

Sustainability and Biodiversity Team Action Plan

Project outline	Priority	Details/Why/Who/What etc	When	After
General				
Talks -all locally specific	A	Potential speakers: Melanie Oxley (retired ecologist), SWT, Catriona Cockburn (community energy), David Elliott (National Trust). 2 or 3 talks per year.	To fit in with PC programme of events.	Review Autumn 2024
Talks – promote ERA talks. Work to increase the Trotton presence at those ERA talks.	A	NR to advertise via the village website and community alerts. Members of PC to be aware of ERA events and to spread the word.	In place and ongoing	Review Annually
Reinforce the Dark Skies message				
Talk from SDNPA Dark Skies officer? Possibly jointly with a local entomologist or ecologist?	C	Light at the wrong time confuses all forms of life, from us down to insect life. We all evolved with it being dark at night time. How can we help get that message across?		
Increase awareness of the issues facing the River Rother and what we can do about it				
Make residents aware that the South East is a water stressed area and that the River Rother has multiple stresses upon it: sewage, sediment, impedements (weirs etc), agricultural run-off, road run-off, invasive species (Himalayan Balsam, Mink etc), sandy bank erosion, over extraction, changes to natural flow routes (to name but a few!).	B	Western Sussex Rivers Trust (WSRT) (used to be Arun and Rother Rivers Trust) to have a stall at either PC events on Chairman’s Meadow or at an event in the Church.		
		Offer to organise a bulk buy of water butts (Aylings?) and use this to promote the bullet points below (a leaflet?): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use less water; • store storm water eg SuDS, more ponds • pull out Himalayan Balsam (volunteer teams in June and July, jointly with ERA • reduce road run-off by using sustainable travel methods (public transport, cycling, walking, car sharing etc); • get to know your river better • promote the WSRT river monitoring scheme, so as to have more river surveyors within the village • dogs recently treated for fleas/tics should not go in the river (the insecticide will kill life in the river). 		

Septic tanks – all that you wish you knew but didn't like to ask!		Carola's contact Mac – a talk, a stall, an interview that gets written up, help in compiling the leaflet below?		
Septic tanks		How many are there? Distribute a leaflet outlining optimum management and why it matters (VC has such a leaflet from another group with permission to adapt).		
Energy Efficiency – how can we reduce Trotton's carbon footprint through more efficient use of energy, greater use of renewables?				
Survey what renewables are already in place	C	How?		
Support locals who want to improve their insulation	B	Denise (the energy adviser at Harting Repair Café) to have a stall at an event.		
Support residents who want to increase their use of renewables	B	Case studies from locals, inc those that went well and any that didn't. A drop in session: come and talk to local people and learn from their experiences with using renewables (Veronica/solar, Carola/air source heat pump, Sophie/secondary glazing etc)		
How can we increase our local biodiversity and support what we already have?				
Increasing local biodiversity through increasing nectar rich planting,	A	Continue to develop Chairman's Meadow. Autumn bulb planting. No Mow May – lead by example!		
Increase tree planting – wildflower meadow fruit trees	A	PeCAN fruit tree. By this Autumn have a plan for where we will put some around the village.		
Increase overall tree numbers.		Promote PeCAN 'A Tree in Every Garden' project, get more good quality, affordable fruit trees in Trotton. Planning team to scrutinise any plans to remove trees.		
Hedgehogs – make residents aware of how lucky we are to have them and how we can help them to flourish.	A	At a Chairman's meadow event have displays/representatives from a hedgehog support group, SWT or similar.		
Increase local understanding of how precious Iping Common is as an example of lowland heath, a habitat which we have lost 80% of.	A	Regular 'nature walks' already happening for birds, could extend this to reptiles (VC), botany, butterflies etc.		
Travel – how can we work together to get around more sustainably				
Sophie: local social/exercise walks	C	Liaising with Max from xxx action team.		

Promote car sharing to all PC events	B	Add the words 'Please car share' to all posters/emails/website entries etc.		
Bus Safari	C	VC to reccie/plan. Possible destination Selborne the wildflower meadow, or on a Dial-a-bus from the pub to Harting Down for a picnic. Possible joint PC and ERA event.		
Active travel – walking and Cycling	C	Borrow a bike? Bike buddies?		
Food -how can we reduce the village's carbon footprint wrt food?				
Grow your own	C	Seed swaps, seedling swaps. Expertise exchange. Are there any older people that would welcome younger people helping them on their veggie patch in return for a share of the produce? Notice board in a hut on the wildflower meadow. Central hub for unwanted things to exchange.		
Reduce food waste		See below under 'Waste'.		
Buying local		Make info available -		
Reduce the packaging of your groceries		Advertise box schemes for fruit and veg. Promote going back to having a milk delivery. Jason's?		
		Give food to the monastery or to Free Shop Friday		
How can we make the village more climate change resilient?				
We can expect more rain, and more droughts. Rain needs to be retained in the right places (SuDS, rain gardens) and moved on from the wrong places.	B	Potholes. Ditch maintenance. Drainage along A272. Gardening advice on how to plant for such conditions and thereby reduce your water use in the garden.		
We can expect more storms and extreme weather.		Powercuts. Supporting vulnerable residents. Rogate is working towards having a 'warm hub' in the village hall, we don't have a similar option here?		
How can we reduce the village's waste				
Increase recycling		Promote ERA's batteries recycling collection point in church. Presurise CDC to extend their kerbside collection of small electricals to include our area.		
Food waste		Promote garden composting eg investigate a bulk order of compost bins, a deal with Aylings maybe?		

Do we want to approach Edward re a notice board in the church? A community board/display.