



COMMUNITY AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE

Tuesday 20 March 2018 at 7.30 pm

Council Chamber - Epsom Town Hall

The members listed below are summoned to attend the Community and Wellbeing Committee meeting, on the day and at the time and place stated, to consider the business set out in this agenda.

Councillor Barry Nash (Chairman)
Councillor Tony Axelrod (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Rekha Bansil
Councillor Kate Chinn
Councillor Hannah Dalton

Councillor Jane Race
Councillor Humphrey Reynolds
Councillor Jean Steer
Councillor Clive Woodbridge
Councillor Tella Wormington

Yours sincerely

Chief Executive

For further information, please contact Tim Richardson, 01372 732122 or trichardson@epsom-ewell.gov.uk

AGENDA

1. QUESTION TIME

To take any questions from members of the Public.

Please note: Members of the Public are requested to inform the Democratic Services Officer before the meeting begins if they wish to ask a verbal question to the Committee.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in respect of any item of business to be considered at the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 3 - 6)

The Committee is asked to confirm as a true record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 23 January 2018 (attached) and to authorise the Chairman to sign them.

4. REVIEW OF DISCRETIONARY GRANTS POLICY (Pages 7 - 10)

The Committee approved a new Private Sector Housing Grants Assistance Policy in June 2017 that included discretionary grants. Due to administrative burdens which have been realised since the launch of the scheme, Officers are requesting an amendment to the Policy to remove the imposition of charges on discretionary works under £5,000. Removal of the charge will allow for cases to be progressed in a timely manner, and the most vulnerable residents would receive assistance without unnecessary delay.

The Committee is asked to determine if the request to amend the Policy should be approved.

5. EPSOM & EWELL LOCAL BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN - ANNUAL UPDATE 2017 (Pages 11 - 64)

A report on progress during 2017 in implementing the Epsom & Ewell Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2020.

6. VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANTS AND FUNDING 2018/19 (Pages 65 - 72)

This report considers the general future support of voluntary organisations in 2018/19.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the COMMUNITY AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE held
on 23 January 2018**

PRESENT -

Councillor Barry Nash (Items 20-22 and 24-29 only) (Chairman); Councillor Tony Axelrod (Items 20-22 and 24-29 only) (Vice-Chairman); Councillors Kate Chinn, Neil Dallen (as nominated substitute for Councillor Hannah Dalton), Jane Race, Humphrey Reynolds, Jean Steer, Clive Woodbridge and Tella Wormington

In Attendance: Councillor Richard Baker (Item 20-25 only) and Councillor David Reeve (Item 20-25 only)

Absent: Councillor Rekha Bansil and Councillor Hannah Dalton

Officers present: Damian Roberts (Chief Operating Officer), Rod Brown (Head of Housing and Community), Ian Dyer (Head of Operational Services), Andrew Lunt (Head of Venues & Facilities), Russell Blackmur (Business Development Manager), Oliver Nelson (Environmental Health Team Leader), Jan Strivens (Accountant), Teresa Wingfield (Senior Accountant) and Tim Richardson (Democratic Services Officer)

20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interests were made by members of the Committee with regard to items on the agenda:

Civil Penalties under the Housing and Planning Act 2016 for Private Sector Housing Enforcement

Councillor Barry Nash, Disclosable Pecuniary Interest: Owner of rental property within the Borough.

Councillor Tony Axelrod, Disclosable Pecuniary Interest: Owner of rental property within the Borough.

21 QUESTION TIME

No questions were received from members of the public.

22 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 9 October 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

23 CIVIL PENALTIES UNDER THE HOUSING AND PLANNING ACT 2016 FOR PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING ENFORCEMENT

The Committee received a report requesting that it determine the charging structure for civil penalties for certain Housing Act offences.

Following consideration, the Committee:

- (1) Approved the charging structure set out in Annexe 1 to the report.
- (2) Delegated to the Head of Housing and Community the determination of individual financial penalties in accordance with the charging structure.

24 HEALTH AND WELLBEING POSITION STATEMENT

The Committee received a report outlining the Council's current position in the delivery of Health and Wellbeing to residents, and proposing the development of a borough Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

The following matters were considered:

- a) **The Council's role as a facilitator.** The Chairman of the Council's Health Liaison Panel, Councillor Richard Baker, addressed the Committee to detail the Panel's involvement in developing the draft Health and Wellbeing Position Statement and Action Plan. It was noted that the Council's role was predominantly that of a facilitator, not an implementer.
- b) **Measurement of outcomes.** Following a question from a member of the Committee, the Head of Housing and Community informed the meeting that measuring the impact of actions within the action plan was challenging, as they were only likely to become apparent over an extended period of time. In some instances this would be a number of years. It was noted that the action plan and position statement would be reviewed in the future, to enable this measurement to be undertaken.

Following consideration, the Committee:

- (1) Noted the Council's current approach to supporting Health and Wellbeing activities within the Borough as set out in the Health and Wellbeing Position Statement and Action Plan in Annexe 1 to the report, and that these would be reviewed in the future to provide measurement of their outcomes.
- (2) Agreed to the development of a Borough Health and Wellbeing Strategy to incorporate identified local priorities as well as those set out in the Surrey's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (Annexe 2 to the report).

25 SCRUTINY REVIEW OF EPSOM PLAYHOUSE

The Committee received a report presenting the Report of the Scrutiny Review Task Group on Epsom Playhouse, and asking it to agree the report's findings. The following matters were considered:

- a) **Scrutiny Review report.** The Chairman of the Council's Audit Crime & Disorder and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor David Reeve, addressed the Committee to introduce and detail the findings of the Scrutiny Review Task Group's Report.
- b) **Review of actions as a result of the Scrutiny Review.** The Committee requested that a plan of actions to be taken as a result of the Scrutiny Review be presented to it in October 2018 and reviewed in October 2019.

Following this, the Committee:

- (1) Considered the Report of the Scrutiny Review Task Group attached at Annexe 1, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Committee System) (England) Regulations 2012.
- (2) Agreed the findings of the Scrutiny Review Task Group set out in its report including, in particular, that Epsom Playhouse should continue to deliver its services to the community and that staff should continue their work to reduce the overall costs of running the theatre. Additionally, the Committee requested that a plan of actions to be taken as a result of the Scrutiny Review be presented to it in October 2018 and reviewed in October 2019.
- (3) Agreed that officers should explore implementation of the matters listed in the conclusion of the Scrutiny Review Task Group report under the headings 'Income Generation', 'Equipment' and 'Building', taking into consideration operational viability, legal implications and financial constraints.
- (4) Agreed to receive future reports, as appropriate, on those matters identified by officers as having potential positive business opportunities for Epsom Playhouse.

26 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2018/19

Committee received a report proposing the 2018/19 capital programme and provisional programme for 2019-21.

Following consideration, the Committee:

- (1) Submitted the Capital Programme for 2018/19 as identified in section 4 and 5 of the report to the Council for approval on 20 February 2018.
- (2) Confirmed that it supported all of the schemes included in the provisional programme for 2019-21 as identified in section 6 of the report.

And noted that:-

- a) Schemes subject to external funding from Disabled Facilities Grant would only proceed when funding had been received.
- b) schemes for 2019-21 were provisional pending an annual review of funds available for capital investment.

27 FEES AND CHARGES 2018/19

The Committee received a report recommend fees and charges for which it is responsible, with the new charges being effective from 1 April 2018. It was noted that a revised version of the report had been published as a supplement to the agenda, and replaced the copy included in the original agenda pack.

Following consideration, the Committee:

- (1) Authorised the Chief Finance Officer to vary fees and charges for items generating income under £1,000 per annum and/or for one-off services or items.

And subject to the approval of Council:

- (2) Agreed the fees and charges for 2018/19 as set out at Annexe 1 to the report.

28 REVENUE BUDGET REPORT

The Committee received a report setting out the estimates for income and expenditure on services in 2018/19.

Following consideration, the Committee:

- (1) Recommended the 2018/19 service estimates for approval at the budget meeting of the Full Council on 20 February 2018.

29 OUTSTANDING REFERENCES

The Committee noted the outstanding references detailed in the Annexe to the report.

The meeting began at 7.30 pm and ended at 8.49 pm

COUNCILLOR BARRY NASH (CHAIRMAN)

REVIEW OF DISCRETIONARY GRANTS POLICY

Report of the:	Head of Housing & Community
Contact:	Rachel Jackson
Urgent Decision?(yes/no)	No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:	n/a
Annexes/Appendices (attached):	None
Other available papers (not attached):	Private Sector Housing Grants Assistance Policy

Report summary

The Committee approved a new Private Sector Housing Grants Assistance Policy in June 2017 that included discretionary grants. Due to administrative burdens which have been realised since the launch of the scheme, Officers are requesting an amendment to the Policy to remove the imposition of charges on discretionary works under £5,000. Removal of the charge will allow for cases to be progressed in a timely manner, and the most vulnerable residents would receive assistance without unnecessary delay.

The Committee is asked to determine if the request to amend the Policy should be approved.

Recommendation (s)

- (1) That the Committee agrees to amend the Private Sector Housing Grants Assistance Policy (Discretionary Grants Programme) to remove the legal charge on grants under the value of £5,000.**

1 Implications for the Council's Key Priorities, Service Plans and Sustainable Community Strategy

- 1.1 The recommendation in this report relates to the Council's Key Priorities of "Managing our Resources" and "Supporting our Community".

