



AGENDA

Climate and Nature Pre-Discussion Zoom Meeting Wednesday 20th July 2021 6.00pm – 7:30pm

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88511556630>

Councillor Membership: Tristan Clark, David Goodwin (Chair), Dave Hockey, Pat Hockey, Linda Williams, Julian Selman.

1. Apologies for absence (1 minute).
2. Meeting set up explained (2 minutes).
3. Introduction from Frome Valley Growing Group (10 minutes incl. Q&A).
4. Timeline and priorities for projects (10 minutes, p3-4 draft attached).
 - To prioritize items from the proposed climate and nature project plan, recommending when projects will approximately take place.
5. Hedge and conservation area at The Park (10 minutes).
 - To recommend that the damaged fence at The Park is replaced with a wildlife friendly hedge.
 - To recommend that the bottom corner near the proposed hedge is planted up with native wildflowers as a conservation area.
6. To review draft Pesticide and Nesting Bird Policy (10 minutes, p5-15 draft attached).
 - To suggest any changes and recommend policies to be approved at next Climate and Nature Committee.
 - To consider comments in red from Estates Officer.

7. Planting across the parish (15 minutes).

- To propose location for Trees at The Park and Centenary Field.
- Sessile Oak location
- To discuss planting of Covid remembrance tree at Centenary Field.
- Farm land tree planting update (if available).
- Businesses and tree planting
- To propose the Green Britain Fund of £577 is spent on planting wildflowers and hedge infill shrubs at the Centenary Field.

8. Local Nature Reserve Update (5 minutes)

- Update on Local Nature Reserve application.

9. Any Other Business (5 minutes).

10. Date of next meeting

Next meeting will be a committee meeting in person to approve recommendations from this meeting. Recommendation that this is held on Weds 28th July.

**FRAMPTON COTTERELL PARISH
COUNCIL
CLIMATE AND NATURE PROJECTS**

CLIMATE AND NATURE PROJECTS - COMPLETED in 2021	Persons responsible	Priority (1 low, 5 high)	Small medium or large project	Approx timeline	Notes
New maintenance vehicle	David G, Steve	5	M	Summer 2021	Vehicle purchased and chargers installed.
Centenary Field - woodland & grassland management	Daisy	3	M	Summer 2021	Contractor now in place. Continue to monitor works.
PROJECTS - IN PROGRESS					
Bin improvements	Kim, David W.	3	M	Autumn 2021	Bin audit complete and replacements agreed.
Water stations, additional 3	Daisy	2	M	Autumn 2021	Quotes being obtained.
Airsource Heat pump - Pavilion	David G	2	M	Winter 2022	Investigated and costed. Report to be put to Council for approval.
Obtain Local Nature Reserve status for Centenary Field	Climate & Nature Committee	2	M	Autumn 2021	Investigations underway.
PROJECTS - from EMRs - AGREED BY COUNCIL - To do					
Suffragette Planter	Officers	2	S	Spring 2022	Plan for spring 2022 for flower display
PROJECTS - from EMRs - NOT YET AGREED BY COUNCIL - To do					
Poppy Day	Events Committee	3	M	Autumn 2021-24	To be investigated and costed.
Climate and Nature Plan	Climate & Nature Committee	5	M	Autumn/winter 2021	To be investigated.

Bug hotel wood carving - 100 yrs of PC so call millenium - Centenary Field	Climate & Nature Committee	2	S	Autumn 2022	To be investigated and costed.
Nature spotting app	Climate & Nature Committee	2	S	Spring 2022	Investigate use of iNaturalist
Plastic Free Frampton (competitions, workshops etc)	Climate & Nature Committee	2	M	Ongoing	To be investigated and costed.
Pond - Centenary Field	Climate & Nature Committee	2	L	Winter 2022/23	To be investigated and costed.
Wild Frampton Cotterell' Group	Climate & Nature Committee	2	M	Winter/Spring 2022	To be investigated.
Bioblitz	Climate & Nature Committee	2	M	Spring 2022-24	To be investigated.
Nature Treasure Hunt	Climate & Nature Committee	1	M	Spring/summer2022	To be investigated.
Wildlife Photography Competition	Climate & Nature Committee	1	M	Summer 2022	To be investigated.
Allotment produce share	Climate & Nature Committee	1	M	from Summer 2021	To be investigated.
Tree planting scheme	Climate & Nature Committee	1	M	from Autumn 2021	To be investigated.
Information board Cent Field	Climate & Nature Committee	2	S	Spring 2022	To be investigated
Enhancements Centenary Field	Climate & Nature Committee	3	L	Ongoing from Autumn 2021	To be investigated and costed.
Projects - Grant funded					
Flower and Shrub planting Centenary Field	Climate & Nature Committee	4	M	Autumn/Winter 2021	Funding obtained from Green Britain. £577 left to spend.



