East Winchester Landscape Conversation A stakeholder plan for landscape restoration Report Jun 2021

Appendix G

Workshop 2 Transcript

EAST WINCHESTER LANDSCAPE & ENVIRONMENT STUDY – WORKSHOP 2

Transcript of discussion sessions

Participants were split into 5 groups, each with a facilitator.

Firstly, they were asked to imagine yourself in the landscape in 2050 and address the following questions:

- What is going on?
- What does it look and feel like?
- what facilities are present that help you enjoy the area?

Secondly, they were asked to think about the landscape they had described answer the following questions

- What did we do differently (from what we did in 2019) to achieve this?
- Who was involved?
- What were the major challenges that we had to overcome?

Key points from the discussion were noted on post-it notes and have been transcribed for each group.

1	In 2050, Cheriton will face major challenges from traffic, air quality and loss of tranquillity. The River Itchen may also be threatened. Need to develop sustainable local businesses, promote landscape support (create wildflower corridors) and protect recreational/built environment. There needs to be joined-up thinking among local authorities which will facilitate funding (e.g. through CIL) which will allow local projects to go ahead.
2	In 2050, the River Itchen Navigation Channel is thought of as a whole not just in sections. This will allow projects such as rewilding to take place across parish and landowner boundaries instead of in isolated patched (joined-up thinking).
3	In 2050, people have access to a virtual tour so they can experience SDNP using technology - pride of place without physically being in the place.
4	To develop pride of place local people need to have ownership of local problems and the ability to contribute to solutions. Pride may also come from using locally produced food.
5	In 2050, there may be Beavers in the River Itchen, new taxation which allows more investment into the landscape and a change in the hearts and minds of people so, for example, people do not mind paying extra tax if they can see if being used to protect/develop the landscape
6	In 2050, there will be: local affordable housing, more focus on accessibility, more advertising of green tourism, farm diversification, more animals in the landscape, more farmers markets etc
7	In 2050, there will be: more hedges/flowers to restore the historic setting, more people living sustainably and thriving rural community facilities. We could also incorporate

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	local knowledge in the historic landscape. People are happy to pay more tax to support the countryside/ecosystem services as they can see the benefits to the community.
8	In 2050, there will be more pollination to help farming, lots of wildlife in the landscape, simple funding for agriculture, more involvement from stakeholders which gives local people pride of the place e.g. vineyards give people pride
9	In 2050, there will be re-engagement and understanding in/of the landscape e.g. understanding the needs of those with sensory impairments, reconnected populations using products from the land, green community provisions e.g. community farming, biodiversity and net gain and community involvement in managing the landscape.
10	In 2050, the landscape will have changed due to changes to farming, public money will be used for the public good, there will be more road verge management to increase connectivity, more people engaged in looking after a connected landscape, all areas are more accessible.
11	To achieve this vision will need to: change the hearts and minds of people, have effective collaboration between bodies, inform government policy, identify funding schemes, including ecosystem services and achieve ambitious national infrastructure.
12	To achieve this vision we will also need to: deliver environmental and agriculture subsidies, educate people, have synergy between local governments and development of Green infrastructure, feedback into local plans to deliver local projects,
13	To achieve this vision we will also need to: have a habitat compensation scheme where contributions can be pooled by a steering group so developers can understand any problems, have a biodiversity net gain framework (SDNPA to produce own process), have biodiversity opportunity mapping. In terms of funding to achieve this vision, we need to take advantage of post-Brexit opportunities. Also, would like to see the Winchester become a sustainable city and the value of ecosystem services to be recognised.
14	To achieve this vision there needs to be: reduced impact from cars/increased public transport (transport hubs) - investment in this and development eg public 'uber' services
15	M3 Junction 9 development must improve access to allow this vision to develop
16	Need to get young people to understand why this is relevant to them, they need to understand the value of increased taxation as they will be the one paying the tax
17	Road priorities are challenged
18	Winchester as a sustainable city could be advertised as a gateway to SDNP
19	Rewilding in the River Itchen
20	To achieve this we need courage and vision from politicians
21	Challenges to this vision include: climate change, population stress, short term policies, changing behaviours and public vision
22	The floodplain of the River Itchen could become a functioning floodplain - with animals such as otters, water voles, peregrines and hedgehogs - proxy for marine conservation