2 Background

- 2.1 In June 2017, this Committee approved a new Discretionary Grant programme which is funded and made possible through flexibility in the grant that the Council receives through the Better Care Fund. This enables the delivery of the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) programme.
- 2.2 At that time Officers produced a Policy which sought to introduce a wide range of discretionary grants to assist vulnerable residents, and that where grants are awarded, then these would be subject to a property charge secured against the property as is allowed for under the Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance) (England & Wales) Order 2002 ("RRO"). However, since the launch of the scheme it has become apparent that as the works are discretionary (albeit still funded by the mandatory programme) then it is not a simple process of levying a land charge, but it is necessary to impose a legal property charge.
- 2.3 This process is long, with a number of forms having to be completed, signatures being required to be witnessed, the applicant being advised to take independent financial advice, and our Legal Services team having to submit a formal application. The process may be seen as quite alarming for a vulnerable resident, and could perhaps take weeks to complete.
- 2.4 Whilst there is of course a need to protect public funds, the process means that vulnerable residents requiring a "quick win" grant (such as victims of crime needing door locks or other security measures, or a resident living without hot water and heating and in need of a boiler) would have to wait weeks for the works to be completed, rather than being able to have a completion in a matter of days. The intention of the discretionary grant programme however, is to help our vulnerable residents in urgent need. It is therefore proposed that the policy be amended to remove the property charge for works under £5,000 which would allow officers to process cases much more quickly.
- 2.5 For works over £5,000, the grant would be subject to the legal charge. The charge may only be applied to privately owned and occupied properties.
- 2.6 Whilst it may appear that there is a loss of potential revenue to the Council by modifying the policy, the following factors should be taken into account:
 - 2.6.1 The "pay back" of grants under the process is not a guarantee, as this only applies for 10 years after the date of completion of the works (for example, the grant will not be repaid if the grant recipient lives beyond this time, or has dependants remaining in their home after this period).

- 2.6.2 The lengthy process of imposing a legal charge is not an efficient use of officer time, and due to the administrative burden would only create a waiting list of applications and deferment of DFG caseloads.
- 2.6.3 The administrative processes that are currently required under the policy should not be to the detriment of vulnerable residents who the Council is able to assist.
- 2.6.4 The intention of the discretionary grant should not be seen as a potential income stream (although fees are earned for all cases), but a method of assisting our residents.
- 2.6.5 The policy would then be aligned with the DFG programme where works over £5,000 are subject to charge
- 2.7 It should be noted that in all cases, the grants are subject to an agency fee for works undertaken by the Council – currently 7.5% of the total works, which does generate revenue.

3 Proposals

- 3.1 That the Committee determines if it agrees to the amendment to the Policy so that only works covered by the discretionary grants policy in excess of £5,000 be subject to the legal charge.

4 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 4.1 Keeping the charge on works below £5,000 would cause significant pressures on the Council's resources. There is very limited staffing within the Housing Grants Team, whose primary purpose is to deliver the mandatory DFG programme. By reducing the administrative processes, this would enable works to be completed in a timely manner and less burden on the existing workload. Retaining the charge would result in a waiting list for clients, and pressures on the Team.
- 4.2 The Discretionary Grants programme will only be available whilst the Better Care Fund grant provides funds in excess of the total needed for delivery of the mandatory DFG.
- 4.3 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** As income from charges on property is erratic and contingent upon unpredictable future events it is not budgeted, so not applying legal charges on works under £5,000 would not result in negative budget implications.

- 4.4 However, some actual future repayments could be lost to the Council, if properties were sold within ten years of completion of works without a charge being in place. Of the 13 cases completed since approval of the policy in June 2017, four have been for owner-occupiers and thereby subject to a charge. All were all for urgent boiler works at an average cost of £2,000 each. As the first £1,000 cost is ignored, if all four properties were sold within the next ten years, £4,000 could become repayable to the Council.
- 4.5 The Council charges fees of 7.5% on all completed works, irrespective of value.

5 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

- 5.1 ***Monitoring Officer's comments:*** The RRO gives powers to local authorities to provide assistance to any person in order to adapt, improve and repair living accommodation. Assistance can be in any form and may either be unconditional or subject to conditions. Where assistance is provided under the RRO, a legal charge can be registered at the Land Registry to secure repayment of the assistance given if the property is sold within a prescribed time. All owners will need to sign the legal charge document and the legal charge should be registered at the Land Registry prior to any assistance being provided in order to protect recovery of the grant. Legal Services is working with the Grants team to prepare a legal charge.

6 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

- 6.1 None.

7 Partnerships

- 7.1 The Housing Grants Team work closely with Surrey County Council, Surrey Police, Age UK and other agencies to ensure the most vulnerable receive assistance.

8 Risk Assessment

- 8.1 The revised policy will ensure we have a consistent approach when administering grants under the Better Care Fund grant allocation.

9 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 9.1 The Committee is recommended to agree to the amendment to the Policy so that only works in excess of £5,000 be subject to the legal charge in line with the DFG.

Ward(s) Affected: (All Wards);

EPSOM & EWELL LOCAL BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN - ANNUAL UPDATE 2017

Report of the:	Head of Place Development
Contact:	Stewart Cocker
Urgent Decision?(yes/no)	no
If yes, reason urgent decision required:	
Annexes/Appendices (attached):	<u>Annexe 1</u> - Local Biodiversity Action Plan – Annual Update 2017
Other available papers (not attached):	Epsom and Ewell Local Biodiversity Plan 2010-2020

Report summary

A report on progress during 2017 in implementing the Epsom & Ewell Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2020.

Recommendation (s)

- (1) That the Committee notes progress during 2017 in implementing the Epsom and Ewell Local Biodiversity Plan.**

1 Implications for the Council's Key Priorities, Service Plans and Sustainable Community Strategy

- 1.1 The Epsom & Ewell Local Biodiversity Action Plan addresses all four of the Council's Key Priorities:
- 1.1.1 "Keeping the Borough Clean and Green" – by guiding the implementation of open space management plans.
 - 1.1.2 "Supporting our Community" – by encouraging and supporting volunteers, and encouraging healthier lifestyles through regular access to nature.
 - 1.1.3 "Managing our Resources" – by helping to ensure the sustainable management of the Borough's environmental resources (Ecosystem Services).

- 1.1.4 “Supporting Businesses and our Local Economy” – by guiding planning policy and helping maintain a green and attractive place to live and work.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Borough’s first biodiversity action plan was produced by the Epsom & Ewell Local Biodiversity Action Plan Working Group and approved by the Council in 2010.
- 2.2 The plan contains 7 objectives, comprising 23 targets with 45 actions. It should be noted that the Working Group has no set budget to directly assist in implementing the plan and consequently is restricted to a coordinating/prioritising role with the plan as an essential guide and tool. That said, all members of the Working Group continue to be able to contribute to the implementation of the plan through the course of their normal duties.
- 2.3 The plan does have suggested dates for the achievement of actions which assists in prioritisation but does not provide a measure of success or failure, especially given the current time and resource constraints on those working to implement the plan.
- 2.4 The report attached at Annexe 1 summarises progress made during 2017 against the plan’s seven objectives.

3 Proposals

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to note progress during 2017 in implementing the Epsom and Ewell Local Biodiversity Plan. The report will be posted on the biodiversity pages of the Council’s website.

4 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 4.1 **Chief Finance Officer’s comments:** None for the purposes of this report.

5 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

- 5.1 The local authority has a duty under section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 to have regard when exercising its functions, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity
- 5.2 **Monitoring Officer’s comments:** The legal issues have been addressed in the report.

6 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

- 6.1 None for the purposes of this report

7 Partnerships

- 7.1 The Working Group, although not a formal partnership, includes Surrey Wildlife Trust, Surrey County Council and the Lower Mole Partnership.

8 Risk Assessment

- 8.1 If we do not publish progress in implementing our biodiversity action plan we could be deemed to be failing in our 'Biodiversity Duty' as a public body.

9 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 9.1 Posting the report on the Epsom & Ewell Borough Council website is the most cost effective way of keeping residents informed about progress in implementing the plan and encouraging their active involvement and it is recommended that it is published on the biodiversity pages alongside the previous reports.

Ward(s) Affected: (All Wards);

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Epsom & Ewell

Biodiversity Action Plan



Progress report for 2017

Introduction

During 2017 the Epsom & Ewell Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) Working Group oversaw good progress in implementing the plan which can be viewed here:

<https://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/residents/planning/planning-policy/BiodiversityActionPlan.pdf>

The importance of Biodiversity:

Biodiversity encompasses the whole variety of life on Earth. It includes all species of plants and animals, their genetic variation, and the complex ecosystems of which they are part. It is not restricted to rare or threatened species but includes the whole of the natural world from the commonplace to the critically endangered.

The intricate network of ecosystems, habitats and species comprising biodiversity provides the support systems that sustain human existence. It provides many of the essentials of life, our oxygen, water, food, clothing, health and relaxation. Consequently, humanity must adopt sustainable ways of living that ensure the protection of biodiversity.

Today we live in a world where the economic activities of an ever increasing human population threaten biodiversity which is being lost at an ever increasing rate. Britain alone is known to have lost 100 species during the twentieth century and today over 40% of priority habitats and 30% of priority species are declining nationally.

There is a broad consensus around the world that we need to act now, or risk handing our children a world we would not recognise as planet Earth!

The 'Working Group' currently comprises the following individuals:

Mark Berry: Head of Place Development, Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

Stewart Cocker: Countryside Manager, Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

Sarah Clift: Senior Countryside Officer, Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

Peter Howarth: Countryside Officer (Ecologist) Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

Jeremy Young: Tree Officer, Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

John Edwards: County Ecologist, Surrey County Council

Alastair Kirk: Surrey Biological Record Centre Manager, Surrey Wildlife Trust

Conor Morrow: Project Officer, Lower Mole Countryside Partnership

Kevin Morgan: Locally based ecologist and environmental consultant

The plan agreed in 2010 contains 7 objectives, comprising 23 targets with 45 actions. It should be noted that the 'Working Group' has no set budget to directly assist in implementing the plan and consequently is restricted to a coordinating/prioritising role with the plan as an essential guide and tool. That said, members of the 'Working Group' continue to be able to contribute to the implementation of the plan through the course of their normal duties

The plan does have suggested dates for the achievement of actions which assists in prioritisation but does not at this stage provide a measure of success or failure, especially given the current time and resource constraints on those working to implement the plan.

This report summarises progress made during 2017 under the plans seven objectives. Where appropriate updates from previous reports are given along with new items for 2017. **Please note activities reported on can contribute to and be relevant to more than one objective.**

TV presenter and naturalist **Chris Packham** is a wildlife expert, photographer and author with a passionate concern for conservation and the environment. In 2012 Chris agreed to write the foreword for the Epsom & Ewell Local Biodiversity Action Plan.



