

Meeting notes

Meeting Title:	Local Nature Partnership Board Meeting
Date:	9 March 2023
Time:	09:30 – 12:00
Location:	via Microsoft Teams
Present:	Robin Teverson – Chair (RT), Ruth Jury for Cherilyn Mackrory’s office (observer), Wesley Smyth (WS), Cllr John Bastin (Cllr JB) for Cllr Martyn Alvey, Mark Rice (MR), Julian Branscombe (JB), Matt Walpole – Deputy Chair (MW), Rebecca Williams (RW), Nick Lawrence (NL), Clare Parnell (CP), Cllr Steve Watt (SW) for Cllr Harry Legg, Phil Mason (PM), Sian Rees (SR)
In attendance:	Philippa Hoskin (PH), Mark Holmes (MHol), Lorna Gaunt (note taker)
Guest:	None

1	Apologies, items of AOB, Minutes, Matters Arising & Actions and Chair’s report
1.1	<p>Welcome, thank you, apologies & items for AOB</p> <p>Apologies received from Vicky Fraser, Martin Howlett, Sarah Houghton</p> <p>AOB – Magnesium Hydroxide release at St Ives Bay</p>
1.2	<p>Minutes of previous Board Meeting</p> <p>Minutes approved.</p>
1.3	<p>Matters Arising and Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MMO presentation was shared with minutes of the last meeting and a discussion was had at the Executive Mtg. • LNP response to the proposed Devolution Deal has been submitted.
1.4	<p>Chair’s report (full report circulated with the board papers)</p> <p>Report taken as read. RT highlighted the following: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farming in Protected Landscapes – further to the AONBs letter to government officials, RT has also spoken to Lord Benyon and Trudy Harrison about the successes of FiPL (which benefit from local decision making and support) and an extension to the funding has now been agreed. • Attended the Prosperity Advisory Panel Sub Group - there is an exciting opportunity coming up around nature and green environment. CP will be sitting on a Rural SPF

	<p>Group around food, fishing and farming issues. Community growing schemes continues and is going well.</p> <p>Recommendation: to note the report – noted</p>
2	<p>Executive Report (full report circulated with the board papers)</p> <p>Report taken as read. MHol highlighted the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Nature Recovery Strategy – PH’s team are engaging with Defra ahead of the statutory guidance and news on the new burdens funding being released. • South West Water and The West Country Water Resource Group have launched consultations on their long-term strategic plans for water management; deadlines are 6th May and 6th April respectively • LNPs Ecological Emergency Summit COP2 - tickets are available for the on 19 May • Environmental Enforcement and Compliance review - CC have appointed the University of Exeter’s new Centre for Environmental Law as a partner; they have match funded £15,000. A Task and Finish group will be set up in the next few weeks. LG to contact MW regarding dates. <p>Comments on Executive Report:- WS – Penwith SSSI designation is in the process between formal consultation and Natural England Board meeting; the outcome as to whether the site will be confirmed will be known on approx. 10 May.</p> <p>Recommendation: to note the report – noted</p>
3	<p>Investment</p> <p>MH lead the item and the highlights were: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council were invited to put in bid for Local Investment in Natural Capital and have been successful. Funding will be allocated to Cornwall Council for 2 years. <p>Questions and answers: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will there be projects that fit the bill? Yes, projects from the Investment Pipeline are being prepared in readiness for private finance. Defra have said that funders are lined up • Has consideration been given to who the trusted intermediaries are, land agents, etc. Yes, trusted intermediaries are lined up to work with landowners to build up trust to sign up to schemes. • Has there been any connection with the G7 project which looks at green finance and investment readiness. Yes, the team are working on this. • Standardised monitoring of outputs is recognised as being an important part of this programme of work. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Applications are invited for Shared Prosperity Funding around green and blue spaces. Strategies to Mitigate the Cost of Living - Shared Prosperity Fund (ciosgoodgrowth.com)

4	<p>Isles of Scilly update</p> <p>RW gave an update, the highlights were: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LNRS – currently working on this especially around mapping • Organising LNP Board meeting which will take place on IoS including a walk to the Higher Moors wetland site managed by IoS WT and Porth Hellick beach to see the sea defence project work as part of the Council’s Climate Adaptation Project • Continued working with AONB partnership – there are some good projects <p>Board comments: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IM said UofE has some resource (Jonathan Mosedale) who could work with IoS on mapping work • CP – all funding for FiPL for this financial year has been allocated. More support is being sought to help with FiPL moving forward. • Cllr SW – adaptation work on St Mary’s almost finished. • IFCA byelaw review – proposed research into marine habitat changes; awaiting byelaw sign off by the Secretary of State. It would allow for small otter board trawling to track changes in the natural environment.
5	<p>Sub Committee Updates (full report circulated with the board papers)</p> <p>Report taken as read. Additionally: -</p> <p>Evidence Group – IM is carrying out some fact finding for a potential biosphere reserve in Cornwall; will draw up a feasibility assessment.</p> <p>Marine Liaison Group – Planetary Tech proposal for an experiment to reduce acidification in the sea in Cornwall. Will be picked up under AOB.</p> <p>Recommendation: to note the report – noted</p>
6	<p>Sub Group Review Update (full report circulated with the board papers)</p> <p>PH referred to the report; in September 2022 the LNP Board endorsed the recommendations of a review of the LNP Sub Groups aiming to ensure that our local partnership framework is fit for purpose for enabling the sector and stakeholders to collectively deliver on the target of 30% land, rivers and sea well managed for nature by 2030.</p> <p>Progress has been made on the review and there are further proposals based on discussions with representatives from some of the key sub-groups:-</p> <p>Proposals</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The LNP endorses the continuation and strengthening of the various groups 2. LNP should invite chairs of key sub-groups to Board meetings for a dedicated slot on a rotating basis and continue to obtain brief updates from ALL of the subgroups for Board meetings papers 3. The LNP Board members consider if they can join any of the subgroups on an occasional or regular basis to strengthen links 4. The LNP should encourage all subgroups to review their membership, identify any gaps and take steps to invite appropriate new members or organise special sessions on specific topics eg farming and nature