1	A lot more information available e.g.on sustainable travel/transport, heritage, the shape of the landscape - schools be a hub for this future learning.
2	Apps for walking routes and access like the current app Strava. This app could show the
	routes with photos of landscape and facilities, could also show connections between
	the walking/cycling routes.
3	Interactive information available to help understanding e.g. via apps however strong
	phone signal would be needed
4	People come to see the city of Winchester and the National Park - better links between
	the two.
5	Park and Ride to get into the National Park
6	Recreational activities that we don't know about yet
7	Activities and events are environmentally friendly
8	Heritage and historic landscape archive project - this could be a PhD student project
	which could be consolidated and added to by local stakeholders
9	Knowledge is shared from other GIIA's across the National Park
10	Council/Parish/other interested groups all working together
11	A landscape farmed so well that there is a wealth of biodiversity and beauty etc which
	is well connected and produces healthy food - transform from 2020
12	Facilities are available
13	Create a tourism strategy for area -greater leisure time is spent visiting the area - a
	range of visitor accommodation that minimises negative impacts e.g.B&B and glamping
14	There is financial support that delivers these objectives/the vision
15	The community are motivated so people are willing to give back to the community -
	the National Park is supporting the vision
16	Pressure on key areas reduced and GI's repaired/reinstated. We have a complete
	landscape
17	Meon Valley included
18	Information and connections. Point people to existing connections and make
	knowledge about existing landscape available. Note in Hampshire Chronicle.
19	Infrastructure improvements - a wide range of access, charging points footpaths, visitor
	accommodation, toilets, interpretation and info infrastructure.
20	All of these start from day 1 and would come to fruition throughout
21	Who would be involved with this: SDNPA, WCC, ITCC, Parish Councils, Landowners,
	Interest Groups, Residents, Statutory Agencies, Business, MOD, Government Agencies,
	Schools, Marwell, Ramblers and Cyclist Groups
22	Challenges that may face the implementation of this vision: funding, resources/time,
	consensus, knowledge sharing, population increase, ageing population, young people
	being engaged and active, leadership

1	In 2050 mixed farming still in place - changes to mechanisation in farming
2	In 2050 tranquillity will be important: Partnered work with flight operators/ affect on tranquillity, reduced noise and night sky star gazing impact
3	In 2050 there will be population pressures on land use: water supply/soil quality

1	In 2050 mixed farming still in place - changes to mechanisation in farming
4	In 2050 there will be more organised activities/events held in the park to engage with the public
5	In 2050 there will be more footpaths
6	We have enough footpaths already e.g. SDW
7	In 2050, the Winchester Science Centre will be a larger operation - joined-up working with Butterfly Conservation and creation of new walking routes within the landscape especially in Itchen
8	In 2050 there will be new and improved transport links: buses currently far too expensive and prohibiting especially around Cheriton and Matterly
9	In 2050 we could use Ash Dieback as an opportunity for new tree planting and restoration of chalk downland
10	Rewilding: managed in small pockets around big white patches on the map
11	Floodplain of River Itchen managed to supply the city of Winchester and to alleviate flood risk
12	The disconnect of knowledge of the landscape has been addressed so the urban population are more informed and care more about the National Park
13	More access needs to be joined with attractions/places to visit or else the public won't bother coming out
14	Opportunity for expanding - Cheesefoot Head as a visitor site, high public footfall but not enough parking
15	In 2050 a gateway site could potentially be east of M3 or the A272
16	In 2050 public transport will have improved e.g. electric bus services
17	To make this vision possible there will be the joint submission of charitable bids (charities make bids but are backed by authorities where education activities also meet NP education objectives.
18	The Planning Authority involves partners and landowners earlier in the decision process
19	Facilitated meetings could be led by the National Park - these meetings would discuss major planning projects e.g. new visitor centre
20	Linked up public engagement activities e.g. Country Trust, for example, children visiting Winchester Science Centre to be taken out to local farms
21	Increased interpretation along Itchen Mill and Itchen River to make its significance obvious to local people
22	Work with landowners not against them
23	Technological advances to agriculture, systems will change due to climate change e.g. more vineyards and less dairy
24	Music centre at Matterley Estate funded through HLF
25	Court of public opinion on issues - key stakeholders need to meet in facilitated discussion around a table e.g. parish council

1	Gateway to the Southdowns - car park/info
2	Shared responsibility - SDNPA and Winchester
3	Community infrastructure, education, accessibility
4	Communication and joined-up thinking
5	Winchester Farm Cluster could facilitate events e.g. wildlife safari
6	National capital - costs? More diversification in farming