When you are a kid size matters and thus the magnificent male Stag Beetles emergence was an eagerly anticipated annual event. A nearby street had some monstrous oaks and a diversion from the normal route to school would pay dividends and fill my jam jars. To be fair these creatures have lost none of their allure over the years but now it's not just their size that matters, it's their importance as a flagship species - they along with the Oaks which nourish their peculiar larvae. So I'm not surprised that you have chosen them as your local heroes to champion the Biodiversity Action Plan - and you have impressive numbers of these giants too!

In simple terms any communities' biodiversity is a measure of its health and stability. The more niches that are filled the better the natural machine will function and prosper. Thus nationally, regionally and locally we have constructed plans which aim to protect and enhance the richness of life at these respective levels. All have their roles but local strategies are tremendously important because they are implicitly governed by those who live, work and influence that community - these are formulated, enacted and enjoyed by those 'on the ground'. They are about 'personal wildlife conservation'!

In these days where doom and gloom are a constant temptation, I remain optimistic about our abilities to make a difference because we have such a well-stocked armory of abilities to effectively conserve life. We have studied it, tested it, we know what we need to do. The introduction of grazing on Epsom Common has seen superb revivals in butterfly and plant diversity and even established a future for a population of the charismatic Yellowhammer. This has only



been achieved by many years of tireless volunteer endeavor - an essential component of contemporary conservation.

And ultimately this success is good for us to. We uniquely have a conscience so we have to try to do what we know is right, but also we can enjoy a better quality of life as a result, the sight of a Stag Beetle whirring across the dusk sky or the charming song of the Yellowhammer with its 'little bit of bread but no cheese' can make your day. And that's the real key here; it will make your day and not mine, because the borough of Epsom and Ewell is yours. You mend it, restore it and protect it and you can revel, be proud of and enjoy it! Superb!

Chris Packham 2012

Progress during 2017

Objective 1: *Develop partnerships to ensure that the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in Epsom and Ewell is maintained in the long term.*

Update:- During 2017 the Surrey Local Nature Partnership (SNP)-Biodiversity Working Group continued in its role of assisting the SNP board with identifying biodiversity priorities and to promote better coordination of biodiversity initiatives across the County. EEBC are represented on the Group. Priorities for the working group are how best to achieve the governments 'Biodiversity 2020' targets, formal adoption and revision of Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOA's), revision of criteria and formalising the process of designating Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) and supporting volunteer recording efforts across the County. Following the production by Surrey Wildlife Trust of BOA's policy statements in 2015, the working group has been investigating ways of implementing a delivery strategy for BOA's, which in Epsom & Ewell includes woodland and a chalk grassland BOA. BOA are recognised in EEBC planning policy and the policy statements are set to play a role in defining the Boroughs forthcoming 'Green Infrastructure' policy.



Pond Wood in Horton Country Park Local Nature Reserve, designated 'Ancient Woodland', SNCI and part of a Surrey Woodland BOA

Update:- The proposed service level agreement (SLA) between the Surrey Biological Records Centre and Epsom & Ewell Borough Council (EEBC) has been slowly progressed during 2017 and looks set to be agreed in 2018. This builds on the 2015 no cost data exchange agreed for the Borough's Open Spaces, with all newly recorded data sent to the records centre from which it is freely accessible by EEBC. The aims of the proposed SLA are to improve knowledge and information exchange regarding all species and in particular European protected species which should assist with planning applications, Surrey BAP habitat mapping and invasive exotic species.

Update:- EEBC continues to strongly support local groups actively involved in conserving and enhancing biodiversity within the Borough. For example, the Epsom Common Association, Nonsuch Voles and the Lower Mole Partnership (LMP), formerly the Lower Mole Countryside Management Project. The name change reflects changes made following a review of the Surrey Countryside Management Projects. There is now one board overseeing the work of the Lower Mole, Downlands and Heathlands Partnerships with EEBC continuing to be a funding partner in the Lower Mole Partnership. The EEBC Countryside Team has continued with a weekly volunteer conservation task held on Thursdays, during 2017, 409 volunteer days were recorded, carrying out practical conservation work closely aligned to the LBAP which has a value of approximately £22,495 using the Heritage Lottery valuation of unskilled volunteer work at £55 per day per volunteer (Please note some work is classed as skilled and could command a higher value of £100 per day per volunteer)



Volunteers from Ashted Common, Lower Mole Partnership and EEBC Countryside Team at the 2017 Epsom & Ashted Commons Joint Task
January 2017



Volunteers from the Lower Mole Partnership in the workshop at Horton Country Park LNR making sign posts 2017



Epsom Common Association ECOVOLS working with residents in Bramble Walk to manage scrub on Epsom Common LNR March 2017



Agenda Item 5
Annexe 1
Countryside Team Volunteer using a pole saw to cut back an over shading branch on the Hogsmill LNR summer 2017

Update:- During 2014 the Woodland Trust purchased a very large area of land at Langley Bottom Farm to create a First World War memorial woodland. This is a major initiative for the Trust who now have a memorial wood in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The farm is partly in the Boroughs/Districts of Epsom & Ewell, Mole Valley and Reigate & Banstead. The initiative will protect and hopefully enhance the biodiversity of this land in perpetuity. The Trust has held public consultation events for local residents and has consulted with EEBC and neighbouring districts. In 2015 the Trust were informed by the Forestry Commission that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was required due the scale of the tree planting proposals. Similarly an EIA has also been requested by the three district planning authorities (Epsom & Ewell, Mole Valley and Reigate & Banstead) for the car parking and visitor centre proposal. Following the successful completion of the EIA the Trust recommenced tree planting in 2017 following guidelines that ensure a balance is maintained between new woodland and areas retained as either arable fields to conserve rare arable plants and bird nesting habitat or grazed fields to conserve calcareous grassland.



View across Langley Bottom Farm

Update:- In 2014 the new Surrey Wildlife Trust (SWT) Nature Reserve and SNCI at Priest Hill was opened, representing a huge gain for biodiversity in the Borough. The reserve was set up following negotiations between the Developer, EEBC and SWT and allowed for a small number of houses to be built on 'Green Belt' whilst protecting the vast majority of the land in perpetuity through the creation of the nature reserve which SWT have agreed to take on and manage. In January 2017 following on from 2015 & 16 the EEBC Countryside Team volunteers assisted SWT Ranger Rachael Thornley by clearing scrub. In addition SWT applied for planning permission for an enlarged pond on the reserve in 2017, conservation grazing using cattle is now well established.



Countryside Team Volunteers enjoying a well-earned break on a very cold and wet Priest Hill
January 2017

Objective 2: *Ensure the conservation and enhancement of habitats and species, as specified nationally and in the Surrey Habitat Action Plans*

Update:- During the Autumn of 2015 Horton Country Park Local Nature Reserve received a potentially very significant habitat enhancement. To assist the developers of the adjacent former West Park Hospital the Council were agreeable to the creation of two off-line balancing ponds to manage excess surface water run-off from the former hospital site that has been redeveloped for housing and is now called Nobel Park. In return the developers agreed to the creation of a new wetland using the Greenman Stream that flows through the Country Park from its source on Epsom and Ashted Commons. Both the balancing ponds and the wetland have the potential to provide a significant habitat enhancement and both will be closely monitored and managed to maximise their benefit. During 2017 both the wetland and balancing ponds have continued to naturalise. For example an Emperor dragonfly has been seen laying eggs in the wetland and newts have been recorded in the smaller balancing pond which is retaining water as planned providing a new pond.



New balancing pond in Horton Country Park LNR just after construction January 2016 and September 2017



Emperor dragonfly laying eggs in the new wetland in Horton Country Park LNR



Newt eft found in the new balancing pond in Horton Country Park LNR

New: During September 2017 'Field Pond' in Horton Country Park LNR was part de-silted by the Lower Mole Partnership using funds provided by the Lower Mole Trust and Friends of Horton Country Park. In recent years 'Field Pond' has been successfully protected from dogs by a fence (See report under Objective 4) and EEBC Countryside Team volunteers have cut back over shading vegetation in preparation for de-silting. The pond is being closely monitored and the expectation is that its spectacular revival of recent years will be consolidated.



Lower Mole Partnership about to begin work to desilt Field Pond in Horton Country Park LNR September 2017



Field Pond in Horton Country Park LNR shortly after de-silting and again in December 2017

New: During 2017 the Friends of Rosebery Park in Epsom paid for the installation of bat boxes in several trees hoping to provide increased summer roosting habitat for the Pipistrelle bats that are present in the park.



New bat boxes being installed in Rosebery Park, Epsom summer 2017

Update:- Managing public access plays a very important role in protecting fragile habitats especially on busy urban fringe sites like Epsom Common LNR and Horton Country Park LNR. For example, the provision of good quality footpaths and bridleways helps to protect the nationally and internationally important wildlife on the Epsom & Ashted Common Site of Special Scientific Interest. During 2017 Lower Mole Partnership volunteers constructed and installed two new information boards in Horton Country Park LNR, extended the ditch alongside the recently restored path on Epsom Common to help protect the new path surface and constructed and installed a new memorial bench donated by a member of the public. The continued creation of woodland edge habitat on Epsom Common has brought both ecological benefits but also made for a much more open and safer feeling experience for visitors. New benches and information boards alongside paths on the Hogsmill Local Nature Reserve help encourage residents to use the reserve and get closer to nature.



EEBC Countryside Team Volunteers constructing a wood chip path in Horton Country Park LNR spring 2017



Lower Mole Partnership volunteers installing a memorial bench on Epsom Common LNR summer 2017



The completed bench!



Horton Country Park LNR new information board installed by Lower Mole Partnership volunteer's autumn 2017

Update:- In 2012 EEBC and the City of London paid jointly for a National Vegetation Class (NVC) survey of Epsom and Ashted Commons as a follow up to the 2001 NVC survey. The survey highlighted the progress made in diversifying habitats especially through the re-introduction of grazing. However, the report also highlighted the continuing loss of areas of species rich grassland to scrub encroachment. To address this the Countryside Team Volunteers commenced a restoration programme during late summer 2013 which is continuing with the aim of both restoring areas and ensuring long term maintenance. This process was continued in 2017 with volunteer's returning to Churchside Meadow, Christchurch Glade, Baron's Meadow and Railway Meadow.



