

Agenda Item 7 Report GOV21/I5 Appendix 3

List of new Case Studies

1. The **Woolbeding Community Mapping** project was designed to introduce the idea of creating a 'Community Habitat Map' to local residents in the parish of Woolbeding. The SDNPA funded the project with **£200** which was **part of the total cost of the project of £400**. The data collected will form a baseline that will show over time changes in the levels of biodiversity (variety of different types of life) in the area and will help to inform future decisions about helping to protect a particular species and or preserving an area of natural beauty. The project started in early January 2013 and the map was finished in April 2015. The project enabled many of the residents from Woolbeding to learn more about the habitats and wildlife in their parish. It gave the community the opportunity to meet conservation recorders covering a wide range of species like flowers, birds, mammals, bats, spiders, dragonflies, mosses and algae. It has also empowered a number of the residents who are now able to email many new records of species that can be shared by the County Record Offices and Planning Teams.
2. The **Planning issues – partnership working** case study describes how Planning and Ranger officers worked collaboratively with a golf club the host planning authority, to seek a workable solution for the placement of practice nets that protects the character of the landscape and meets the need of the golf club and golfing community. 'business as usual' work and does not have a particular budget associated with it. SDNPA input is officer time to support the process.
3. The **Bramber Walk for All** project started when the Steyning & District Community Partnership (SDCP) proposed a major upgrade to a 1.5km section of public footpath alongside the river Adur. The continuing support, advice, and guidance from SDNPA and WSCC officers was instrumental in attracting funding, determining practical design elements, and obtaining various necessary consents. SDNPA also recognised the synergy between this scheme and the Downs Link path extension, in particular the opportunities presented for cost savings if the funding gap (for the proposed path) could be closed and the works started whilst contractors were still on the Downs Link path site. The SDNPA funded part of this work with £15,500 out of a total cost of £50,000.
4. The **Graffham Down** project formed part of the South Downs Way Ahead Nature Improvement Area. A programme of selective tree clearance was planned to create more favourable, varied habitat. This work was undertaken by local contractors, engaged and directed by South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) staff and match-funded by the local branch of Butterfly Conservation. Changes in vegetation structure and increased light levels are evident throughout the site. The clearance works have created enticing, sunlit views, enhancing the experience of visitors, helping to develop a greater sense of cohesion and identity for the site as a whole.