

WESTON ON THE GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

TERMS OF REFERENCE: BIODIVERSITY SUB-GROUP



The overarching objective of this sub-group is to promote, protect and enhance biodiversity within Weston on the Green parish so that the village supports a rich, resilient and sustainable natural environment for current and future generations.

MEMBERSHIP

- This sub-group is managed by one lead Councillor who works with the Chair and Clerk and engages with volunteers, local residents and relevant organisations as appropriate for biodiversity initiatives.
- The lead of the sub-group will be agreed at the annual Parish Council meeting.
- All members shall comply with the Code of Conduct and Council's Standing Orders.

QUORUM

- A quorum will be one member of the Biodiversity sub-group in conjunction with the Clerk.

MEETINGS

- The sub-group shall meet as and when required, but generally when projects require discussion and agreement relating to potential budget expenditure.

POWERS

- The sub-group will discuss and coordinate biodiversity-related activities within the parish. It will provide reports and recommendations to the full Council for agreement, as necessary.

ROLE: IN SCOPE

- To develop and oversee a biodiversity audit and action plan for the parish.
- To monitor and report on biodiversity improvements and challenges within the parish helping to identify opportunities to enhance habitats, including wildflower areas, tree planting, hedgerow management and protection of existing green spaces.
- To promote wildlife-friendly practices across parish-managed land.
- To advise the Parish Council on environmental best practice and relevant legislation.
- To advise the Parish Council on sustainability, environmental impact and biodiversity when making decisions; including Neighbourhood Plan development and planning

responses.

- To liaise with local landowners, community groups and relevant authorities on biodiversity initiatives.
- To support and coordinate volunteer involvement in biodiversity projects.
- To identify and assist in the application for grants or funding opportunities where appropriate.
- To scope, cost and support delivery of specific biodiversity projects as agreed by the full Council.
- To report to the Clerk any new risks that should be noted on the Council's risk register and/or factored into the Council's insurance.

ROLE: OUT OF SCOPE

- To deal with any issues outside of the parish which may affect the area.

STAKEHOLDERS

- Residents in the parish
- Local landowners and farmers
- Environmental and conservation groups
- Local businesses

REPORTING

- To provide reports to the Parish Council, when required, on biodiversity activities, progress against plans, and any recommendations.

COMMUNICATIONS

- To communicate with the village on biodiversity initiatives, opportunities for involvement, and progress through the Village News and other appropriate channels.