

Astons Community Led Planning - Environment Group Action Plan

Item	Issue	Action	Background information	Priority	Timescale	Key milestones	Responsible person(s)/ organisation(s)	Resources needed
	Village Environment Group	Form the Project team to represent the community on environmental and conservation matters	Protecting green spaces and wildlife within the Astons and surrounding area	1	2 months	1. Identify Group Members 2. Scope potential initiatives 3. Produce recommendations and options	AD to chair. NS to project manage	Group set up in June 2017.
Key deliverables from scoping period (June 2017 - Jan 2018)								
A	Tree Survey & Report	Overview report written by Anna and circulated. Present to PC in Feb 2018	Incorporates feedback from CLP report about village planting ideas and removing ivy from trees (items 7 and 8 below). Expands ideas by building a substantial tree report which gives us a foundation for further tree plantings schemes. Based on the view that if we know what we have in the first place we are better suited to understanding how to improve our tree and plant environment. eg: Do we have ash dieback in our villages?	1	Already in action. Deliver by May 2019	Spring 2018 for gathering 1st phase of data.	AD* to lead.	Volunteers. Possible funding
B	Hedge & Verge management plan	Project scoping (June 2017 to Jan 2018) found a need to deliver this to the parish. Flower and plant planting scheme.	Active management plan to be adopted by Parish Council and Community. See this one from Brightwell-cum-Sotwell. http://s3.spanglefish.com/s/26702/documents/hedgerow-and-verge-management-plan/vergeside-management-example-of-best-practice.pdf	2	Timescales to be set	Timescales to be set	AM* to lead	To be discussed
C	Parishes Wildlife Recording	1: Community data collection (villagers engagement and wildlife recording) 2: Verified data collection (official verification and how best to proceed) 3: TVERC report (Anna has sent around spread sheet for everyone – feedback and comments welcome	Nick Issac to educate us on the complex matrix of data collection, databases and data verification and what models would suit our village/community needs. Nicks role is to host, analyse and manage data from over 85 societies and organisations that are UK based (BTO, Butterfly Conservation etc). One outcome could be to use the data to map out a Parish Wildlife Map. See guidance from North Wessex Downs AONB. http://www.northwessexdowns.org.uk/uploads/File_Management/Publications/Planning/Parish_Wildlife_Toolkit_WEBv2.pdf	1	Data already being added	To engage the community with local biodiversity.	NI* to lead	https://www.brc.ac.uk/irecord/
D	Keep our village tidy	Addressing the ongoing challenge of dog fouling in our villages. Will include village tidy up days (bi-annual litter picks), stream and winterbrook clean ups.	Parish Council have been approached to see if they can fund new dog bins in village. Environment group could support village tidy up days.	1	Ongoing	Timescales to be set	LB* to lead	Funding for new dog bins from Parish Council
E	Environmental monitoring	Project scoping (June 2017 to Jan 2018) found a need to deliver this to the parish.	JT* has a professional backgrounds in water monitoring, management and analysis. JT to attend the next meeting to discuss this in more detail in regard to these villages? A clean up of the village streams might be something worth doing. A review of our parish chalk steams could connect to mapping our 'blue corridors'.	3	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
Original CLP Project plan ideas that we will review at a later date								

1	Improving footpaths	Review accessibility options and recommend improvements periodic pruning of overhanging and fallen vegetation Remove / replace barriers to enable wider access Replenishing gravel	It was decided that as the Parish Council have a dedicated Footpaths officer (Justin Keeble) we could feedback any ideas to them. Oxford County Council are responsible for the upkeep of some of the footpaths, bridleway and by-ways in our parishes. We can report back to the Parish Council on a regular basis to let them know when extra attention/repair is required.	On going communications	N/A	N/A	Parish Council	N/A
2	Improve Dog Ownership responsibilities	Identify initiatives to promote and improve better dog owner / walker practices	What came out of the scoping period was the recurring problem of dogs fouling on footpaths, bridleways, bi-ways and public areas (village graveyards, rec, etc)	Moved to item D above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
3	More cycle tracks	Investigate and recommend how to create a network of cycle-ways	Didcot Garden Town is developing a new cycle network around the surrounding areas. It was felt that to review something similar in our villages was probably beyond the scope of our capacity. We can review how the Didcot Garden Town approach this and come back to this at a later date if appropriate.	No further action required at this stage	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
4	Village Walking group	Understand appetite for a local walking group	The Village History group have conducted guided walks in the past. The Parish Council published a walking guide a few years ago. Might be something of broader interest to other village groups.	To review this in September 2018	To review this in September 2018	N/A	Approach CLP Community Group?	To review this in September 2018
5	More Circular walks	Explore additional/ alternative	Absorb into point 4 above	Absorb into point 4 above	Absorb into point 4 above	Absorb into point 4 above	Parish Council and the OCC, supported by the Public Transport CLP working group.	To review this in September 2018
6	Energy efficiency options within AONB	Investigate options for reducing energy usage at the VH and Pavilion. Investigate the desire for group buying of energy, greater use of renewables and installation of energy efficient devices.	We could approach the VH and ARC about this. Probably best to review this when we have more time available to research the options and costs.	To review this in September 2018	To review this in September 2018	N/A	Need a group lead on this? VHMC and ARC	To review this in September 2018
7	Planting	Identify public places which would benefit from the planting of trees, bulbs and plants	Conduct the tree survey first to identify what we have and where it grows so we are in a better position to engage the community and landowners in any tree planting scheme.	Incorporated into items A & B above	Incorporated into items A & B above	N/A	N/A	N/A
8	Removing Ivy from some trees	Identify areas in villages where this may be a problem. Consulting environmental resources	When conducting the tree survey we can photograph the ivy on trees and review as necessary. Research shows some interesting and differing options on this so getting an expert view would be helpful.	Incorporated into items A above	Incorporated into items A above	N/A	N/A	N/A

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