1	Gateway to the Southdowns - car park/info
7	M3 acting as a full barrier to SDNP - access permitted similar to NZ model
8	Charging points for electric cars
9	No major events due to water shortage and adverse effects on biodiversity and landscape
10	More viewpoints and better signage to them on roads e.g. A272
11	Visitor information centre and/or points needed
12	Housing developments in Eastleigh and Whiteley - occupants would like to access SDNP
13	Public toilets will be required
14	Someone has to take responsibility - SDNP encourage visitors but who manages/looks after them?
15	All organisations/government are talking to each other and working together
16	The population will have increased in 2050 - we need to be working with nature
17	Rural employment in 2050 -currently the national wage keeps increasing and rural businesses suffer as a result of this. Also, who is going to work in the landscape - cleaning toilets/ running cafes etc. How will housing issues be resolved?
18	Continue growing network of partners as interpretation requires knowledge and sharing
19	Is the whole area littered with signs to inform people - has the information already been given to them
20	Wildlife and nature will be very different from today
21	More electric cars and buses will be used in the National Pak so it will be quieter
22	Virtual reality may be more widely used in 2050 - can access the South Downs from your home
23	In 2050, landowners will no longer be the bad guys - they are respected food providers and nature lovers
24	In 2050, farming will be very different - it will no longer be commodity farming
25	The existing network has been enhanced and utilised - connections between parking, utilities and public toilets have been established
26	The creation of a visitor information centre to provide education for children about where food comes from
27	By 2050, Winchester Science Centre has become a hub for SDNP but for this to happen there needs to be a safer crossing between A31/A272 to give better access to the countryside below.
28	Public transport and cars will still need to access the countryside, you can't just rely on improve PROW connections
29	Nature Recovery Network - landscape reconnection e.g. Duke of Burgandy exported from Beacon Hill across the landscape area
30	More accessible, sensory-rich areas for people to access whilst having existing sensitive wildlife sites - must be led through bold planning (including Neighbourhood Plans)
31	Due to urban development around the park boundary, there will need to be smarter use of the remaining green space within the SDNP including new GI
32	Connect the landscape - significant green bridge over M3
33	Rural economy: a sense of identity/improves communication

1	Gateway to the Southdowns - car park/info
34	Climate resilience needs bold moves now -what would be needed for resilience purposes? Water management and the work of farm clusters may become crucial
35	To pay for this a green tax needs to be introduced
36	Many stakeholders would be involved in the creation of this vision but we need to understand and clarify who/what agency is responsible within the SDNP
37	Who can help us to achieve this vision? Winchester city, farmers, landowners, SDNPA
38	By 2050, the MOD firing range is no longer in use so there will be better access and use of existing PROW. Circular routes will also have been created using existing PROW.
39	We must consider the ageing demographic - will people want to walk too far from Winchester?
40	We must decide who will lead on a project like this - the public believes that the SDNPA has authority to manage PROW's but landowners often manage these.
41	There needs to be different coherence between different sectors especially in communication (info about where you can go and who is responsible) and education and awareness
42	In 2050 there will be cheaper transport and better timetables, a Visitor Centre, better connectivity for pedestrians, drastic re-wilding and wildlife safaris
43	In 2050 there will also be conservation to the south of the A31 and only rotation farming of small crops
44	In 2050, public transport and car parking facilities will have improved
45	Communication, resources and agencies, the town planning system and health and well being are some of the factors which will be managed differently to achieve this
46	In 2050. farming will have diversified and the landscape will be wilder. It is important that natural capital is included in the 2050 vision
47	In 2050, the study area will have developed significantly in terms of land and population. The expansion of protected species would have also occurred and signage/information will be more accessible
48	In 2050, bus routes will remain but they provide better access to attractions. The M3 will act like a wall which will block visitors in mass and allow better conservation of the east of Winchester this will prevent the degradation of natural capital
49	In terms of climate change, the south downs Winchester farm cluster will have delivered across area so new habitats and corridors will have been created
50	The climate emergency of 2019 has embraced natural climate solutions this will continue in 2050
51	Nature Recovery Network has facilitated a new positive baseline for - the generation of 50 years time
52	In 2050 major events will not be happening in the National Park
53	Communicating with people - telling them how the land is being managed will be an important part of the 2050 vision

1	In 2050 more circular walks and circular routes will have been created
2	In 2050, there will have been changes in government. There will be grants to support
	grazing for carbon sequestration/capture and pay for public access

In 2050 more circular walks and circular routes will have been created
In 2050, a new National Park bus service will have been established
Create a walking/cycling hub at Shawford and Science Centre. This could be used as a
gateway to the National Park
Remove St Caths sewage farm. Southern Water maybe a partner to help with this.
Greening of urban/village areas
Remove Chilcomb range
Improve NMU access across M3 (J9/St Catherines Hill). Partners for this include:
Highways England, HCC, WCC, SDNPA
Better understanding/awareness of countryside
More private wildlife gardens
More visitor facilities
Visitor hub at Cheesefoot Head
Extensive grazing - much of the arable land has been changed to grazing
More organic farming
More hop-on/hop-off transport and more electric vehicles
Fewer cars
Better utilisation of the existing park and ride so people can park and then travel out to
the countryside
More volunteering opportunities
Twyford/Shawford as access hub
Partners that could help with this are: HCC, WCC, SDNPA, Parish Council's and
Landowners
Liaise with Winchester City Council about city setting