Epsom Common LNR Churchside Meadow, EEBC Countryside team volunteer raking in cut August 2017

Update:- Despite some serious vandalism to electric fencing at the start of the season grazing on Epsom Common took place successfully again during 2017 with 23 cattle from early May to early-September. The herd again comprised of Belted Galloway and Dexter crosses. 2016 saw a significant increase in size to the largest grazing area called 'Great Pasture' with the inclusion of 'West Heath' where grazing has now helped to control bracken. Volunteers once again played a vital role carrying out daily checking and maintaining the grazing area to ensure the continued success of the Borough's flagship habitat conservation and enhancement initiative. The nature conservation benefits of grazing continue to surprise

and delight all those involved. Of particular note are the significant increases in butterfly populations and flowering plant species and strong indications that grazing is benefiting the reptile population in particular Adders.



Epsom Common LNR summer 2017, cattle grazing on West Heath (part of the 2016 extension with very little bracken left!), vandalism to a squeeze in Rye Meadow May 2017 and Countryside Officers Sarah Clift and Lindsay Coomber saying goodbye to the cattle in Great Pasture for another year in September 2017

Update:- Work to restore and protect veteran trees on Epsom Common LNR and Horton Country Park LNR took place again during winter 2016/2017 with canopy reduction work carried out on veteran trees on Epsom Common and Horton Country Park. This twenty year programme of works is carried using funds secured through the Environmental Stewardship Higher Level Scheme 2010-2020.

Update:- In 2015 veteran trees were identified as 'Heritage Assets'. Development proposals that involve or have an impact upon an identified

Heritage Asset, or its wider setting, will be required to provide an assessment of the Asset, the potential impacts on the Asset and any appropriate mitigation measures that will be required. In 2017 the initial process of mapping potential veteran trees across the Borough, was completed. The eventual aim is to provide a comprehensive inventory of veteran trees to help ensure their retention as 'Heritage Assets'.



Epsom Common LNR veteran
tree survey work



Veteran Oak discovered in Mounthill Gardens
park, Epsom October 2017

Update:- Woodland management at Horton Country Park LNR under the Environmental Stewardship Higher Level Scheme continued during 2016/2017 with volunteers coppicing a section of Sherwood Grove, planting hazel trees and erecting deer fencing in Butcher's Grove and also dismantling deer fencing in Four Acre Wood as previous coppice matures.



Butcher's Grove in Horton Country Park LNR, EEBC Countryside Team
volunteers erecting deer fencing and planting hazel trees March 2017



Four Acre Wood in Horton Country Park LNR
EEBC Countryside Team volunteers
dismantling deer fencing winter 2017



Beside Four Acre Wood in Horton Country Park LNR,
EEBC Countryside Team volunteers rolling up the
retrieved Tenax mesh for future deer fencing winter
2017

In 2015 for the first time since Lower Mole Partnership volunteer's recommenced restorative coppicing in Butcher's Grove in 1983, coppicing was carried out by a woodsman at no cost to EEBC. After 30 years of volunteer effort the value of the coppiced Hazel is now high enough to cover the woodsman's cost of coppicing, however it should be noted that the cost of deer fencing to ensure future coppice has to be covered by grant aid and installed by volunteers. Sadly in 2017 whilst coppicing in Butcher's Grove took place the woodsman is now no longer active in Surrey. The search for a new woodsman will continue so that our volunteers can carry out other vital nature conservation work.



Woodsman John Sinclair processing
coppiced Hazel winter 2014/15



Butcher's Grove in Horton Country Park LNR,
Primroses are returning as a result of coppicing!
March 2017

Update:- Since the 1960's more than 90% of orchards have been lost in England. During 2012/2013 EEBC worked with the London Orchard Trust (Now called the Orchard Trust) to restore two orchards in Horton Country Park LNR both formerly within the Long Grove Hospital Grounds. 2017 has been a very active year! Volunteer effort focused on clearing encroaching scrub from around some of the old apple and pear trees in Lambert's Orchard and feeding the trees with a mulch of surplus wood chips provided by the Borough's tree contractor ATS Tree Services. In addition the EEBC Countryside Team worked with the Orchard Trust to provide volunteer training.



Horton Country Park LNR in Lambert's Orchard EEBC Countryside team and Lower Mole Partnership volunteer's applying a woodchip mulch to the base of a pear tree in Lambert's Orchard February 2017



Horton Country Park LNR in Lambert's EEBC Countryside volunteers clearing scrub around a pear tree prior to mulching September 2017



Horton Country Park LNR in Lambert's Orchard EEBC Countryside Team volunteers collecting apples for juicing before the Apple Day event autumn 2017



Horton Country Park LNR volunteer's receiving training from the London Orchard Trust in Lambert's Orchard February 2017

Update:- Work to conserve and enhance rough grassland in Horton Country Park LNR and the Hogsmill LNR has been taking place since 2008 using a rotational approach which prevents the grassland disappearing under encroaching scrub. 2017 saw the continuation of this vital habitat maintenance work carried out by both volunteers in the most sensitive areas (Ant Hills) and by an EEBC tractor using a hired flail collector.



Hogsmill LNR Countryside Team volunteers clearing rough grassland and encroaching scrub near Chamber Mead summer 2017

At Horton Country Park LNR a hay crop continues to be taken in cooperation with the Equus Equestrian Centre. Flower rich meadows have declined by 97% since the 1930's making the hay meadows in the Country Park an unusual and special sight.



Horton Country park LNR Burnham's Grove
part cut and cleared autumn 2017



Horton Country Park LNR hay making in
Little Westcotts summer 2014

Update:- During 2017 work was again carried out to help conserve a very species rich area of Chalk grassland (internationally scarce) at Juniper Hill on Epsom & Walton Downs. The Downs Keeper's have been trying to keep scrub from encroaching for many years and volunteer's assisted again clearing both grass and encroaching scrub.



Juniper Hill, Epsom Downs chalk grassland management summer 2017

Update:- During 2017 further work to conserve chalk grassland was carried out by volunteers from the Lower Mole Countryside Partnership with clearance of scrub on Epsom Downs golf course, helping conserve flower rich chalk grassland including Kidney Vetch the food plant of the scarce Small Blue Butterfly.



Epsom Downs Golf Course, volunteers from the Lower Mole Partnership clearing scrub to conserve chalk grassland later

The Small Blue butterfly continues to benefit from creating scrapes which involves using a small excavator to remove top soil and expose the less fertile chalky substrate which encourages the growth of Kidney Vetch, the larval food plant for the butterfly. In addition at their new Priest Hill nature Reserve, Surrey Wildlife Trust have also been creating suitable habitat by removing the tarmac from former tennis courts and spreading Kidney Vetch seed from nearby Howell Hill Nature Reserve on the exposed chalk. With known breeding populations identified at Warren Farm, Howell Hill Nature Reserve and Epsom Downs it was hoped that the Small Blue would colonise the Priest Hill scrapes. During the summer of 2015 Small Blue were discovered on the reserve. **SUCCESS!**



Howell Hill Nature Reserve, Small Blue Butterfly laying an egg
on Kidney Vetch

Objective 3: *Ensure opportunities for the conservation and enhancement of the whole biodiversity resource in Epsom and Ewell are identified considered and acted upon*

Update:- In 2015 the EEBC Countryside Team began to take on a new role of scrutinising and advising on the ecological aspects of planning applications in the Borough, making better use of the available in house expertise and helping ensure the implementation of Development Management Policy Document DM 4 'Biodiversity and nature Conservation/New development' (See below). During 2017 the Countryside Team became formal consultees in the planning process providing in-house expert advice on biodiversity and in particular protected species and trying to ensure no net loss of biodiversity. The role and policy continue to prove effective with advice given for numerous applications which have been significantly improved with regard to biodiversity. This consolidates a key aim of the LBAP, Target 3.1 'Ensure conservation and/or enhancement of biodiversity become a key part of the decision making process within the planning function of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council'.

DM 4 Biodiversity and Nature Conservation

2.16 The term 'biodiversity' encompasses the whole variety of life on Earth. It includes all species of plants and animals, their genetic variation, and the complex ecosystems of which they are part. It is not restricted to rare or threatened species but includes the whole of the natural world from the commonplace to the critically endangered. Maintaining biodiversity helps to promote the stability, sustainability and resilience of ecosystems, is an important national objective and a 'Duty' for all public bodies as defined by the Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006. The Borough's location on the edge of the countryside is strategically important, with the Green Belt and the many green spaces within the built up areas acting as reservoirs for flora and fauna.

2.17 Conserving and enhancing biodiversity are important objectives in meeting the Borough's aim of achieving no net loss of biodiversity, in line with Paragraph 118 of the National Planning Policy Framework. Development that fragments existing habitats will be avoided and, where possible, opportunities to create links (green corridors) to those habitats

that are already isolated will be identified and realised. We will actively seek opportunities to increase biodiversity within the Borough, which will include, where possible, the creation of new habitats. For example, within the Hogsmill Local Nature Reserve a number of stretches of the River Hogsmill have been identified in the South London River Restoration Strategy as potential sites for river enhancement or restoration.

2.18 In cases where there is no alternative location for the proposed development, the applicant must provide evidence that a sequential approach has been applied and that there will be no net loss of biodiversity. We consider reasons of overriding public interest as being related to human health, public safety and the beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment.

2.19 The Council has adopted a document entitled “Biodiversity and Planning in Epsom and Ewell” for development management purposes. The guide assists in the process of identifying when and where biodiversity in Epsom and Ewell will need to be protected by the planning system, as well as assisting in identifying opportunities to deliver biodiversity enhancements.

