 sections to cover • The framework document shows the scoring criteria including the Local Management Plan. In addition to this EB explained they also use LNRS priorities and Environmental, Adaptation & Resilience objectives and the Heritage Strategy to provide data. • There is a panel this month • In year 2 they want to reach out to harder to reach groups. <p>The board had the following comments: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can there be a rollover because of the short timetable? The answer being no. • Can this be shared as a good example? EB said it is shared through a national forum and there is also a working group to feed into.
7	<p>Funding Opportunities Landscape</p> <p>Philippa Hoskin lead on this item and explained the background to the funding landscape paper which Carl Warom and Ester Curry had also worked on.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report containing information on funding streams was circulated ahead of the meeting. • PH would be reporting on the Pipeline Projects at the next board meeting having recently undertaken a stocktake. • This scoping work is important to ensure that nature is considered at the beginning or a project rather than at the end. • In a lot of cases if funding is successful there is a very short deadline to complete the work. • Bids are oversubscribed and therefore very competitive leading to a failure to address climate and ecological emergencies. <p>Recommendation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. that the LNP Board note these funding streams - NOTED 2. that the LNP supports the communication of these as an online digital funding repository on the LNP website, and support the ongoing horizon scanning to keep this list up to date as a resource for partners – SUPPORTED
8	<p>Roundtable/Board Member Updates</p> <p>Board Members gave individual updates.</p>

9	<p>Highly Protected Marine Areas (HPMAs)</p> <p>Ruth Williams (RW), Marine Conversation Manager from Cornwall Wildlife Trust joined the meeting to give an update on HPMAs.</p> <p>RW explained that CWT had been working to persuade DEFRA to choose a Highly Protected Marine Area (HPMA) pilot site in Cornwall/Scilly waters. CWT have put together proposals for three potential sites: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whitsand and Looe Bay 2. South West approaches to Bristol Channel Marine Conservation Zone 3. The Bizzies <p>There is significant community support for the Whitsand & Looe Bay proposal however the SW approaches to the Bristol Channel is the strongest proposal. The Bizzies (which comes within the Fal and Helford area) is flagged as an incredibly rich biodiverse area.</p> <p>The submission was made in August and the ecological criteria is now being looked at. The shortlist of 20 sites should be available in December with a further shortlisting down to 10 by the end of December. A public consultation is scheduled for the end of 2022 before announcing the 5 pilot sites.</p> <p>There is a need for early, transparent, inclusive and sensitive action as this will impact on fishing activity. This approach of early engagement was endorsed by the LNP.</p> <p>CC said that there is an agenda item on the next Fisheries Stakeholder Group with Cornwall Council, NGOs and other key stakeholders. CC to report back after 13 October meeting. It is worth noting that there is a unified approach with the LEP who have been working on a draft strategy with the Cornish fishing sector.</p> <p>Action: consider if Natural England or Defra representative is needed at the 13 October Fisheries Stakeholder Group meeting. CC, RW and WS to discuss</p>
10	<p>AOB</p> <p>None</p>
	<p>Dates of Next Meetings – 18th November 2021</p>