



Minutes of Uttoxeter Nature Recovery Network Meeting 25 May 2023

1. **Present:** Marie Williams (Chair), Dave Trenery (Minutes), Kate Copeland, Alison Trenery, Geoff Buck, Philip Knight, Rob Hawkins, Janet Hawkins, Dave Thomas.
2. **Apologies:** John Davey, Carolyn Green, Kate Davies, Penny and Zdzislaw Krupski, Colette Wain Lawrence Oates, Carolyn Green, Anita Thomas-Epple, Maureen Turner
3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** 27 April 2023 were approved.
4. **Updates on Projects:**
 - (a). **Engaging with Rural Areas:** Group to meet on 19 June 10 am. Focus will be on assessing the challenges of promoting biodiversity in rural areas, opportunities for intervention and action planning. Meeting can take place at the Globe. *Action:* DTren.
 - (b) **Greening the Maltings:** Elections have led to a hiatus. Tom Deery will arrange for the new portfolio holder for regeneration and himself to come to the next convenient meeting for further consideration of the options for greening. *Action:* DTren.
 - (c). **Green Mapping:** MW and AT are no longer members of Uttoxeter Town Council (UTC). MW to liaise with UTC re working arrangements and access to the Parish online system to further develop the detailed map of Uttoxeter's Green Area and Green Links. AT has produced a very useful hand coloured Biodiversity Zone Map of the town (Photo attached). Work could now start on Green Corridors (see (d) below. Dave Thomas to be added to the working group. AT's map to be circulated with Minutes. *Action:* DTho, DTren, AT, MW.
 - (d). **Green Corridors:** AT's map shows that the Picknall Valley and Railway line form an *almost* continuous green route from West to East through the Town. Key areas which require assessment are the old JCB/Bamford's site and the railway section beyond the JCB site. MW to liaise with Uttoxeter in Bloom re potential panting along this route. The Picknalls corridor is the obvious place to choose as our initial green route. D.Tren and AT will assess later in June; other group members are welcome to participate. Email davetrenery@gmail.com . Development will require liaison with JCB and Network Rail once we have identified issues to be addressed. *Action:* DTren, DTho, AT, MW.
 - (e). **Children and Young People's Initiative Update:** Survey of schools has been sent out in two batches. The first 7 to those who completed the initial survey, the second batch to 11 other schools. 5 responses have been received from the first batch, and MW will encourage the others. Once returns are in RH will analyse the results, and that analysis will lead to further action planning. *Action:* MW, RH.

St. Mary's School are seeking to develop "An outdoor learning landscape for all" Called *The Croft on the Heath*. It was agreed that contact should be made with the school to find out more and to indicate our support. *Action:* MW





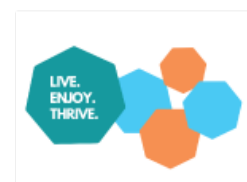
(f). Leads for Species Action Plans: Hedgehogs, Swifts, and Bees: Anita Thomas-Epple is lead for Hedgehogs and has made good progress in liaising with the Marchington Hedgehog champion. The Thomas-Epple’s have also encouraged neighbours to cut hedgehog holes – with some success as their rehomed hedgehog immediately made its escape.

We hope MT will take on Swifts and KD bees. *Action:* Agenda next meeting

(h). Presentation to Rotary Club 30 May: This has been deferred. New date to be fixed. DTren and MW are working on a presentation which will also be used for other events. *Action:* MW/DT

5. **Climate Carnival 11 June (in Big Green Week 10-18 June).** After discussion it was agreed that UNRN members KD and MW would host a stall, distribute leaflets (see below), and offer a children’s activity related to biodiversity. *Action* KD
6. **Leaflet for Conference/ Carnival and General Use:** The draft leaflet was welcomed and MW was thanked for her excellent work. There were numerous comments which DTren and MW will consider in finalising the leaflet. KC has identified an eco-friendly printer who will print the leaflet at reasonable cost. The text and graphics will be agreed by MW and DT and KC will ensure that it is in corporate style. *Action* MW, DTren, KC
7. **Uttoxeter to Doveridge Nature and History Walk:** AT and GB reported back on the excellent progress made. Work is almost complete. One nearby WWII pillbox has been converted to become an eco-friendly habitat for bats and birds and it is hoped that this can also be done with a similar pillbox at the start of the raised track to Doveridge. The development is an excellent example of partnership working between UTC Doveridge Parish Council, and local walking groups, Heritage Centre, local farmers, and several others.
8. **Newspaper Article Rota** UNRN provides an article each month for publication in the Uttoxeter Echo, with the final submission date being the last Friday in the Month via the Co-Chairs. It was agreed that the articles should also be submitted to the Uttoxeter and Cheadle Voice. Target length is 400 words plus one or two photographs for illustration. Potential future articles: (a) Soil (KC to ask Ruth),(b) Bats (CG to pursue with her contact). The following schedule has been agreed (KC to check with NL. re an article on wetlands for August). **Action:** DTren, MW. KC, CG.

Month	Topic	Responsibility	Submission Date
April	Green Streets	L. Oates	28/4/23 Published
May	Big Green Week Press release and Bees Column	K. Copeland/K. White	26/5/23
June	Green Corridors	A. Trenery	30/6/23
July	Ponds	Philip	28/7/23
August	To Be Agreed	Possibly Nicola wet lands. KC to check	25/8/23
September	Fruits of the Earth	L. Oates	29/9/23





9. Events and Activities - Brief Updates: *Climate Expo will take place on 22 September at Keele Hall. Chris Packham will be guest speaker. Burton Market Garden Festival: 27 May; A Bees and bee-keeping talk will take place at Redfern's Cottage 5 June; Bat Talk at Heath Community Centre 14 June.*

10. Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting: None.

11. AOB: DTho. updated the group on the Sutton Coalfield street litter initiative.

12. Items for Next Meeting: Quarry or Maltings depending on availability of ESBC representatives.

13. Date of Next Meeting: 29 June 2023 7pm, at the Globe Foundation.