Policy DM4: Biodiversity and New development

Development affecting existing or proposed nature conservation sites and habitats of international, national or local importance will only be permitted if:

- (i) The development would enhance the nature conservation potential of the site or is proven to be necessary for the conservation management of the site; or*
- (ii) there is no alternative location for the development and there would be no harm to the nature conservation potential of the site; or*
- (iii) there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the development*

Elsewhere in the Borough:

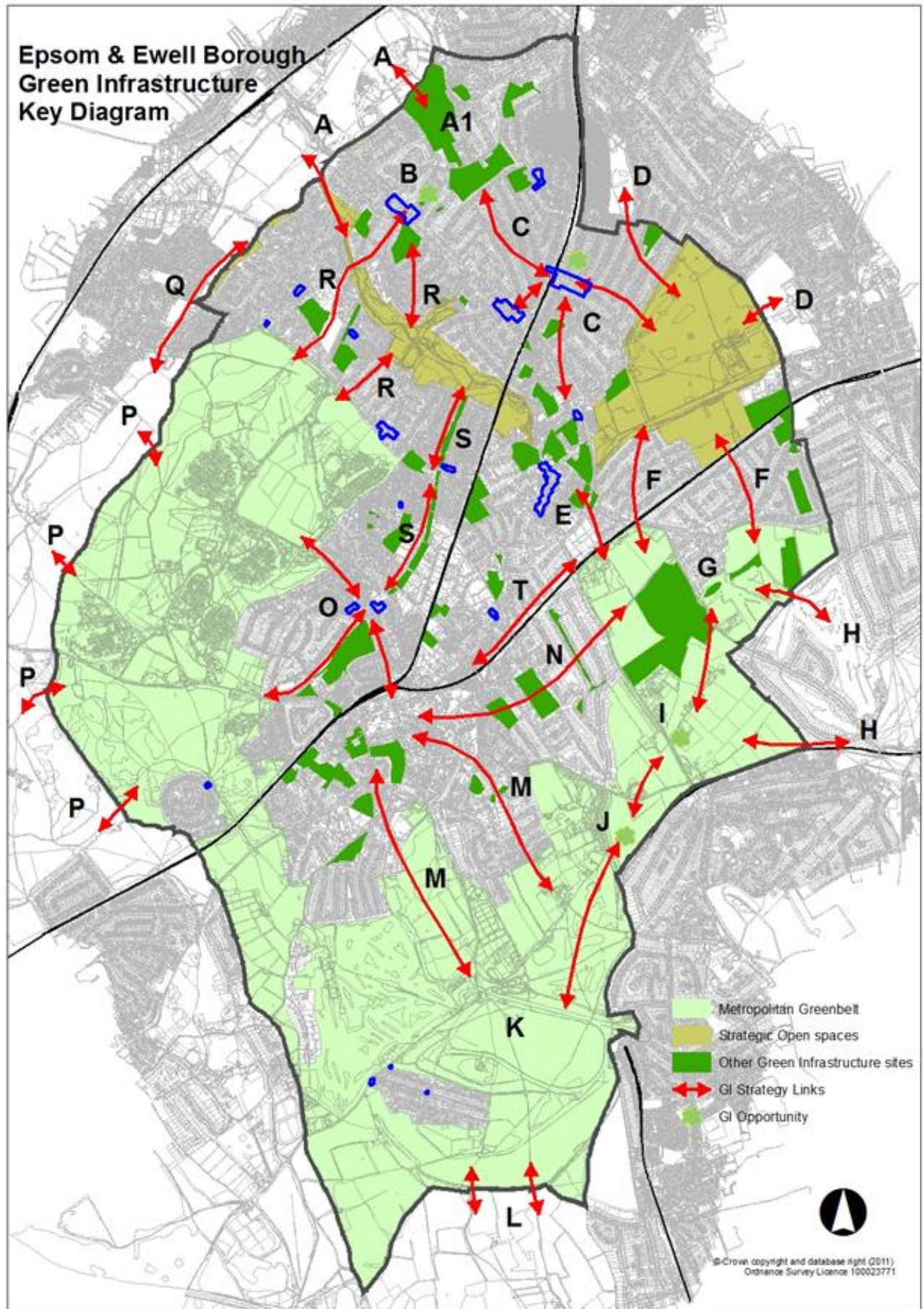
Development affecting any site or building that supports species protected by Law, including their habitats, will only be permitted if appropriate

mitigation and compensatory measures are agreed to facilitate the survival of the identified species, keep disturbance to a minimum and provide adequate alternative habitats to ensure no net loss of biodiversity.

Mitigation and compensatory measures will be secured through planning obligations or conditions, with priority for such measures to be provided within the development.

Whether or not there are any species or habitats that enjoy statutory protection, every opportunity should be taken to secure net benefit to the Borough's biodiversity. To this end, an assessment of the existing nature conservation assets on a development site should be undertaken at the application stage and suitable biodiversity enhancements proposed.

Update:- The forthcoming Green Infrastructure policy was again delayed during 2017 and it is hoped that progress can be made during 2018. The Green Infrastructure policy will identifies potential green corridors across the Borough and links to neighbouring boroughs and Greater London. (See Map below)



Update:- In 2017 the Borough still has the highest proportion of Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) in active management in Surrey. The government's 'Single Data Set' uses the measure of SNCI in active conservation management to monitor the current condition of the nation's biodiversity. The Borough currently has 13 SNCI with 10 currently under active conservation management giving Epsom & Ewell the highest score in Surrey, 77% (Average 44%). During 2015 the "Local Sites" committee designated two new SNCI in Epsom & Ewell. These are the small Thames Water covered reservoir site on Epsom Downs where a site visit in summer 2014 discovered the presence of the Small Blue Butterfly, along with several species of orchid. Langley Bottom Farm now owned by the Woodland Trust was also designated with approximately one third of the farm located in Epsom & Ewell. The farm is of particular note for its arable plants and also includes 'Ancient' Woodland.



Pyramidal Orchids at the Thames Water
site with Queens Stand in the background
summer 2014

Update:- Site management plans continue to play a crucial role in coordinating work across our open spaces and helping to secure funding. During 2017 updated plans for Horton Country Park LNR, Hogsmill LNR and Epsom Downs Golf Course were approved. Management Plans ensure a consistent and planned approach to the management of biodiversity in the Boroughs open spaces. The plans for Horton Country park LNR and the Hogsmill LNR join the Epsom Common plan 2016-2126 in taking a **100 year** approach, emphasising the need to take a very long term approach to managing biodiversity.



Epsom & Walton Downs. Guided by the site management plan a calcareous grassland habitat at Juniper Hill is maintained by an annual cut and clear to ensure chalk loving plants such as Eyebright can thrive. summer 2017

New: During 2015 the South East Rivers Trust (SERT) became the hosts for the Hogsmill Catchment Partnership, facilitated by both DEFRA and the Environment Agency. The partnership aims to work with stakeholder's, including EEBC to influence the management of the water environment and to coordinate projects, partnership working and funds more effectively

to realise multiple benefits (for example, biodiversity, flood risk management, local amenity, enhancing health and wellbeing)

The Trust has already held several stakeholder workshops to identify what stakeholder's value and like about the Hogsmill that can be fed in to for example the partnerships response to the Environment Agencies Water Framework Directive River Basin Management Plan (RBMP)

During 2016 and 2017 as a catchment partnership priority SERT worked with the Environment agency and Thames water to monitor both the Epsom and Ewell 'Storm tanks' which are designed to manage raw sewage during periods of high rainfall. The monitoring indicated that discharges of raw sewage in to the Hogsmill River are quite frequent and the Catchment Partnership have indicated a desire to work towards a long term solution that reduces or ideally prevents any raw sewage being discharged. The Hogsmill Catchment Partnership has also identified and prioritised a potential project to create a wetland at Chamber Mead in the Hogsmill Local Nature Reserve and it is hoped that funds can be secured during 2018 for what would be a major biodiversity enhancement that would build on the projects of recent years such as weir removal and naturalising the river channel and banks.



Hogsmill LNR, confluence of the Hogsmill River and Green lanes Stream shown in August 2014 with work commencing to remove walled banks and concrete bed and the naturalised banks and bed in June 2017

During March 2017 further work was carried out by the Lower Mole partnership volunteers on behalf of SERT to open up an over shaded section of river bank close to the Ewell Storm Tank.

Objective 4: *Raise awareness, appreciation and involvement in the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in Epsom and Ewell*

New:- In 2017 the Countryside Team continued to work with the Orchard Trust and together organised a 'BioBlitz' in Lambert's Orchard in July and an Apple Day during October. Both these family events were well attended helping to raise awareness of the biodiversity value of orchards.



Horton Country Park LNR in Lambert's Orchard a Swallow-tailed Moth found on the evening before the bio blitz July 2017



Horton Country Park LNR members of the public watching local moth expert Paul Wheeler reveal and release the moths caught the evening before the bio blitz July 2017



Horton Country Park LNR the apple and pear press in action during Apple Day October 2017



Horton Country Park LNR Lambert's Orchard members of the public enjoying Apple Day October 2017



Horton Country Park LNR Lambert's Orchard where we don't have partridges but kestrel's in our pear trees! July 2017

New:- During Autumn 2017 as part of the on-going work to conserve the orchards in Horton Country park LNR an expert from the London Orchard Trust discovered a nationally rare fungus called the Orchard Toothcrust Fungus (*Sarcodonata crocea*) which though widespread has only been seen 32 times in the last 50 years! The find was featured in the Epsom Guardian Newspaper with the following article.



What is yellow, smells of pineapples and grows exclusively on ancient apple trees? An incredibly rare mushroom called 'Orchard Toothcrust'.

*In 50 years there have been just 32 recorded sightings of the Orchard Toothcrust (*Sarcodontia crocea*) fungus in the UK.*

The most recent discovery was made by The Orchard Project in a 100- year-old orchard in Lambert's Orchard in Horton Country Park, Epsom.