FRAMPTON COTTERELL
PARISH COUNCIL

Frampton Cotterell Parish Council Nesting Bird Policy

1. Introduction

1.1 Hedge cutting and tree pruning needs to be undertaken with care to avoid disturbing nesting birds.

1.2 This policy explains the procedure for hedge cutting and tree works, in keeping with the Wildlife & Countryside Act.

2. Wildlife & Countryside Act

2.1 Under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, a wild bird is defined as any bird of a species which is resident in or is a visitor to the European Territory of any member state in a wild state.

2.2 The Wildlife & Countryside Act states that all birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law and it is thus an offence to:

- Intentionally or recklessly kill, injure or take any wild bird.
- take, damage or destroy the nest of a wild bird.
- take, damage, or destroy the nest of any wild bird listed in schedule 1 while that nest is in use or being built.
- take or destroy an egg of any wild bird.
- possess any live or dead wild bird or any part of, or anything derived from, such a bird; or an egg of a wild bird or any part of such an egg.
- disturb any wild bird included in Schedule 1 (appendix 2) while it is building a nest or is in, on or near a nest containing eggs or young or disturb dependent young of such a bird.
- Use traps or similar items to kill, injure or take wild birds.

2.3 If any of the above acts take place, an unlimited fine can be imposed for criminal offences and up to 6 months imprisonment.

3. Conditions for Hedge and Tree cutting works.

3.1 Hedge cutting and tree cutting shall not be undertaken during the bird breeding season between 1st March – 31st August.

3.1 As the breeding season can be dependent on weather, birds may nest outside of the above dates. Therefore, observations must be made throughout the year before any hedge or tree work is undertaken.

3.3 If overgrowth or damage to vegetation poses a health and safety risk to the public, tree and hedge works may be undertaken during the breeding season providing no evidence of nesting birds is found upon inspection. In this instance, the habitat and species inspection sheet must be followed before any hedge or tree work is undertaken by employees, volunteers, or contractors of the Parish Council (appendix 1).

3.4 The proposed area requiring works during the breeding season must be monitored for a minimum of 30 minutes before work can begin. Nest building behaviour (carrying sticks to hedge/tree), physical nests, chicks, chick feeding behaviour and evidence of eggs must be assessed and noted on the inspection sheet. If any evidence is noted, work must not proceed, and findings reported to the Clerk.

Policy last updates July 2021.

Appendix 1

Nesting Bird Inspection Sheet

All nesting bird inspections are to be carried out before hedge or tree works commence in keeping with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and Frampton Cotterell Parish Council's Nesting Bird Policy

Site Location:

Date:

Description of Works:

Reason for Works / HS:

Start Time of Inspection

Upon a minimum of 30 minutes inspection, has evidence of nesting birds, including nest building behaviours, nests, eggs, feeding young or chicks been found? (if evidence is found then works are to cease and reported to the Clerk):

Signed Inspection:

Options to defer works or deduction in impacts?

Completed Works Undertaken:

Operations Start time: finish time:

Signed Operative:

Appendix 2

Schedule 1 – Species List

Birds and their young, for which it is an offence to disturb at intentionally or recklessly, on or near an 'active' nest:

Avocet

Bee-eater

Bittern

Bittern, little

Bluethroat

Brambling

Bunting, cir

Bunting, Lapland

Bunting, snow

Buzzard, honey

Capercaillie (Scotland only)

Chough

Corncrake

Crake, spotted

Crossbills (all species)

Divers (all species)

Dotterel

Duck, long-tailed

Eagle, golden

Eagle, white-tailed

Falcon, gyr

Fieldfare

Firecrest

Garganey

Godwit, black-tailed

Goshawk

Grebe, black-necked

Grebe, Slavonian

Greenshank
Gull, little
Gull, Mediterranean
Harriers (all species)
Heron, purple
Hobby
Hoopoe
Kingfisher
Kite, red
Merlin
Oriole, golden
Osprey
Owl, barn
Owl, snowy
Peregrine
Petrel, Leach's
Phalarope, red-necked
Plover, Kentish
Plover, little ringed
Quail, common
Redstart, black
Redwing
Rosefinch, scarlet
Ruff
Sandpiper, green
Sandpiper, purple
Sandpiper, wood
Scaup
Scoter, common
Scoter, velvet
Serin
Shorelark

Shrike, red-backed
Spoonbill
Stilt, black-winged
Stint, Temminck's
Stone-curlew
Swan, Bewick's
Swan, whooper
Tern, black
Tern, little
Tern, roseate
Tit, bearded
Tit, crested
Treecreeper, short-toed
Warbler, Cetti's
Warbler, Dartford
Warbler, marsh
Warbler, Savi's
Whimbrel
Woodlark
Wryneck



Chemical Pesticide Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The term 'pesticides' is intended as a generic term to include herbicides, insecticides and fungicides.
- 1.2 It is the policy of Frampton Cotterell Parish Council to reduce and, with the aim to eliminate, the use of chemical pesticides in the management of all public spaces for which the Council is responsible.
- 1.3 Its employees, contractors and all those responsible for the maintenance of open spaces owned by the Council are required to use non-chemical and mechanical alternatives wherever applicable.
- 1.4 To date, the Parish Council have used chemicals at its open spaces to remove species considered weeds. The increased use of chemical pesticides, herbicides and fungicides can be linked to contaminating water supplies, a reduction in biodiversity and may cause problems with public health.
- 1.5 The Council is dedicated to significantly reducing with the aim to eliminate the use of pesticides on Council owned land and to encourage the reduction of its use across the entire parish.

2. Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 To reduce public exposure to the potentially harmful effects of chemical pesticides in all public spaces owned by the Parish Council.
- 2.2 To reduce the harmful effects of pesticides on biodiversity across the parish.
- 2.3 To improve habitats for wildlife across the parish through chemical reduction/elimination.
- 2.4 To reduce, with the aim to eliminate, the use of pesticides on Council owned land.
- 2.5 To communicate with parishioners, landowners and organisations to encourage use of alternatives to pesticides across the parish.

3. Policy Conditions

- 3.1 Blanket spraying of pesticides shall not be undertaken on any open space owned by the Parish Council.
- 3.2 Areas around posts, bins and fence lines are to be controlled by strimming. A full health and safety check must be undertaken prior to strimming to ensure no stones or objects are hidden within the vegetation. **COMMENT FROM ESTATES OFFICER: Within grounds**

maintenance it is generally excepted to spray herbicides to – Posts – Bins and fence lines. This is reflexive, in as to reduce strimming operations due to HS concerns with projectiles being thrown during the course of operations, this is particularly relevant in park and open space situations where children and animals are likely to be present.

- 3.3 All staff, contractors, sub-contractors or volunteers to the Council shall not use pesticides on Council owned land without prior permission and reasoning.
- 3.4 Hand pulling of weeds will be the preferred method of weed control. Where hand pulling is not possible, alternative measures to pesticides should be trialled where budget allows, including hot foam, vinegar, heat control, wire brush and any other alternatives.
- 3.5 Chemical herbicides are not permitted in open spaces for vegetation clearance prior to planting wildflowers. Areas for wildflowers must be harrowed/cleared by machine or by hand in order to clear bare ground for planting.
- 3.6 Where time and budget allow, alternative measures will be trialled and reviewed by Estates Officer and Project Officer. Successful alternatives shall replace any limited pesticide use currently used by the Council with the aim to become pesticide free.
- 3.7 Any contracts involving open spaces must include reference to this policy and contractors to be made aware of the Council's stance on reduction and elimination of pesticides.
- 3.8 Weeds on sports pitches are to be regularly reviewed and hand pulled to reduce infestation.
- 3.9 The Council should consider alternatives to pesticides with the aim to fully eliminate chemical control. The most successful alternative trialled by Glastonbury Town Council is hot foam. As the equipment is expensive, the Council should consider engaging with neighbouring Town and Parish Council to joint purchase and share equipment with the collaborative aim of becoming pesticide free.

4. Exceptions for Pesticide Use

- 4.1 If weeds are not controllable via hand pulling/stimming on sports pitches and alternatives to chemicals are not viable, spot treatment permission may be sought from the Climate and Nature Committee as a last resort if weeds are causing health and safety and quality issues for sports use. **COMMENT FROM ESTATES OFFICER Selective herbicides used on sports pitches are generally applied via a blanket spray method of the whole pitch. This is delivered this way because spot weeding of a selective herbicide on a sports pitch of approx. 7000sqM is not financially or time viable.**
- 4.2 At the discretion of the Climate and Nature Committee, spot treatments of weeds on hard standing surfaces, including car parks and pavements where budget and time does not allow for alternative methods may be permitted. **COMMENT FROM ESTATES OFFICER What is this subject too, trials of non-pesticide methods, time management evidence, who decides which chemicals are acceptable and their frequency of use?**
- 4.3 This policy will not affect the Council's obligation to eliminate the presence of Japanese knotweed or other invasive species where there is a duty to do so and where there is no other known means of control. In this instance only stem injection or targeted spot

application will be permitted to avoid wider contamination. Prior permission must be sought from the Climate and Nature Committee.

- 4.4 Where alternatives to chemical control are not applicable, chemical control may only be permitted as a spot treatment, stem injection or controlled flat nozzle, such as on hard surfaces in car parks and pavements where weed overgrowth could pose a health and safety risk and permission from the Climate and Nature Committee must be sought prior to application.

5. Community and Stakeholder Engagement

- 5.1 The Council staff shall share content on reducing and eliminating the use of pesticides on social media, the Council website and within the Frome Valley Voice newsletter to encourage residents to reduce pesticide use across the parish.
- 5.2 Councillors and office staff shall engage with local organisations and businesses to encourage them to reduce and/or eliminate pesticide use.
- 5.3 Communications with the community shall state how many weeds are wildflowers that are beneficial to pollinators and biodiversity.
- 5.4 Communications highlighting the Council stance on pesticides to be shared online and via the Frome Valley Voice.