	<p>5. The LNP should encourage all subgroups to consider inviting Isles of Scilly representatives to become members where this does not already occur.</p> <p>6. All subgroups to include a standing agenda item for an LNP update, which could be delivered by a LNP Board member representative or Officer. This can also act as a conduit for asks of the group to the LNP.</p> <p>7. The LNP endorses measures to enable to the Cornwall Biodiversity Initiative (CBI) to evolve into becoming the Nature Recovery on Land subgroup, including support to find a mechanism for secretariat support.</p> <p>8. LNP to formally acknowledge the role of the sub groups as the operational counterparts to the LNP for facilitating the delivery of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, focussing on the target that 30% land, rivers and seas should be well managed for nature by 2030</p> <p>Board comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr SW – IoS would welcome proposal No 5. • IM would raise with UofE the possibility of them providing secretariat support to the Evidence Group. Action: IM to raise with colleagues at UofE - IM • Cllr John Bastin would like to join the CBI which was welcomed and on that point elected members becoming more involved in these types of groups was further welcomed. • Ask sub group chairs if there are any asks of the LNP when gathering updates for the Sub Group Update board report. Action: ask sub group chairs re asks of LNP - LG <p>Recommendations: The LNP supports the proposals set out above – supported. It was also agreed to include the following: Wherever possible the groups should be supported by a full secretariat service.</p> <p>Action: LG to produce a document showing sub group dates/times - LG</p>
7	<p>Climate Change Risk Assessment</p> <p>MH lead the item starting with a presentation. In summary:-</p> <p>This Cornwall Council commissioned report details what the impacts of climate change will have locally. It aligns with regional, national and international assessments. It has been produced by Climate Change Risk Management, led by Professor Stephan Harrison. It shows the impacts for Cornwall, the land, the residents, the premises etc. It is publicly available and can be used by anyone for decision making – there is an accessible Summary Report.</p> <p>The next step is to produce an adaptation strategy for Cornwall.</p> <p>Comments/questions and discussion points from the board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NL – good news stories would be good for promotion around this. MHol - the community and engagement plan will contain information and actions that can be taken at specific areas, through Council channels or other routes. Some activities have already started at Looe and Mevagissey, for example. Any other examples the board can share would be welcomed. • MR - How will the various local adaptation strategies mesh together? There will be an overarching strategy for Devon, Cornwall and IoS. Development of a Cornwall Adaptation Strategy will then provide a framework for the development and alignment of local adaptation strategies.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IM – to a large extent mitigation of risks to the environment can be achieved through nature recovery. MHol – agreed that nature based solutions will be the direction of travel, with some hard measures • NL – the National Trust has site specific information that can be shared. Action: MHol or one of the team to speak to NL - MHol • WS – would like to make links between NE team and MHol’s team on this. This will likely affect Coastal Management Plans and future scenarios for special protected sites. • PM – made a point about behavioural change, the challenge of whether people understand what needs to be done and how to change the way we think. The Council with all its other demands cannot be the funder for all the necessary work. The Council has to ensure that all activities are complementary to its aims and objectives rather than using bespoke funding streams. There has to be a partnership approach. National government needs to guide. • WS – marine sector needs to be brought on board, with MMOs being put in place and signing up to adaptation plans • CP – how we manage fisheries moving forward is important and needs to be considered in the adaptation plan
8	<p>Environmental Improvement Plan Deferred to the next board meeting on 11 May 2023.</p>
9	<p>LNP Conference</p> <p>The conference will be on 19th May at Heartlands. Tickets are available through Eventbrite. Trudy Harrison has expressed interest in attended to speak at the event. We’re thrilled that Richard Benwell will be speaking again this year. Tevi are able to provide some funding for the event. This year we are looking for new pledgers to achieve our target of 10,000 hectares of land well managed for nature. Wild Card have been commissioned to help with publicity and promotion. We will hear from last year’s pledgers about their progress. There will be an LNP question time which the board are encouraged to be on.</p>
10	<p>Roundtable - Board members gave verbal updates</p>
11	<p>AOB</p> <p>IM – Planetary Technical are proposing to release magnesium hydroxide into Hayle Waste Water Treatment Works. MR – this would need a variation to SWW environment permit. MR to update on any application and report back to next meeting. Action: MR to report back at next board with any update on variation to permit</p>