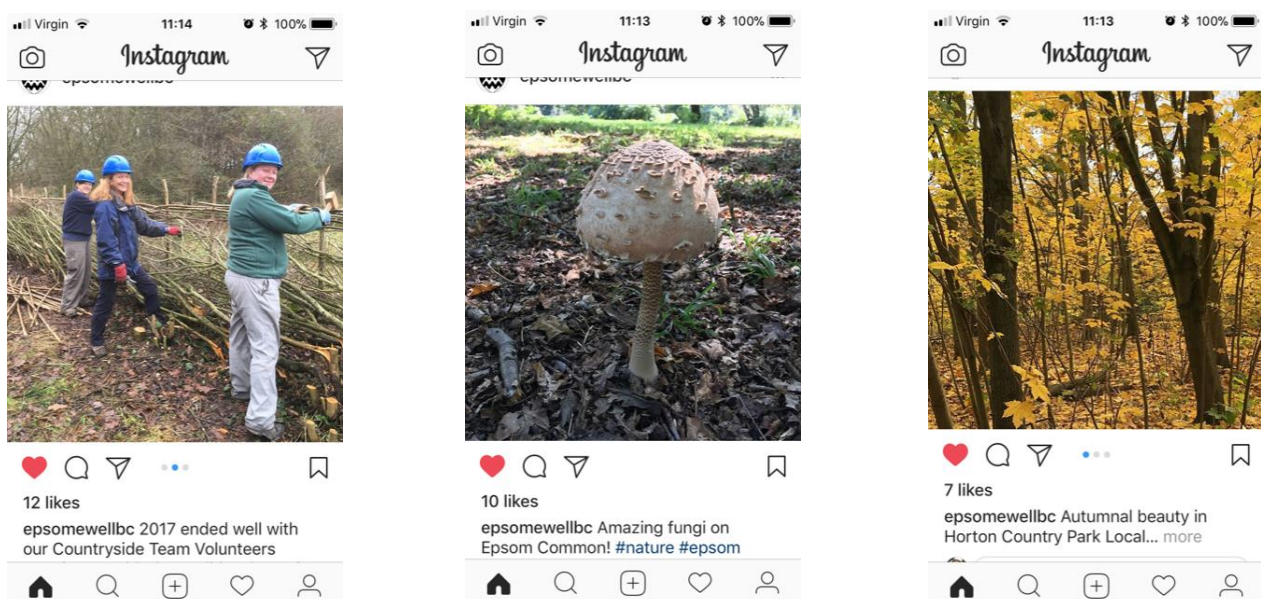
Orchard restoration project manager, Stephanie Irvine said: “We are thrilled to have found this rare fungus in two community orchards we are restoring. It goes to show how precious old orchards are for biodiversity, and how important it is to conserve them.”

Orchard Toothcrust is particularly rare because it only lives on very old apple trees and is under threat due to the massive decline in historic orchards.

The National Trust estimates that 60 per cent of England’s traditional orchards have disappeared since the 1950s, and London has lost 98% of its orchards in the last 100 years.

The fungus is one of the species targeted by the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew’s ‘Lost and Found Fungi project’, which is encouraging people to look for and record endangered species of fungi.

Update:- During 2017 the Borough’s Magazine ‘Insight’ which goes to all households in the Borough continued to help raise awareness of biodiversity, articles included the Green Flag Award, Countryside Guided Walks and the 20 mile “Hike & Bike” events using a signed route linking the Boroughs five main open spaces. The Council also started trialling the use of Instagram to help raise awareness of biodiversity with photos of autumn colours, our conservation volunteers in action, impressive fungi and more. All helping to raise awareness of the Boroughs natural environment and the opportunities to get actively involved.



Three Instagram posts from 2017

Update:- In 2014 this report highlighted the need to protect the ecology of a pond in Horton Country Park LNR from constant daily disturbance by dogs. 'Field Pond' which is used for pond dipping had become a shadow of its former self with very few aquatic species able to tolerate the constant daily disturbance. Using a small grant from a local County Councillor the pond was fenced by the Lower Mole Partnership volunteers and a new notice was placed on the gate leading to the pond, explaining the need for dog owners to stop their pets entering the pond. During the summers of 2015, 2016 and 2017 a pond dip for a local Beaver Group discovered an astonishing recovery with the return and much greater abundance of aquatic life. The notice is still in place after a three years which is very positive and an indication that visitors are willing to help address the issue of long term incremental damage to habitats on nature reserves due to public access.



Horton Country Park LNR Field Pond surveying for Great Crested Newts spring 2017



Horton Country Park LNR Field Pond gate, fence and notice
Page 46

Update:- EEBC continues to raise awareness by encouraging active participation in site management. This is achieved through walks, talks, leaflets, the web site, regular weekly conservation tasks, through working with 'Friends Groups', local youth groups and support for the Lower Mole Countryside Partnership.



Countryside Team Volunteers collecting apples and pears for the Apple Day event autumn 2017



Epsom Common LNR a Lower Mole Partnership supervised corporate working party helping manage woodland edge habitat summer 2017



Horton Country Park LNR Countryside Officer Sarah Clift investigating mini beasts with local children summer 2016



Horton Country Park LNR hikers about to set off on the 20 mile Round the Borough Hike event September 2017

Objective 5: *Provide on-going monitoring of biodiversity in Epsom and Ewell*

Update:- The Countryside Team is continuing to develop and improve its monitoring role within the Boroughs three local nature reserves and has also started to record the Borough more widely with the assistance of volunteers and local experts. During 2017, 95 volunteer days of biological monitoring was provided valued at approx. £5,225 if valued at the unskilled rate of £55 per day.

New:- During Autumn 2017 as part of the on-going work to conserve the orchards in Horton Country park LNR an expert from the London Orchard Trust discovered a nationally rare fungus called the Orchard Toothcrust Fungus (*Sarcodonata crocea*) which though widespread has only been seen 32 times in the last 50 years! This discovery indicated both the biodiversity value of Lambert's orchard and the value of the ongoing monitoring that takes place.



Horton Country Park LNR Lambert's Orchard, a walk lead by Senior Countryside Officer Sarah Clift during Apple day with members of the public being shown the Orchard Tooth crust fungus October 2017

New:- During both 2016 and 2017 one nationally scarce dragonfly (Down Emerald) and one new and notable species of damselfly (White legged) were discovered on Epsom Common LNR. The Downy Emerald sighting was the first recorded since 1989 and the White legged damselfly does not appear to have been previously recorded. Both sightings indicate that on-going habitat is effective.



Epsom Common LNR a Downy Emerald dragonfly on the edge of great Pond May 2016



Epsom Common LNR a White Legged damselfly in Rye Meadow June 2017

New: A bird survey carried out at Priest Hill Nature Reserve identified 79 bird species indicating the sites importance as bird habitat.



Blackbird



Kestrel

Update:- In 2014 and 2015 moth surveys were carried out on Epsom Common LNR which is a nationally important site for invertebrates especially those associated with veteran trees which are of international importance. During summers 2016 and 2017 moth surveys were carried

out on Horton Country Park LNR including a separate survey for leaf mine moths during 2017, which revealed 128 species of smaller moths and a grand total of 195 moth species recorded in what was a very short session. The surveys have found two nationally scarce species the Dotted Fan Foot (*macrochilo cribrumalis*) and (*Elegia Similella*), along with an abundance of orchard species resulting from the 2017 survey being carried out in Lambert's Orchard. Some spectacular moths from 2017 are pictured below. Further surveys are planned for 2018.



Horton Country Park LNR, Black Arches moth (*Lymantria monacha*) summer 2017



Horton Country Park LNR, Swallow-tailed moth (*Ourapteryx sambucaria*) summer



Horton Country Park LNR Lesser yellow Underwing moth (*Noctua comes*) summer 2017



Horton Country Park LNR Dingy Footman moth (*Eilema griseola*) summer 2017

Update:- The project to monitor reptiles on Epsom Common Local Nature Reserve set up between the Countryside Team and the Surrey Amphibian and Reptile Group (SARG) continued during 2017. Results again confirm

that Epsom Common is a very important site for Adders and there is a very widespread distribution of Grass Snakes.



Checking a refuge on Epsom Common LNR



Adder on Epsom Common LNR

Update:- The Countryside Team and volunteers continued to monitor butterflies on a weekly basis over the summer using agreed transects and submitting records to the national database for Epsom Common LNR, Horton Country Park LNR, Hogsmill LNR, Nonsuch Park, Howell Hill Nature Reserve and Juniper Hill. 2017 has turned out to be an average year with a warm spring bringing an early start but a damp end of July and August affected some species.



Epsom Common LNR Small Copper butterfly in
Great Pasture summer 2016

In 2017 butterfly numbers were significantly up compared to 2016 but number of species sighted saw a small decline. For example, on Epsom Common LNR in 2015 recorders had 950 sightings of 24 species, whilst in 2016 there were only 473 sightings of 25 species. In 2017 there were 829 sightings of 22 species. Juniper Hill on Epsom Downs had 29 species recorded indicating the importance of calcareous grassland to any butterfly species. During 2017 volunteer efforts coordinated by Butterfly Conservation focused again on the White Letter Hairstreak and sightings have continued to increase as more Elm trees have been discovered. The magnificent Purple Emperor was spotted again in 2017 on Epsom Common LNR and volunteers have spotted Brown Hairstreak eggs laid on young Blackthorn stems in a number of locations in Horton Country Park and Hogsmill Local Nature Reserves.



A very difficult to photograph White Letter Hairstreak butterfly resting in the canopy of a large English Elm in the Hogsmill LNR summer 2016



Tiny (size of a pin head) Brown Hairstreak butterfly egg laid on young Blackthorn Stem in Horton Country Park LNR

Update:- Work to produce draft priority habitat and species of principle importance maps for Epsom & Ewell, with assistance from the Surrey Biological Records Centre is still planned but continues to be delayed. To assist with the process of mapping species of principle importance as defined by the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, Countryside Officer Pete Howarth identified 53 species during 2015 and that total has increased to 58 during 2017.

Update:- Monitoring for dormice described previously has continued during 2017. Unfortunately, no dormice were found in the boxes on Epsom

Common, however a dormouse was found in a box in Pond Wood in Horton Country Park. This result and a confirmed presence on Ashted Common in 2017 is informing the future management of our woodland and efforts to monitor their presence using boxes and tubes will continue during 2018.



The Dormouse found on Epsom Common LNR
february 2012



Volunteers positioning Dormouse boxes on
Epsom Common LNR winter 2013/14

Update:- EEBC Countryside Officer and expert ecologist Pete Howarth has continued surveying ponds for Great Crested Newts with Blakes Pond on Epsom Common LNR once again revealing a healthy population.



Countryside Officer Pete Howarth and
volunteer recorder Judith McNickle
retrieving a bottle trap contain several
Great Crested Newts spring 2016



Photo taken at Blakes Pond on Epsom
common LNR shows the difference in size
between the Smooth Newt and the Great
Crested Newt spring 2016

During 2017 Pete has received and input bat records from the Surrey Bat Group, planning applications and local nature reserves surveys using the

EEBC Recorder database. In addition Pete facilitated a country wide woodland bat survey on Epsom Common carried out by Surrey Bat Group during May and August 2017. The survey involved a Harp Trap with the captured bats being weighed and ringed and the survey confirmed that Whiskered bats are present. Our bat recording aims to gain a clearer understanding of the location of bat roosts in the Borough and has already indicated the importance of data collected via planning applications.



Epsom Common LNR a harp Trap
being used for the woodland bat
survey may 2017



Epsom Common LNR a captured
pipistrelle bat being measured during
the woodland bat survey may 2017



Epsom Common LNR a captured Brown Long
Eared bat about to be released during the
woodland bat survey may 2017



Epsom Common LNR a captured
Noctule bat just released during the
woodland bat survey may 2017

Update:- During 2014 the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) approached the Countryside Team and Lower Mole Partnership to ask for volunteer assistance with their “Riverfly” project which monitors aquatic invertebrates to warn of poor water quality in rivers. Subsequently a small volunteer network has been formed to help monitor water quality in the Hogsmill River and this has continued to operate successfully during 2017 as part of the Hogsmill Partnership coordinated by the Hogsmill Catchment Partnership coordinated by the South East Rivers Trust, with results helping to inform the Environment Agency about the quality of water in the river.

The Hogsmill Needs You!

Volunteers needed for river monitoring





The Zoological Society of London is offering training in the **River Monitoring Initiative (RMI)** sampling method. The RMI is a national scheme for monitoring the health of rivers developed by the Riverfly Partnership.

In order to be trained in the RMI you must be able to sample the river for at least 6 months. Once at the river, samples take about 20 minutes and are taken a minimum of every 2 months.

In the Training you will learn;

- The background of the RMI.
- How to kick sample a river.
- How to identify river invertebrates.
- What to do with the RMI data.

You will also meet other volunteers working up and down the Hogsmill River. Everyone involved in the scheme will have a day out at London Zoo.

The training will take place at Kingston University, Knights Park Campus on

Saturday April 26th
11am to 3pm

To book a place or for more information please contact : Joe.Pecorelli@zsl.org



Also during 2016 the Hogsmill Partnership put out a request for volunteers to carry out an Outfall Safari. This involved surveying stretches of the river and with the help of a mobile app, mapping and recording the impact of outfalls. The aim was to greatly improve the understanding of the river system and help to target sources of pollution. Volunteers from the EEBC Countryside Team and the Lower Mole Partnership took part. During 2017 the South East Rivers Trust presented the results to the Catchment Partnership and the results are as hoped helping to target sources of pollution.

Please help Survey Outfalls on the Hogsmill River



As a result of misconnected plumbing, pollution can find its way into urban rivers via surface water outfalls (drains). **The Hogsmill Partnership** is looking for volunteers to help conduct the Hogsmill's first **Outfall Safari**. This involves surveying stretches of the river and, with the help of a mobile app, mapping and recording the impact of outfalls. This survey will greatly improve our understanding of the river system and help to target sources of pollution. The survey will take place during:

October 2016

Once registered you will receive a full briefing on how to take part. You can choose which stretch of the river you want to survey and conduct the survey at a time that is convenient to you as long as it is within the survey period of October 2016. Where possible the survey will be conducted from the footpath by the side of the river but, in parts, it may be necessary to walk in the river where it is safe to do so. All training and equipment will be provided by ZSL.

Briefing sessions for volunteers will take place at:

Horton Country Park, 10am on September 20th
Kingston University, 2pm on September 22nd

For more information contact Joe.Pecorelli@ZSL.org, 07974725557

Please register your interest to help at : hogsmilloutfalls.eventbrite.co.uk

Once registered more information will be sent to you about where and when the briefing sessions will take place.

Objective 6: *Seek to increase the funding available for the long term conservation, enhancement and monitoring of biodiversity in Epsom and Ewell*

Update:- Currently externally sourced funding is in place helping deliver management of biodiversity for both Epsom Common and Horton Country Park Local Nature Reserves until 2020. The key source is the 2010-2020 Environmental Stewardship Higher Level Scheme, along with the new Countryside Stewardship Basic Payments Scheme which is the successor to the European Single Farm Payments Scheme.



Tools and equipment used by the Countryside Team volunteers are paid for and maintained using externally sourced funds. Photo taken August 2017



The extensive programme of woodland edge habitat creation and management is all paid for using externally sourced funds. Summer horse ride Epsom Common LNR winter 2017

Update:- In 2013 and 2015 the Lower Mole Partnership volunteers successfully de-silted Lambert's Pond in Horton Country Park Local Nature Reserve, revealing a long lost arm. During 2016 nature has rapidly begun to recolonise the pond and surveys will be carried out in 2017.



Horton Country Park LNR Lambert's Pond the long lost arm of the pond de-silted by the Lower Mole Countryside Partnership volunteers autumn 2015 and autumn 2016

In addition during September 2017 'Field Pond' also in Horton Country Park LNR was part de-silted by the Lower Mole Partnership using funds provided by the Lower Mole Trust and Friends of Horton Country Park. (See report under Objective 2)

New: During 2017 the Lower Mole Partnership carried out more work to help conserve 'Round Pond' in Nonsuch Park which like 'Field Pond' in Horton Country Park LNR was being affected by both over shading vegetation and dogs. A new fence has been constructed using donations and a grant from the Lower Mole Trust. The pond will be closely monitored over the next few years to record its recovery.



Nonsuch Park Lower Mole Partnership volunteers building a fence to protect Round Pond from dogs July 2017

Update:- During 2017 the South East Rivers Trust (SERT) continued working with EEBC and the Environment Agency to improve the ecology of the Hogsmill River using grant aided funding. Delivering a programme of bank side and in river habitat improvements has continued during 2017. EEBC Countryside Team volunteers continued with a programme of removing scrub along the banks of the river to allow more light to reach the river channel allowing aquatic plant life to create a natural berm that has scoured and naturalised a short section of the river channel see

photos below. The major work carried out in 2013 and 2014 to remove two large weirs from the Hogsmill River in Epsom & Ewell and remove the concrete bed and walls at the confluence where the Green Lanes Stream joins the Hogsmill River continues to naturalise. Further significant improvements are being discussed/planned via the Hogsmill Catchment Partnership.



Volunteers from the South East Rivers Trust using tree branches to help restore the Hogsmill River March 2016



Hogsmill LNR photo taken Autumn 2016 showing natural berm that has formed following Countryside Team volunteers opening up the overgrown banks of the Hogsmill River in autumn 2015



Hogsmill LNR same location as photo opposite taken in autumn 2015 at the end of the task showing clearly what a big difference managing bankside vegetation can make!

Update:- The Lower Mole Partnership has continued during 2017 to manage the SSSI using funds provided by Surrey County Council. For example, during 2017 under advice from Natural England the Partnership arranged for Surrey County Council to have four large Lombardy Poplars felled that were over shading the pond.



Stones Road SSSI Lower Mole Partnership volunteers clearing around the soon to be felled Lombardy poplars 2017

In addition the Lower Mole Partnership continues to manage the 'Buffer Zone' located in the disused allotment site using funds received from the developers of the Lintons Lane housing development. The buffer zone provides additional habitat for Great Crested Newts including a pond and is also considered to be working in reducing misuse issues on the allotment. Future use of the allotment is being considered, with the possibility that the allotment could be brought back in to use but at the same time retaining much needed terrestrial habitat for Great Crested Newts. During 2018 a survey of Great Crested Newt numbers is due to take place that would inform plans for the allotment and also assist in liaison with Natural England and the possible need for a licence regarding the plans for the allotment



Lower Mole Countryside Management Project volunteers planting a hedge at Stones Road Allotment in 2012 and work to construct the new pond in 2013.

Objective 7: *Seek to identify the wider benefits to the community of improving biodiversity*

Update:- Both nationally and internationally there is an increasing understanding that we need to incorporate the benefits (services) provided by biodiversity and natural processes in to our economic models. The government recently published a watershed document the 'UK Ecosystem Assessment' which shows very clearly how we undervalue our natural resources and the services they provide. The result of under valuing our natural resources is ultimately an unsustainable future. Addressing this issue demands a long term approach that recognises the delicate balance of the ecosystems that provide us with vital ecosystem services such as clean air, fresh water and fertile soils. This concept is as applicable to Epsom & Ewell as anywhere else on the planet.

It is undoubtedly a big and complex subject however it is possible to identify local issues to illustrate the challenge we are facing. For example, biodiversity on our local open spaces provides a range of vital ecosystem services and in particular a cultural ecosystem service providing residents with well recognised and significant psychological and health benefits.

Some of our open spaces in Epsom & Ewell are showing signs of strain due to high visitor numbers with woodland wildflowers and aquatic life in ponds under pressure from constant daily disturbance as described above.



Horton Country Park LNR Pond Wood, photograph shows bluebells receding from the path edge with the much loved carpet of bluebells now some distance from the path spring 2014

A recent example of the actual costs that can accrue was the need to restore Great Pond Dam on Epsom Common in 2012 as illustrated in the photos below, due to erosion caused by dogs entering the pond.



Erosion damage to the dam of Great Pond on Epsom Common LNR caused by dogs. Autumn 2012 repairs cost £18500

The UK Ecosystem Assessment shows clearly that sustainable management of our open spaces today not only helps protect their biodiversity but also ensures that wider and in some cases very costly environmental impacts are avoided.

The Surrey Nature Partnership to which EEBC is affiliated through the Surrey Nature Partnership Biodiversity Working Group is currently championing two key projects in its effort to help to achieve its vision of a healthy, green Surrey with a prospering economy.

Valuing Surrey:- This project focuses on developing an understanding of the value of the counties natural assets which underpin the provision of ecosystem services, 30% of which are thought to be in decline in Surrey. The majority of us are guilty of taking the natural environment and the services we derive from it for granted. In Surrey, the continued resilience of our economy is dependent on a healthy, functioning landscape. The Valuing Surrey project aims to help develop an understanding of the natural capital of Surrey and communicate this message to a wide range of organisations and individuals. For example, in 2017 the project delivered an estimate of £90 million as the value of the economic and social/wellbeing benefits of woodland across the county, with the majority of that value being for health and wellbeing. We hope the project will also

inform ways of working and policy in other Local Enterprise Partnerships and Local Nature Partnerships.”

Biodiversity Offsetting:- The Surrey Nature Partnership has a statutory role in strategic planning matters which means it has an overview of local plans in Surrey. This enables the SNP to have a say in where development takes place.

“In cases where development is unavoidable, biodiversity offsetting is a tool that may be used by Local Authorities to compensate for biodiversity loss. This is where conservation activities – which will deliver a clear and measurable benefit to biodiversity – take place in compensation for damage caused by developments. This project will explore the possibility of Local Authorities using biodiversity offsetting in Surrey.”

Ecosystem Services are very relevant to the development of the Epsom & Ewell Green Infrastructure Policy and the implementation of the ‘Community Infrastructure Levy’ that has replaced Section 106 funding for new development.

Conclusion:

2017 has seen further progress in implementing the plan which continues to play a significant role in coordinating and guiding efforts to conserve and enhance biodiversity in the Borough. **A BIG THANK YOU from the Working Group to all the volunteers who have helped conserve and enhance biodiversity in the Borough during 2017 in all weathers!**



Horton Country Park LNR EEBC Countryside Team volunteers gather around the fire to enjoy the sunset at the end of task on a cold winter's day in November 2017

If you have any questions or you would like to find out more about the implementation of the Epsom & Ewell Local Biodiversity Action Plan please call 01372 732000 and ask to speak to the Countryside Team or email countryside@epsom-Ewell.gov.uk

VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANTS AND FUNDING 2018/19

Report of the: Head of Housing & Community
Contact: Serena Powis
Urgent Decision?(yes/no) No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:
Annexes/Appendices (attached): **Annexe 1** - Proposed support for Voluntary Organisations 2018/19.
Other available papers (not attached):

Report summary

This report considers the general future support of voluntary organisations in 2018/19.

Recommendation (s)

- (1) That the Committee approves the proposed support for voluntary organisations in 2018/19, as detailed in Annexe 1 to this report.**

1 Implications for the Council's Key Priorities, Service Plans and Sustainable Community Strategy

- 1.1 This report links to the Council's Key Priority "Supporting our Community". It also relates to the Core Values of "Openness" and "Integrity".

2 Background

- 2.1 The Council provides support to a range of voluntary organisations in Epsom and Ewell in order to maintain and improve the quality of life for residents and in particular, to support some of the more vulnerable sectors of our community.
- 2.2 This report is brought to the Community and Wellbeing Committee recognising the continued pressure on the Council's finances in the medium term and the need to secure good value for money in all of our activities.
- 2.3 The Council currently supports the following bodies:

2.3.1 Age Concern Epsom & Ewell

2.3.2 Citizens Advice Bureau Epsom & Ewell

2.3.3 Voluntary Action Mid-Surrey

2.3.4 RELATE Mid Surrey

2.3.5 The Sunnybank Trust

Please note that “Carers of Epsom” ceased to exist from September 2017.

2.4 Detailed in **Annexe 1** is the full breakdown of the current support provided to voluntary organisations. The proposed level of support for 2018/19 is detailed in green text within the Annexe.

2.5 The cash grant budgets for 2017/18 are as follows:

2.5.1 CAB = £74,115

2.5.2 VAMS = £7,989

2.6 The level of support proposed for 2018/19 is the same as that provided in 2017/18. It should be noted that the cash grant element (detailed in 2.5 above) makes up only £82,000 of the overall support package, which totals in the order of £196,000 for 2018/19. Details of the proposed overall support package (such as the usage of Council accommodation) is detailed within **Annexe 1**.

2.7 New licences were issued with effect from 1 April 2017 and expire on 31 March 2020. The Notional Rent and Service Charges have been combined as one overall figure as shown in green in the second column in **Annexe 1**.

2.8 Licences comprise the agreements between EEBC and the individual licence holders, which in this case, are the occupiers of the serviced offices owned by EEBC. They are reviewed every 3 years by the Council’s Property and Regeneration Department, whereby the Rents and Service Charges are amended to reflect the current value.

2.9 The amount shown for the combined notional charge for Rent and Service Charges for 2018/19 has been amended to reflect the current financial value of this continued commitment from the Council.

3 Services provided by Voluntary Organisations

- 3.1 VAMS plays a major role in ensuring that voluntary organisations are consulted on local and national policy and service delivery issues. It can also help to ensure that good practice on equalities issues is applied in local voluntary sector organisations, facilitates access to outside funding as well as organising and hosting the Epsom & Ewell Volunteer Awards and the Annual Epsom & Ewell Voluntary Organisations Conference held at Ewell Court House
- 3.2 Age Concern Epsom & Ewell has a focus on the elderly as their client group. Whereas RELATE and its Counselling Services impacts directly on the wellbeing of children and families where there are relationship problems.
- 3.3 The Epsom and Ewell CAB provides services to clients from a range of minority or vulnerable groups.

4 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 4.1 If VAMS and CAB do not have adequate capacity to support its clients, there would be a considerable knock-on effect to the Council's own staff and operations (e.g. Housing and Council Tax).
- 4.2 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** Charges for the licences are internal transactions, which represent their notional value.
- 4.3 Budgeted operational grant payments by the Council to voluntary organisations for 2018/19 total £82,104.
- 4.4 Budgeted rental income receivable by the Council for 2018/19 totals £7,094.

5 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

- 5.1
- 5.1 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** The Council should notify the voluntary organisations of the approved grant package, particularly if the level of support is to be reduced. This is in line with the Surrey Compact and best practice.

6 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

- 6.1 The Voluntary Organisations play an important role within the Borough, assisting the Statutory Services to enable the Family Support Programme to support residents requiring professional interventions, supporting the Community Harm and Risk Management Meetings (CHaRMM) – which has replaced the Community Incident Action Group (CIAG's) and Joint Action Groups (JAG's), plus their role in Safeguarding Vulnerable Children and Adults.

7 Partnerships

- 7.1 Voluntary organisations comprise members of the “third sector” that support the local community through the delivery of services.
- 7.2 It is increasingly recognised that partnership working between statutory bodies and the voluntary sector is essential for the future effective operation of modern local government.

8 Risk Assessment

- 8.1 Should the current and future recommended support to voluntary organisations be reduced, there could be a serious detrimental effect on the organisations, and ultimately the Borough’s residents.

9 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 9.1 With the ever increasing pressure on the Council’s finances, the Committee must be satisfied that it is achieving value for money and that the financial support is directed to priority areas where it will have the greatest effect. It is considered that the package of support for the voluntary organisations listed continues to provide good value for money for the Council and residents of the Borough.
- 9.2 The Committee is asked to approve the proposed grants as set out in paragraph 2.5.1 and 2.5.2 of this report and to note the overall support package set out in paragraph 2.6 and **Annexe 1**.

Ward(s) Affected: (All Wards);

Proposed support for Voluntary Organisations 2018/19

Organisation	Cash Grant	Rent - Notional Grant	Service Charge – Notional Grant	Comments from Property and Estates	Car Parking for Volunteers – Notional value £530 and £1040	Cash Grant for Volunteer Parking	Subsidy for staff parking permits (purchased at £120, but notional value £410)	Net Total Support
Age Concern – Epsom and Ewell VOL 04	Nil	2017/2018 = £8,544 2018/19 Licence inc. Service Charge = £20,205	2017/18 = £7,476	New terms agreed from 1 April 2017. New Licence from 1 April 2017. Licence expires: 31 March 2020. Age Concern pay EEBC £2,724 per annum for the extra office space.	Nil	£100 £100	3x£410 = £1,230 Less 3x£120 = £360 Subsidy = £870	2017/18 = £17,350 Rent paid to EEBC = £2,724 Proposed 2018/19 = £18,451
Carers of Epsom VOL 03	Nil	2017/18 = £9,195	2017/18 = £9,798	New Licence from 1 October 2014. Licence expires 31 March 2017. Licence extended to September 2017. Carers of Epsom ceased in September 2017.	Nil	Nil	9x £410 = £3,690	2017/18 = £18,273 Proposed 2018/19 = Nil.

Proposed support for Voluntary Organisations 2018/19

Citizens Advice Bureau Epsom and Ewell VOL 05	£74,115 £74,115	2017/18 = £23,332 2018/19 Licence inc. Service Charge = £51,669	2017/18 = £20,238	New Licence from 1 April 2017. Licence expires: 31 March 2020.	9 Hook Road permits – Notional Grant = £4,770. 1 Town Hall Permit = £1,040. Total = £5,810 £5,810	£1,920 (maximum cost to EEBC – to be reimbursed for actual costs incurred) £1,920	6x £410 = £2,460 Less 6x£120 =£720 Subsidy: £1,740	2017/18 = £127,875 Proposed 2018/19 = £135,254
Voluntary Action Mid Surrey (VAMS) VOL 09	£7,989 £7,989	2017/18 = £6,060 2018/19 Licence inc. Service Charge = £13,227	2017/18 = £5,252	New Licence from 1 April 2017. Licence expires: 31 March 2020.	Nil	Nil	Nil	2017/18 = £20,121 Proposed 2018/19 = £21,216
RELATE Mid-Surrey VOL 06	Nil	2017/18 = £14,910	2017/18 = £4,800	New lease from 1 April 2017. Lease expires: 31 March 2020. RELATE pays EEBC £1200 towards rent and service.	Nil	Nil	Nil	2017/18 = £18,510 Proposed 2018/19 = £18,510

Proposed support for Voluntary Organisations 2018/19

The Sunnybank Trust VOL 10	Nil	N/A	N/A	New licence from 28 October 2017: Licence expires: 31 March 2020. The Sunnybank Trust pays EEBC £3,170 per annum towards Business Tax and Telephone Rental costs.	Nil	Nil	Nil	2017/18 not supported at Town Hall, Epsom. 2018/19 Income from Rent = £3,170 Proposed Rent 2018/19 = £3,170
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